



# The Blue Coat School

## Board of Trustees

### Martin Hill

Role: Chair of Governors

Appointed: 09/2010

Appointed by: Members

Term of office: 11/2020

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

Contact ✉:

[chair\\_of\\_governors@bluecoatschool.org.uk](mailto:chair_of_governors@bluecoatschool.org.uk)



Martin has recently been elected as the Chair of the Governing Board having previously served as a governor for the past 9 years. Prior to becoming a governor Martin served for 38 years in the Police Service, retiring in the rank of a Chief Superintendent. Both of Martin's late parents were teachers of long standing. He is committed to the ideal of public service and believes that being a governor allows the opportunity, in a voluntary capacity, to support and provide challenge to the Blue Coat School in its development and achievements.

As a governor, Martin has lead responsibilities for Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Staffing, together with a lead responsibility for a recent project all of which has given him clear insight into the operation of the school and its continual commitment to providing an excellent education for all its students.

### Patrick Adamson

Role: TBC

Appointed: 04/2020

Appointed by: Parent elected

Term of office: 04/2024

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

Contact ✉:

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Patrick is a Deputy Headteacher at a Grammar School in Wirral. He originally studied Maths and Computer Science before working as a Software Engineer on the Seawolf and Rapier anti-aircraft missile systems and on the sonar system for the Trident submarines.

He became a Maths teacher in his early thirties and has worked in a variety of schools in the Northwest.

He went on to become Head of Maths at Whitby High School in Ellesmere Port, then Assistant Headteacher at Christleton High School in Chester where he led the school's specialism in Maths, Business and Computing. Here, he created amongst other things, an interactive Maths trail in the grounds of the school, which included a giant Tower of Hanoi puzzle and a walkable recreation of the Konigsberg Bridge problem.

Patrick completed a Masters degree at the University of Liverpool in Educational Leadership and Management before joining his current school. Patrick's passion in education has been to develop schools that inspire and challenge young people to grow and learn in a caring environment, which develops independent learning through a wide range of enriching experiences both in and out of the classroom.

As well as Maths Patrick loves climbing Munros and listening to BBC 6 Music, both of which feature regularly in his assemblies.

### Joan Bonenfant

Role: TBC

Appointed: 04/2020

Appointed by: Members

Term of office: 04/2024

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

Contact ✉:

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Joan believes passionately that all children, whatever their background, should have access to education of the highest possible standard and she has dedicated her professional life to putting such ideals into practice.

Born and brought up in Liverpool, Joan graduated with a joint honours degree in French and Philosophy. After having worked for a year in France, she studied for a

postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE) at Bristol University. Joan then returned to the North West and worked in a number of secondary schools, ending her teaching career as the deputy headteacher of a large comprehensive school in St Helens. The pinnacle of her career, in her view, was when she was appointed as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors and she continued in this role for almost ten years, until her recent retirement. Joan is currently the director of her own business that provides educational consultancy across the region. Joan is firmly committed to the belief that education really can have a transformational impact on children's lives and thus help us to create a better future.

## Shaqil Chaudary

Role: Lead governor for teaching, learning and outcomes

Appointed: 11/2013

Appointed by: Members

Term of office: 11/2020

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

Contact ✉:

[s.chaudray@bluecoatschool.org.uk](mailto:s.chaudray@bluecoatschool.org.uk)



Shaqil has been a member of The Blue Coat School governing body since 2013. He is an academic who is passionate about education and is a valuable lead governor for teaching, learning and outcomes.

Shaqil has been involved in university education for the last 20 years and has been a programme leader since 2012. He has considerable experience in education standards and a particular interest in quality monitoring and enhancement and equality. Shaqil is a registered member of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA).

## John Grace

Role: Vice-Chair, Lead governor for staffing

Appointed: 07/2019

Appointed by: Members

Term of office: 07/2023

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

Contact ✉:

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John joined the governing body in July of 2019 having spent his formative years, firstly as a Police Officer in Merseyside but since 2003 occupying a range of senior HR positions in different organisations. He recently left Royal Mail having been a senior professional leading Royal Mail HR operations across the south of England. John has experience of working in Northern Ireland and also in Hungary for a time, but has more recently been able to pass on his knowledge to under and post graduate students at both Liverpool John Moores and Liverpool Universities. Although having retired from full time work in March 2019, he not only bring years of experience in implementing people strategies in demanding operational settings, but also in developing the strategic approach to the people agenda in support of senior leadership teams. John is a Chartered Fellow of the CIPD and holds a Master's degree in strategic HR.

## Ken Graham

Role: Lead governor for health and safety

Appointed: 12/2019

Appointed by: Members

Term of office: 12/2023

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

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Ken joined the Governing Body in December 2019. He is a graduate of the University of Liverpool and holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Librarianship from Liverpool Polytechnic. Retired in 2013 Ken spent the majority of his career working in the public and higher education sectors, initially working for Liverpool City Libraries and moving to what was then Liverpool Polytechnic which was to eventually become the new Liverpool John Moores University. Ken worked in a variety of roles within the University's Library & Student Support Services Department including, Business Librarian, Learning Resource Centre Manager and finally as Head of Staff Services. In every role the focus was to deliver innovative and high quality services to staff and students.

