

Governor Pen Portraits October 2022

COMMUNITY GOVERNORS

Susie Angus

Hello! My name is Susie Angus and I have lived in Buntingford for the last 25 years, raising my three children and working within the community across sports clubs, schools & events, and local conservation projects to promote the importance of the outdoors, the arts, fair-play and inclusion.

Graham Bonner

I have lived in Buntingford since 1985 and both of my children attended Millfield, Edwinstree and Freman Schools. I am a Buntingford Town Councillor and am currently Chair of the Planning Committee. I am a former Mayor of Buntingford and also take an active part in many other Town activities. I am Chair of the Buntingford Civic Society and also serve on the Chamber of Commerce, The Buntingford Relief in Need Charity and Buntingford Town Football Club. I am responsible for arranging the Town's annual Classic Car Show, Christmas Market and Christmas lights.

I care deeply about the Town and its future and am proud to be associated with Freman College. In my capacity as Governor I will do all that I can to assist Freman staff in their education and mentoring of Freman pupils.

Karen Connolly

I have worked in education for over 18 years, as a Teaching Assistant, Teacher, Headteacher and now as a class teacher again. My two children attended Freman, and have gone on to thrive in further education drawing on the wonderful education they received here.

I am pleased to join the Governing Body and have the opportunity to help the education provided at Freman be the best it can be, and develop those life chances for students that a great education provides.

Sue Coote

I have been resident in Buntingford since 1997 and served as a Governor at Freman since 2013 and a member of Buntingford Town Council since 2015. Both of my children have benefitted from our excellent three-tier education system, attending Layston and Edwinstree and Freman.

I am an advocate of Freman's pastoral system and the broad range of extra-curricular activities offered by Freman's dedicated staff. I am fortunate to have watched my son and daughter benefit in so many ways from their time at Freman and am proud to have the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing development of the College

Jackie Martin (Chair)

I have lived in Buntingford since 1987 and until my retirement had worked for the local NHS for over 30 years. My two children attended Millfield and Edwinstree Schools and then Freman College. I initially joined the Governing Body of Edwinstree School as a parent governor in 1995 then when my eldest child transferred to Freman College in 1998 I applied to be a parent Governor here as well. I subsequently transferred to become Community Governor and have been chair of the Governing Body since 2005 also serving on the Resources and Curriculum and Personnel sub-committees. I have seen significant developments and improvements at Freman over the years and I am very proud to be

associated with its continuing success in developing local youngsters to their full potential both academically and socially.

Gill Perkins

I have lived in Puckeridge since 1978. I was a teacher for 21 years in a variety of primary, middle and a special school for 21 years. I became an Educational Psychologist in 2001, building on my specialism in Autism to work with children and families in a variety of provision across Hertfordshire and later Haringey Local Authorities. For the last 5 years of my career I worked as an Educational Psychologist for the National Autistic Society. I have served as a Governor in various schools continuously since the early 1980s in various capacities as Teacher, Local Authority, parent and Community Governor. My two children attended Roger de Clare where I served as a Local Authority Governor. When my oldest child moved to Freman College (then Ward Freman) in 1998 I became a Parent Governor at the school. Latterly I have served as a Community Governor. I am a member of the Resources Committee and for several years in the past acted as Chair. I have also served from time to time on Governor Discipline panels. I am proud to have been a Freman Governor for the past 19 years through a period of great change in Education and seen the school go from strength to strength, providing pupils with a broad and exciting curriculum, enabling them to pursue their dreams in whichever direction they wish to go.

David Paull-Wills

I'm a former Secondary Deputy Headteacher in Hertfordshire. I also taught abroad during my earlier teaching career. My degree was in biology. I'm married to Ruth who is a former teacher and we have four adult children all of whom attended Freman College. All of our children thrived at Freman and have become confident and successful adults! I have now served on Freman Governors for ten years, firstly as a parent and latterly as a community governor. I'm currently Chair of the Curriculum Group and have taken up the role of being the link governor for SEND / safeguarding.

Since retirement I have worked for well-known National Charity and I was formerly Chair of Governors at Millfield First School. My interests include travel, photography and the performing arts.

As a governor I'm here to support the great work of the Head and staff at Freman. I'm very committed to the ethos of Freman and to the opportunities it provides for students both in and outside of the classroom which prepare students for life.

Philip Wilson

I have lived in Buntingford for 25 years and during that time my two daughters have attended Layston, Edwinstree and then Freman College before progressing to university. I became a Community Governor at the end of 2021 and I serve on the Curriculum and Personnel sub-committee. The standards of education, support and the sense of community to be found within Freman College proved of great benefit to my own daughters and I will be proud to be able to play a small part as Freman continues to help its pupils develop to their full potential.

