

Governor Pen Portraits

Mike Larsen

Mike joined the Governing Body at Overchurch Infant School in January 2011 and is currently the Chair of Governors and an active participant of all Standing Committees.

Mike was a former pupil of the school himself and, more recently, both of his children have attended the school as pupils. Mike is an active member of the local community, where he has lived all of his life.

In addition, Mike works for the NHS as a Human Resources Manager, is a Trustee of a local charity and has a wealth of experience as a Non-Executive Director.

Sarah Seymour

Sarah has recently joined the Governing Body at Overchurch Infant School as a Staff Governor, having expressed a keen interest to find out more about our school and the work involved with the Governing Body.

She has taught at Overchurch since joining as an NQT 7 years ago into the Year 2 team for 6 years. Sarah moved to teach Reception this year and was excited for this move as she felt it was important to learn more about the children's starting point when entering school and how they develop during the early years.

Throughout her time at Overchurch, she has been subject leader of maths and has now moved to become joint English subject leader. More recently she has attended talk for writing training and is enjoying seeing how this is being delivered across school to embed storytelling skills in all our pupils, helping to raise attainment in writing.

Jason Comber

Jason joined the Governing Body at Overchurch Infant School in September 2017, initially as a Parent Governor and is now the Vice Chair of Governors and an enthusiastic member of all of the Standing Committees.

Jason is an avid supporter of the development of the potential of young people and is the Award Manager of a voluntary organisation involved in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Wirral. Jason is a former Advanced Paramedic in the Cheshire and Mersey area and is now employed as a Senior Lecturer in Paramedic Science in a local University.

Zoe Carmichael

Zoe joined the Governing Body at Overchurch Infant School in October 2016 as a Co-opted Governor when her daughter was a pupil at Overchurch Junior School. She is a participant of all of the Standing Committees and the Chair of Finance.

Zoe was the former Chair of Overchurch PTA and is still an active member of the fundraising committee. Her niece and nephew are both pupils of the school so although her daughter is now in high school, she enjoys the connection with Overchurch and the wonderful staff and Children.

Zoe lives in Upton and works for a local Housing Association as Head of Investment; planning, co-ordinating and ensuring delivery of multi million pound programmes of works to their properties. She finds her role in social housing rewarding and particularly enjoys the community involvement with residents and the positive impact of the works on their homes.

Jo Newman

Jo has been a Parent Governor since November 2018 is has a son in Year One and a daughter in this year's Nursery cohort.

Jo has a vast array of knowledge and experience in working with Primary, Secondary and Special Schools within Wirral in providing high quality physical activity and competitive sporting opportunities. Jo also works closely with PE specialists within primary schools to promote health and wellbeing initiatives and training opportunities for students and staff. Jo is looking forward to her new role as Parent Governor.

Lee Harrison

Lee is new to the school, joining as a parent governor in May 2019 and has two children. Lee's eldest daughter is currently in Year One.

Lee is a Pre-Construction Manager for an international construction company, responsible for cost planning and managing project risks across multiple contract forms. Over the years this has encompassed works to a number of schools across the country.

Lee hopes to utilise his vast experience in work life to aid the school with items such as financial planning, estate management and health and safety risks and aims to be an asset to the school, dedicating his time in being a proactive and effective school governor.

Matthew Elliott

Matt joined the governing body as a parent governor in 2019. He lives in Upton, has two children currently attending the school, comes from a family of teachers and is also a former pupil (from many years ago)!

Matt specialises in finance and works for several charities based in Liverpool. He has experience of being a governor at several other schools, along with more general governance experience as a trustee of a number of charities over recent years. He is keen to support the school in giving the best possible start to children in the community during their earliest years in education.

Ros Free

Ros has recently joined the Governing body of Overchurch Infant School as a co-opted governor. She is also Chair of Governors at Hoylake Holy Trinity CofE Primary School.

Ros originally moved to the Wirral to take up the post of Headteacher, here at Overchurch Infant School and then became the Headteacher of The Dell Primary School. Eventually, prior to retirement, she joined the Local Authority school improvement team which involved a number of diverse activities such as supporting underachieving schools, working with NQTs and training governors.

Jeanne Fairbrother

Jeanne lives in New Brighton. Jeanne is a Health & Safety practitioner with 13 years' experience, providing health and safety advice and guidance within the education sector within local government.

She is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety & Health. Jeanne firmly believes in the ethos of this charter, which is to volunteer and provide members' knowledge, skills and experience to help the community. Jeanne is a governor at another primary school in Wirral, mentor to other Health and Safety professionals seeking chartered status and has recently started to deliver free H&S sessions to Newly Qualified Teachers.

Julie Merry

Julie is married with two children, a daughter and a son, both now young adults. Her son has SEN, so Julie has experience of finding out how to meet his health and educational needs, from a very young age!

Julie started her career with 19 years in Banking. Following redundancy, she changed her career and moved into Education, working within all areas of Education including Private Pre-School, Primary, Secondary, Further Education and more recently Higher Education; undertaking a variety of roles ranging from nursery/teaching assistant, class teacher, adult tutor, vocational award assessor and verifier to senior lecturer delivering the National Senco Award.

Julie has also spent 9 years working for the Local Authority as Wirral Education's Safeguarding Lead. For the last two years, Julie has been employed part-time at Stanley Special School as a Safeguarding Manager and spends the rest of her time working as a self-employed Safeguarding Consultant, working with a number of Wirral Schools.

She has over 16 years' experience as a governor and is currently the Chair of Governors at Cathcart Street Primary and a co-opted governor at Kilgarth Special School. Julie has a particular interest in Safeguarding, SEN and Finance. Julie is excited to be part of our Governing Body and is looking forward to our next educational journey!