As part of the University's outreach programme Ken worked for a number of years with Liverpool Compact Education & Business Partnership regularly going into schools across the City to provide students with practical help and guidance on making job applications and how to handle job interviews. At times challenging work but always interesting, there was a very real sense of satisfaction gained from helping young students to develop these important life-skills and enable them to achieve their full potential.

Ken is currently working with the School's Development Office as a volunteer on the "Blue Coat for All" project, supervising a small team of volunteers developing the School's archive. He also volunteers as a "befriender" with the local charity Woolton Community Life, which works to combat loneliness in the community. Ken has a daughter who attended The Blue Coat for her Sixth Form studies and who currently works in the School's Development Office

## Shirley Heath

Role: Co-opted Staff

Appointed: 02/2016

Appointed by: Trustees

Term of office: 02/2021



Shirley has been employed by The Blue Coat School for 15 years and was elected as staff governor in 2016. Shirley has had considerable experience of school governance, having previously served as parent governor at a local primary school for 11 years. Shirley is a valuable support to the school's management support service, is a key

Voting rights: Full  
Declaration of interests: None  
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## Cath Sharples

Role: Lead governor for admissions and SEND  
Appointed: 06/2015  
Appointed by: Members  
Term of office: 11/2020  
Voting rights: Full  
Declaration of interests: None  
Contact ✉:  
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provider of human resource support to staff and is the school's educational visits co-ordinator. Shirley is a significant contributor to the school's successful Duke of Edinburgh Award, supporting a large number of students each year.

Shirley has gained an excellent knowledge and understanding of the school's systems and procedures and how these are used to enhance the educational experience of students. She brings a valued perspective to the governing body as both a parent of a student and as an employee.



Cath joined the Governing body in 2015 and is currently the lead for Admissions and SEND and Chair of the MAT Project Board. Cath meets regularly with senior leaders to ensure that the Admissions process runs smoothly and that, as a minimum, statutory requirements of Special Needs provision are met. Cath is a graduate of Liverpool University and has a Master's degree in Public Service Management from the University of York. She spent many years in operational management in various Civil Service departments, including the Department for Trade and Industry and the Department for Work and Pensions and has also spent time on secondment to Liverpool City Council, heading up a team to improve access for local people to city centre job opportunities. Cath is now employed as a teacher of English as a foreign language at an international college in Liverpool, working with students from various countries to develop their language and study skills to enable them to enter a UK university. In 2014, she was appointed as a magistrate and currently sits in the Adult Crime courts in Cheshire. Cath has two children, both of whom attended the Blue Coat School sixth form.

Originally a stage manager working in theatre, Dan has had a career in music administration, mostly in the opera industry with Scottish Opera and Garsington Opera Festival. He was also head of production at SERIOUS Music and the London Jazz Festival and started Liverpool's LIGHTNIGHT festival.

Dan plays the saxophone and helps to organise the South Liverpool community big band, the Halcyon Syncopators. He also volunteers for the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

Having been a board member of the Bluecoat Arts Centre for seven years, he is currently chair of their Safeguarding Committee and on their board development group.

Dan has an allotment, volunteers in the Bluecoat Arts Centre Garden, and takes his turn mowing the local church lawns.

Kirsty joined the Board of Trustees during the Spring term 2020 as a co-opted staff trustee. She is currently employed at The Blue Coat School as Head of Maths and Computing.

Having gained her Degree in Maths and Secondary Education at Leeds, she went on to gain a Masters Degree in Maths and a national professional qualification for senior leaders (NPQSL). Not only has Kirsty shown a commitment to her own professional development, she has a passion for developing others and acts as the school's Professional Mentor for trainee teachers studying a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE).

Kirsty has a belief that all young people should be developed as well-rounded individuals and in this respect, is committed to ensuring that students received the best educational experience at The Blue Coat School.

## Dan Stinson

Role: TBC  
Appointed: 04/2020  
Appointed by: Parent elected  
Term of office: 04/2024  
Voting rights: Full  
Declaration of interests: None  
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## Kirsty Wilson

Role: Co-opted staff  
Appointed: 04/2020  
Appointed by: Trustees  
Term of office: 04/2021  
Voting rights: Full  
Declaration of interests: None  
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## Phil Wolstenholme

Role: Lead governor for finance and resources  
Appointed: 09/2012  
Appointed by: Members  
Term of office: 11/2020



Phil has been an active member of the Governing body since 2012 and is lead governor for finance and resources.

He regularly meets with senior leaders to ensure a high level of awareness of statutory guidance and to develop a clear understanding of financial provision, process, practices, and systems and provide challenge to senior leaders. Phil had a successful 34-year career in banking, culminating as

Voting rights: Full

Declaration of interests: None

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Barclay's Area Manager for North Liverpool with overall responsibility for teams managing personal, small business and corporate business. Phil later joined FCA registered Merseyside Special Investment Fund as Mezzanine Fund Manager, making loan and equity investments to small and medium sized businesses. After retirement in 2014, Phil remains a member of their Investment panel, the decision making body for the approval of investments. The school and governing body benefit enormously from Phil's considerable skills, knowledge and experience.