

Governors at Bury CE High School

Dennis Taylor MBE – Chair of Governors



Dennis's initial career was principally in Environmental Health, culminating in his appointment as Chief Executive of Bury Metropolitan Borough Council. After 35 years he set up a Public Sector & Environmental Consultancy (DETA Associates). An advisor to UK, Northern Ireland & European Parliaments for 10 years, Dennis was CEO of the Governments Lancashire City Region and Economic Partnership team.

A member of the Regional Skills Board, he sat on the Courts of UCLAN & Lancaster Universities and on numerous Boards at local & national level, chairing a Transnational EU team at Brescia University, Italy.

Recipient of the Queen Mothers Award for Environmental Education, he received an MBE from the Queen in 2011 for services to local government & the communities of Lancashire.

A keen golfer he is a former magistrate and lay preacher.

Lawrence Yarwood – Vice Chair of Governors

Awaiting photograph and information.

Rev'd Julian Heaton - Rector of Bury Parish Church (Ex-officio)

Julian comes from south Manchester and went to school in Manchester before going to University to study International History. On leaving the London School of Economics, he became an auxiliary nurse at St Christopher's Hospice before moving to train as a priest at St Stephen's House Theological College, Oxford. Subsequently, he has exercised priestly ministry in Stockport, Nottingham, Knutsford, Altrincham, Sale and, since 2017, Bury.



He has been involved with several schools as Governor, some church schools, some local authority, some primary, some secondary. Presently he is Governor of St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Bury as well as Ex Officio Governor of Bury Church of England High School. Good education, with all the potential it releases in pupils and students, matters to him personally, knowing he has been enormously privileged to explore the world through study. Julian is also a member of the board of trustees at The Bishop Fraser Trust.

Julian is married with two grown-up children.

David Fowler – Foundation Governor

Awaiting photograph.

David is a retired Primary School Headteacher with 36 years of educational practice experienced, mostly in Bury. He has been a Foundation Governor at Bury CE High School for over four years, performing as a Committee Chair and Link Governor for SEND pupils.

David is an enthusiastic advocate of Bury CE High School as he believes it provides a professional, caring, pastoral and Christian ethos to all its pupils and their families.

In his private life, he is an active individual, enjoying a variety of outdoor activities, e.g., skiing, hill walking and, until recently, rock climbing. David is a member of St. Mary's congregation and is a Parish Church Council member.

Rev'd Anne Gilbert - Foundation Governor



Ann Gilbert is the Rochdale Deanery representative on the Board of Governors. Ann is the vicar of Rochdale parish churches including St Chad's (Rochdale parish church), St Mary in the Baum, St Pater's Newbold and St Luke's, Deeplish.

Ann was ordained in 2018 and prior to this was a secondary school senior leader, having 29 years' experience of teaching in secondary schools. Her specialist subject is Religious Studies and Ann also taught the other humanities subjects, her final role before leaving was as SMSC and British Values Coordinator. Ann has gained her NPQH and has served elsewhere as a staff Governor, Foundation Governor and as a member of the board of trustees in a multi academy trust.

Lavinia Lancashire - Foundation Governor (Chair of Curriculum & Standards)

Lavinia had a successful career in Secondary Education, starting out as a teacher of Modern Foreign Languages, then becoming a Head of Department in a Bury High School. In 1991, Lavinia was appointed as Deputy Headteacher of a Church of England High School in East Lancashire where she worked until her retirement in 2012. She is a member of the congregation of Bury Parish Church, and, in January 2020, she was elected by its Parish Church Council as a Foundation Governor of Bury CE High School. Since joining the Board of Governors, Lavinia has become Chair of the Curriculum and Standards Committee, putting to good use the skills and experience she acquired in her working life.



Gareth Staples-Jones – Foundation Governor



Gareth currently works in Radcliffe where he was born and raised, having finished Bury C of E High School in 2013 before going onto study at Holy Cross College, University of Salford, & Virginia Military Institute as well as a language school in Russia for a number of months after graduating.

Since then Gareth has been a member of the Royal Navy Reserve and has recently joined the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Bury where he hopes to commission after finishing a tenancy, farming a smallholding whilst also having previously worked for NFU Mutual managing farm insurances.

Closer to home, Gareth volunteers his time with Radcliffe & Bury Veterans Breakfast Club, the National Farmers Union promoting British agriculture, as well as helping a number of community groups in Radcliffe and pushing wider regeneration efforts in the town.

Simon Braithwaite – Headteacher

Simon has worked in three schools and provided support and training to other schools over the past 20 years. He spent ten years at Turton School in Bolton where he began as an NQT, finishing as Head of Upper School, an Associate Assistant Headteacher role. He subsequently moved to Sharples School as Assistant Headteacher. Simon moved on to become Deputy Headteacher for Blackburn Central High School and then in June 2019 he became Headteacher at Bury Church of England High School. He feels fortunate in different experiences, all of which helped me to grow as a leader and educator.



