

Who's Who on the Federation Governors

Kayleigh Blake. Federation Executive Deputy Headteacher. Kayleigh has a BEd Hons and achieved the NPQML qualification whilst teaching at Great Ellingham Primary School. Having been the Class 4 teacher at Great Ellingham for 7 years, Kayleigh then took on a more flexible and innovative teaching roll, but with reduced hours, to allow more time with her young family. Since returning to school following the national lockdowns, Kayleigh has increased her hours to offer support in a pastoral role. From September 2021, Kayleigh supported the Federation in an interim Senior Teacher position leading to Deputy Headship. She also has the important role of RSHE subject leader across the Federation.

Johanne Bolver. Professionally Trained Clerk to Federation Governors and other Governing bodies.

Hugh Collier. Joint Chair of Federation Governors. Has been the pastor of the Baptist Church in Great Ellingham for over 25 years. His four children have all made their way through Great Ellingham Primary School. Hugh has been a governor for over 20 years serving as Chair for much of that time. He has seen the school through various changes including a large building project to add four new classrooms. Hugh was also actively involved in the move to partnership and then federation with Rocklands School. Hugh has often been seen in school taking assembly or leading the cycling proficiency training.

Hayley Cushing BA Hons: Art and Drama. Secondary PGCE and now embarking on a NPQLBC at Attleborough Academy. She has been teaching there for 18 years and has worked through many different roles. Her current responsibility is Progress Leader for Year 7 and Transition. Hayley is a regular visitor to both schools in the federation working with year 5 and 6 to smooth and ease their transition into high school. She hopes to develop this link further, improving on the curriculum connections and to continue building on the network of excellent relationships between schools.

Julie Dekker (BEd Hons NPQH). Federation Executive Headteacher since January 2017. After teaching for many years at Rocklands Primary, including being an Early Years Advanced Skills Teacher, she became Assistant Headteacher at Great Ellingham Primary School in 2007, a role which developed into that of Deputy Headteacher in 2009.

Stuart Grant is Parent Governor with a daughter in attendance at the school. Therefore, he has a vested interest in helping the school to achieve great things and provide the best experience for students. He is keen to get involved in the activities of the school. Stuart previously worked in further education as head of a large department. He then worked in Broadcasting for 20 years, both as a broadcaster and in senior manager roles, running large teams. Stuart now operates a successful digital agency, creating websites and other digital assets. He is looking forward to supporting the school and federation and is thrilled with the latest Ofsted report.

Ruth Huggins. As a former Great Ellingham pupil and with a son and daughter currently in attendance, Ruth has a keen interest in the school maintaining its high standards. With 15 years' experience working in a small publishing business, she has learned skills in various different areas of business, from Finance to HR. As a parent, she hopes to be helpful in bridging the gap in communication between parents and the school.

Helen Ives Helen is a parent, with a child at Rocklands School. Professionally, she has background experience in finance and HR. Helen helps to run Little Rocky's Toddler group in Rocklands and sits on the committee. Helen enjoys being a full-time mum, but now with more time on her hands, would like to offer support to the school and Federation.

Vicki Jeffery BA Hons, PGCE, MA. With two daughters attending Great Ellingham Primary School, she is keen to play an active role within the school community. Vicki is a trained primary school teacher, currently working as a teacher and careers adviser in a local complex needs school and as a private tutor for a range of pupils. She is currently working towards her NPQSL qualification as well as researching career guidance for students with SEND as part of her Doctorate in Education.

David Jones (BEd.) Joint Chair of Federation Governors. He was a primary school teacher at Swaffham, then at Attleborough High (now Academy) until retirement in 2005. Senior Leadership responsibilities included Special Needs Co-ordinator. He served as a High School Governor for sixteen years and Rocklands School Governor for many years (during and after attendance of his two children at Rocklands School). He once more became a Rocklands School Governor on retirement in 2005, experiencing moves to partnership with Great Ellingham followed by full federation in 2011.

Anna Lightening FCCA. Parent Governor. As a former pupil of Rocklands School, whose mother also went to the school and who now has two children in attendance, Anna has a long history with the school and a desire to help ensure

the federation schools retain their village charm and values whilst continuing to excel within the ever-evolving education sector. Currently working as an accountant in practice, Anna has many years' experience in finance related roles, including five years spent as an Internal Audit Specialist at Pwc.

Charles McIlwhan Charles McIlwhan BSc(Hons), PgC, A retired Fire Officer and Health and Safety manager. He has been a governor since June 1998 and has undertaken roles as Chair of Finance, Curriculum, Premises, Vice Chair and Chair of Governors. Charles was Chairman in 2006 and was a key player in moving Rocklands toward partnership with Great Ellingham and to subsequent federation. Charles is actively involved in supporting the federation and both its schools.

Margaret Muir (BEd Hons) Joint Vice-chair of Federation Governors. A year after retiring from the post of Acting Deputy Headteacher at Great Ellingham School (where she served for ten years) Margaret was asked to become a governor. She has had the experience of moving into partnership with Rocklands School, followed by full federation in 2011.

John Scase MSc,BSc(Hons), BA(Hons), Dip HSSM. Seven years as Practice Manager at Wymondham Medical Centre, three years as Commissioning Officer Breckland PCG, six years as Assistant Director Information Systems CITB, plus other appointments in the fishing, confectionery, international insurance broking and e-book printing industries. All these posts included budget setting, the related monitoring of costs and the analysis of variances. John, who happens to be the father of Julie Dekker, felt it expedient to step down as a full governor prior to her application to become Executive Headteacher. We are pleased to retain access to John's highly valued financial expertise by persuading him to remain as an Associate Governor.

Denise Walker Denise has worked in education for 35 years. Her most recent roles have been: Head teacher of an all-through 4-19 school in West Norfolk; the leader of Norfolk Children's Services' support for school improvement strategy; Director of Viscount Nelson Education Network providing school improvement services for over 200 schools. Denise has joined the governing body at the federation in her semi- retirement in order to use her experience to challenge and support local schools to be the best they can be.