




Introducing the Governors of Tavistock Primary & Nursery School 2022-23

<p>Darren Newland Chair</p> 	<p>Darren is currently the Practice Manager of Abbey Surgery in Tavistock and Bere Alston. He has worked in the NHS for over 16 years navigating the political changes etc. Previously he worked in retail for travel agents and covered lots of training areas such as marketing, finance, human resources, human psychology, effective management, sales techniques, Train the Trainer and so on which also helps with his current governor role as Chair.</p> <p>Darren also holds a National Community Sports Leader Certificate and is a first aider including Basic Life Support which includes being trained to use defibrillators.</p> <p>Darren has two children and is their taxi driver.</p>
<p>Laura Handel Headteacher</p> 	<p>Laura has a BEd Hons degree from the University of the West of England – English was her lead subject. She completed her NPQH in 2010. She grew up in Hertfordshire and Somerset in small villages and a medium sized town.</p> <p>Her teaching career began in 1990 and she has taught across 6 schools in Bristol, Wiltshire, Dorset and Devon. She has taught across the entire primary range, as well as teaching English to an A level class in Germany. Her first role as a Deputy Headteacher began in 1998, but after the birth of her first child in 1999, Laura worked part-time for 8 years before returning to full-time and an Assistant Headteacher role at Tavistock Primary in 2008. She took on the Deputy Headteacher role in 2010 and was appointed to the Headteacher role in 2022.</p> <p>Laura's personal interests include reading, theatre, dance, walking and travel. She is also mum to two grown-up daughters.</p>
<p>Ben Chilcott</p>	
<p>Karen Wright</p> 	<p>Karen has a BA Hons degree from Plymouth University in Business and Finance. She has also successfully completed the Advanced Diploma in School Business Management in 2009 and the School Business Director Programme in 2011 with the National College for School Leadership.</p> <p>She has experience of working in primary schools since 2001 and as a School Business Manager since 2007 across three different primary schools in North Devon and Exeter. During this time she was also a governor. A parent governor from 2003 and then a Co-opted Governor from 2007.</p> <p>Karen has 5 children, 2 grand children and enjoys running, cycling, travelling and reading.</p>

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Matthew Page



Matthew became a parent governor in March 2019 and has two children at Tavistock Primary & Nursery School.

Matthew has worked at the University of Plymouth for over 18 years and is currently the Unit Co-ordinator for the Peninsula Clinical Trials Unit.

Matthew loves spending time with his wife and two children. He is an active member of the Tavistock Methodist Church and his personal interests include Formula One, technology, cycling and finding sporting challenges to help raise money for charity.



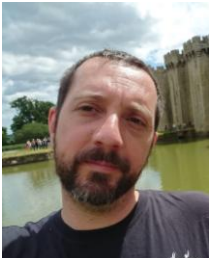
Mike Smith



Mike moved to Tavistock with his lovely family from London in 2014 but hails from Leek in Staffordshire. Mike has spent his working life in Marketing and currently works at Ginsters in the marketing team.

Both of his kids attend our school and he loves spending time with his family. His other hobbies include listening to new music and staying active either in the gym or running up the gorgeous Tors in Dartmoor. He loves his football supporting his beloved Stoke and more recently becoming an armchair member of the Green Army. Mike is a passionate but terrible surfer.

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<p>Pat Dickinson</p> 	<p>Pat has a BA Combined Hons degree in Psychology, English and Education and a PGCE in Primary Education-3-11 years. She also holds a Principal's Training Centre Certificate of International School Leadership and was an Early Childhood co-ordinator in St John's International school, Waterloo, Belgium 1984-2009. With over 30 years of teaching experience including one year teaching English at secondary level, and two years teaching 9-10 year olds in UK, then 26 years teaching 3-7 year olds in an International School in Belgium, Pat also has experience of teaching and planning Primary Years' Programme of the International Baccalaureate.</p> <p>Pat was also a member of the European Council of International Schools Accreditation team (to inspect, compare and assess standards in International schools), and for 10 years a member of the European Council of International Schools Early Childhood Committee (for ages 3-8 years). During that time, Pat chaired the committee for 3 years and organised 3 (tri-annual) Early Childhood Educational conferences for approximately 500 multi-national teachers and speakers. Pat has presented workshops on introducing Student –Led Portfolio Conferencing at St John's International school, Belgium, the joint ECIS/NESA conference in Dubai and at St Dominic's International school, Portugal. Personal interests include reading, theatre and travel and she volunteers as an Educational Assistant and Receptionist at Cotehele NT, is a member of St Andrew's Whitchurch, WI and of Tavy District U3A. Pat is also a mother of two sons and grandmother to two granddaughters.</p>
<p>Sue James</p> 	<p>Sue became a Governor in July 21. Sue retired in 2019 having spent her career in Local Government and in Social Housing. Sue's last post before she retired was as Head of Neighbourhoods for a large housing association operating in this area. Sue worked in Tavistock for 40 years and has lived in Tavistock town since 1999.</p> <p>Sue and her husband have one grown up son. Sue has served as a Governor previously at Horrabridge School. Sue is only just starting to get used to having free time! and enjoys walking, reading and baking. Sue would like to use her skills to be an active governor in the community in which she lives.</p>
<p>Tim Bonney</p> 	<p>Tim has been a governor since June 2019.</p> <p>Tim moved to Tavistock with his family in July 2017 and has lived in Devon for most of his life. He has two children who attend the school.</p> <p>Tim runs a company that provides Websites and IT Solutions. He spends his free time with his children as they won't let him do anything else.</p>