Simon says he is a child of the manse; ministers and served a number of teachers which, despite their best their career path. As his father moved lived in Bristol, the Durham Dales, the Bolton. Due to the constant upheaval,

both his mother and father were Methodist circuits. In fact, both his parents were also efforts to put him off, he decided to follow around circuits, Simon moved regularly and Wirral, Prescott and finally settling down in Simon was sent off to a boarding school in

North Wales where he spent 7 years. This is where his love of rugby was developed, and he still coaches junior sides even now.

Simon has three children Harry, Matthew and James and says that family values are at the very core of his ethos. Simon's wife, Rachel, is also a teacher.

Philip Guest – Staff Governor

Philip left school in 1996 and worked in retail, going on to complete an NVQ in Retail. In 2005, Philip graduated from Lancaster University with a first-class Honours degree in English Literature and in 2008, he gained his PGCE with Manchester Metropolitan University. Philip joined Bury Church of England High School as an English Teacher in September 2008 following a successful training placement at the school in the previous year.



During his first two years with Bury CE High School Philip studied part-time at Manchester Metropolitan University and gained a Master's in Education.

In his second year, Philip was appointed to the role of Head of Year, one which he has held since.

Whilst at Bury CE High School, Philip has supported on, and led a variety of trips domestically and internationally, including to Berlin, Paris, Iceland, California, Namibia and to our partner school in South Africa. He also leads the Enhanced Transition Programme each year which includes trips to The Lowry and C4C.

Philip is intrinsically involved in the school's International links programme. Away from school, Philip lives with his partner and they have two young children-. He is a very keen cyclist, often reflected in his assemblies! He is committed to charity fundraising, particularly for mental health charities. In 2017, he ran the Virgin London Marathon and raised over £5,000 for the 'Heads Together' campaign. As part of this fund raising, he was invited by Prince William, HRH The Duchess of Cambridge, and Prince Harry, to attend a training day, led by the Royals, where they spoke passionately to a small group of fundraisers about raising the awareness of mental health issues.

Kathryn Andrew - Parent Governor (Chair of Resources)

Kathryn was elected as a Parent Governor in January 2020, with her daughter being a past pupil and her son currently a year 9 pupil. She became Chair of the Resources Committee in September 2020 and is the link Governor for Health and Safety. Kathryn has worked in Local Government for over 30 years, currently as a service manager in Adult Social Care. She became a school Governor because she is committed to helping our school to be the best that it can be, giving every child the opportunity to access a high-quality education, make the best use of their talents and experience the school journey which is right for them.



Steve Gore – Co-Opted Governor

Steve began his career working for Kodak and swiftly moved to the position of General Manager for the North of England in 2000. Kodak was a leading photography technology business. Steve reported directly to the board of Directors and was responsible for the management of three high volume, manufacturing facilities. His remit included a management of £5m budget and leadership of a unionised labour force of +100 staff, including senior managers.

In 2005 Steve Joined Iron Mountain during which time he held various operational commercial roles with responsibility in three main areas of service delivery. In his role of Framework Manager Steve was responsible for the implementation, management, and development of the pan-government OGC Framework Agreement that Iron Mountain held in conjunction with the Department for Children, Schools and Families. As Service Delivery



Manager Steve is responsible for two key Central Government Contracts: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and The Department of Health. He also spent time as the commercial lead with both the UK Borders Agency and British Nuclear Fuels.

In June 2013 Steve joined K3 Syspro as Operations Director. K3 Syspro is the main European Distributor for the SYSPRO ERP business-based solution. Steve sits on the Board of Directors and is jointly responsible for a £12 million budget. He manages a team of fifty-five incorporating application/technical consultancy, project management, 1st/2nd line support, customer experience, product management and development. He is responsible for maximising profit and revenue return to the PLC through strong strategic leadership. He is deputising for the MD in the case of absence, with full control over the width of the business. Whilst optimizing relationships with 450 customers, in both the UK and Europe, including customer satisfaction. The role requires international travel and a close working relationship with the South African authors of the software.

Married with two daughters attending Bury Church of England High School, Steve has, in his spare time, played both football and hockey at county level. He is a keen football enthusiast, reader and enjoys travelling.

Jonathan Samuel – Parent Governor



Jonathan is an ex-pupil of Bury CE High School, so the school and all its stakeholders are important to him to ensure that the school continues to provide the best education for the young people of Bury as he feels it did for him.

Jonathan worked with children and young people for many years as a youth and schools' worker and in his current role he is a Primary School teacher in Salford. He enjoys spending time with his family, building LEGO and, as a season ticket holder, watching Manchester City.