PARENT GOVERNORS

Charlotte Claydon

I'm a current (and former) parent at Freman College, with a son and daughter presently attending Lower Sixth and E Year respectively – my eldest son attended the school between 2012 and 2017. I have therefore formed a very strong relationship with the school over the last 10 years. I am also the former Chair of Governors at Aston St Marys Primary School and I still remain on their governing body. I became a governor at Freman College in September 2020 and whilst holding 2 governor roles simultaneously (alongside my work commitments)

can be very challenging, being a governor is something that is very important to me and a role I find extremely fulfilling. Away from school, I'm currently the director of two businesses one in the student exchange industry and the other within pet care services - both roles provide me with transferable skills that I feel are relevant to supporting the governing body at Freman.

Julian Leigh

I have lived in the local area for eight years, have two children and have worked in senior finance roles in financial services and technology companies for the last 20 years. My son is studying in the Sixth Form at the College and my daughter attends Furneux Pelham Primary School.

I joined as a parent governor in December 2019 and serve as the Deputy Chair of the Resources sub-committee. I continue to be impressed by the excellent pastoral system at Freman College and I am proud to be associated with what is a first-class environment to enable children to develop the tools they need to succeed in an ever-changing world.

Wen Man

I live in Buntingford and have three children. My youngest is currently at Ralph Sadleir School in Puckeridge and my first and second child both attend Freman College. Since moving to Buntingford 11 years ago, I looked after my children and became involved with Layston First School, Buntingford, fund raising on the PTA for 5 years and became joint Chair. I previously worked at Layston First School and also at Freman College doing various support roles. I currently work at Ralph Sadleir School as a Teaching Assistant, coming into my sixth year. My particular area of interests is in SEND, supporting children's learning, well-being and mental health. I have been a Parent Governor since April 2022 and I am on the Curriculum and Personnel committee.

Mike Nicholas

I moved to Buntingford in 1988 and a few years later started my own business (Nicholas and Knight Ltd), a food marketing and design company where I continue to work today. My eldest son Harry went to Layston and Edwinstree before Freman and has just started 6th Form. This year he is joined at Freman by his twin brothers Jack and Johnny who went to the same junior and middle schools as their big brother. Before children came along I was active in Buntingford Cricket Club and Buntingford Town FC but nowadays my football is limited to watching the boys from the side lines as they play for Buntingford Cougars. I have been a governor since 2020 and serve on the Resources Committee. Although I was educated elsewhere we enjoy a long family connection with local schools, my wife Julia (nee Emery) having attended Layston, Ralph Sadlier and Freman.

STAFF GOVERNORS

Helen Loughran - Headteacher

I have been Headteacher of the college since 2004, having previously held senior management posts at schools in Hertfordshire and London. I started my teaching career as an RE teacher and have also been a Head of Year and Head of Department.

Sara Aguilar

I have worked at Freman College since 1999, first as a classics teacher (teaching Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation) and then as head of department. As a Latin teacher I am very aware of the fragility of the subject at a national level, and have tried to keep abreast of what goes on in the subject by being actively involved with organisations which promote Classics teaching in state schools, such as the Cambridge School Classics Project, or with

WJEC, for which I have worked as teacher representative and scrutineer. I have always been very proud of the range of educational opportunities that Freman College offers students, and have over the years given my support to as many as I felt qualified for. In particular I have always supported DofE, and I am currently the centre's coordinator. I have served as governor before and hope to be able to do so again with interest and dedication. Before I became a teacher, I did research for a PhD in Classical Archaeology at the University of Cambridge.

Matt Grimley

I have worked as the Network Manager at Freman College since 2005. Previously I had worked my way from Junior Network Engineer to the roll of Technical Director at a national Computer Network firm specialising in the education sector. I have enjoyed my time at Freman, working with some exceptional colleagues to improve the IT services available to our teachers and students. Additionally, I have, on behalf of Freman College been working with Edwinstree Middle School to maintain and improve their computer Network. I have enjoyed running a number of clubs during my time at the college and I also enjoy getting involved with the successful Freman College Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

Ana Vishnivetskaya

I have been teaching both Biology and Physics at Freman since joining 8 years ago. Before a career change, I worked as a Postdoctoral research scientist in a multidisciplinary field of neurodegeneration, genetics and proteomics. I enjoy an academic challenge, so adapting to teaching across two subjects feels very natural to me. I also work as an examiner for Edexcel and OCR and as a PGCE subject mentor. I am looking forward to continuing with my role as a teacher governor since coming back from a maternity leave.