

## Governor Profiles – Morecambe Road School

### Sarah Mainwaring – Chair of Governors



Sarah initially joined the Governing Board as a Parent Governor when her son was in Primary. He is now a young man of 20 attending Myerscough College. Prior to being elected Chair of Governors, Sarah has been Chair of the Health and Safety Committee, Vice Chair, Chair of the Finance Committee and a member of the Extended Services and Curriculum Committees.

During her career she has worked in local business at management level and is now employed as Finance Director for a Wholesaling Group based in Bradford.

Sarah possesses a keen belief in enabling our pupils to participate in varied new experiences, achieving their full potential whilst in a safe and supportive environment.

### Duncan Bowring



Duncan was co-opted as a Governor in 2022, having retired from full time employment in the shipping insurance sector, where he has worked for 45 years. He was born and brought up locally, then lived in London for 25 years, before returning to Halton to live in 2001. He sees his major qualification for the post of Governor as having brought up and supervised the schooling of 7 children, having at one point 6 children simultaneously in different places of education. Working with administrators and teachers now comes naturally, and he believes that his experience outside the education sector will bring some different perspectives to the Board. He is a member of the Finance, Health and Safety Committee and Curriculum and Extended Services Committee.

### Lisa Crankshaw



Lisa's daughter attended Morecambe Road School until July 2016. At the end of her term as a parent governor, Lisa was proud to be asked to remain as a Co-opted governor. Lisa has worked in education throughout most of her career, working in the office at a local secondary school, at the University of Cumbria in the Education department and in Human Resources as a Secretary in different Departments including Human Resources Service and at Lancashire County Council as a Caseworker in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Team. Lisa is currently employed with St John's Hospice in Lancaster working in clinical governance Lancaster and Morecambe College. Lisa is experienced in policy work and implementation, procedures and systems. She enjoys interacting with staff at all levels.

Lisa chairs the Finance, Staffing & Health and Safety Committee and is the Deputy Chair. In her roles she seeks to ensure that all pupils are achieving the best outcomes.

## Wendy Casson MBE



Wendy worked as the Headteacher of a large Pupil Referral Unit and Hospital Education Service in Blackpool for 12 years, prior to her recent retirement. She was awarded an MBE in the Queens New Year's honours list in January 2022 for her services to education. Wendy has a BEd (Hons) degree in Dance, Physical Education and Art. Having first taught in Devon and then in Liverpool, Wendy returned to her home town in Blackpool, teaching for 18 years in a mainstream school, before taking up the post at the PRU. Throughout her teaching career, Wendy's passion is that every young person has their chance to shine and that is why she wanted to be a Governor at Morecambe Road, where everyone is supported to achieve their potential.

## Victoria Holmes



Victoria is the nominated Staff Governor and has been a teacher at Morecambe Road for 6 years. She has worked across both secondary and primary, gaining a wealth of knowledge regarding SEND provision. Victoria loves providing extra-curricular opportunities to the pupils at Morecambe Road School and currently runs dance club and singing club. These clubs have provided many opportunities for the children, in addition to advantageous outcomes for their social, emotional and physical wellbeing. Victoria has also organised and ran school performances such as Pop UK. Victoria undertakes many professional development courses with the needs of the pupils at the forefront. Victoria has a passion to making a difference to the pupils' lives, by providing them with a curriculum which is creative and engaging. The children are at the heart of everything she does.

## Lindsey Walker



Lindsey is a Local Authority Governor at Morecambe Road School and has undertaken this role since Summer 2022. She has a long-standing professional relationship with the school in her role as Programme Area Manager of Foundation Learning and Year 10 and 11 Provision at Lancaster and Morecambe College. Lindsey is proud to have played an integral role in the successful development of the school's satellite provision at the college and is passionate about supporting pupils' progression and enabling them to achieve their full potential. Lindsey has worked in Further Education for over 30 years, specialising in SEND and Hospitality and Catering. She enjoys working with the local community and has most recently been involved with a number of food sustainability projects.

## Samantha Harding



Sam is a new parent to the school and our new parent governor. Her son started in the Ladybirds Class in 2022.

Professionally Sam works in the area within children's mental health services and has worked with children and families in the area for the last 15 years in varying roles. From September 2024, Sam starts employment at Morecambe Road School as the Pupil Mental Health Practitioner. She will bring a wealth of experience around mental health and wellbeing and has a passion for promoting wellbeing for all stakeholders.

As a parent governor, Sam hopes to bring this knowledge, as well as her lived experience as a parent to the role and help bring the voice of other parents and the needs of families to the governing body.

## Jennifer Breen



I am a new parent to the school and a new parent governor. My son started in year 7, in September 2023 and has gone from strength to strength at the school which is a delight to see. Professionally, I work within children's ADHD services locally and before this I worked as a children's nurse in various paediatric A&E's, critical care units and mental health settings all over the North West. I have been a nurse for 20 years and I'm passionate about making sure young people, particularly those who struggle with neurodiversity or mental health difficulties, have a voice and are heard.

I hope to be able to apply my knowledge and experience to the role and well as my lived experience of advocating for my own child with neuro diversity in a variety of settings. I hope to help the children and families of Morecambe Road feel like their voice valued and heard.

## Darren Macfarlane



Darren is currently a senior leader and head of the Learning Services team and a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at a sixth form in Bolton, and has over 25 years of experience of working in SEND. Darren's role involves overseeing the development and implementation of educational programs and support services tailored to meet the diverse needs of students. As a DSL, he plays a crucial role in safeguarding the welfare of students, ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment.

Darren has a deep passion for working with young people, striving to create an environment where every student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential. He is actively involved in various initiatives aimed at improving educational outcomes for young people with SEND and actively advocates for the rights and the academic and personal growth of all students.

## Emma Simpson



Emma Simpson became a Co-opted Governor at Morecambe Road School in September 2023.

Currently in her 6<sup>th</sup> year of headship within a local C of E Primary school, Emma qualified as a Nursery Nurse before embarking on her career in teaching in 2006. Although being a Headteacher has widened her experience and interests, her first passion in education was the Early Years, having spent the majority of her time in the classroom teaching Reception aged children. In her current role, Emma finds Early Help work incredibly rewarding and feels privileged to be able to offer wider support to children and their families.

As well as being a Governor at Morecambe Road and within her own school, Emma is a Foundation Governor at a C of E primary school in Cumbria and enjoys the range of opportunities that these roles offer.