



Meet the Governors



Mrs Fiona Taylor, Foundation Governor and Chair of Governors

I am from Tyldesley and attended Tyldesley Central, which was also known as the mission school. I was third generation to attend and there have been further generations attended here.

I became a governor when my son Cameron started at St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery about 16 years ago. I have been in the privileged position as Chair for over 10 years. I am also very active with the work of our Parish Church and I am deeply committed to our community.

I am married and a mum and grandmother. I have worked for over 40 years in the NHS, where I trained as a Nurse, Midwife and Health Visitor in Salford. I moved into management in 1992 and my last role has been as Chief Executive of two clinical commissioning groups.

I am passionate about making sure the children receive a great all round education with lots of opportunities hopefully to equip them for their future as citizens in our local community and wider society. I like swimming and have just started Pilates.



Mr Paul Costello, Local Authority Governor and Vice Chair of Governors

I am Vice Chair of governors at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery and a Local Authority appointed governor. I have been a governor since 2018 and became a governor at the school because of the inclusiveness of the school and how every pupil is given the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

I am married with two grown up daughters: one teaches Maths in Dubai and the other is an Executive producer at Film 4 in London. I attended Leigh St Mary's RC High School and worked for 30 years for various Law Enforcement Agencies in the United Kingdom. I have an Honours degree in Mathematics and a PGCE in Numeracy and on retirement began lecturing Mathematics at Wigan and Leigh College and for the HM Prison Service.

I am an Executive Trustee of Leigh Building Preservation Trust. I am Chair of the charity Leigh Film Society and Wigan & Leigh Short Film Festival. I am Honorary Member of Tyldesley Swimming & Water Polo Club, where I still remain as Team Manager for the Tyldesley Ladies Water Polo Team. I am also Co-founder and Chair of The Pelican Centre, Tyldesley. I am Director of Tyldesley Heritage Action Zone C.I.C and Chair of Leigh Spinners Mill CBS Limited.

'Never settle for less than your best'



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Mr Grogan, Headteacher

I have been the Headteacher at St George's Central CE Primary and Nursery School since September 2012. My role means that I am automatically a governor.

Before joining St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery I was the Deputy Headteacher at Parklee Community School in Atherton and prior to that I was a teacher at St. Peter's CE Junior School in Leigh.

In 2011, I founded Atherton and Tyldesley Sports Association (ATSA) which provides various sporting opportunities for the primary schools across the area.

I live locally and I am married with two children. Phoebe is 15 years old – she enjoys swimming for Wigan BEST. Annie is 11 years old – she likes looking after the guide dogs we 'foster'. We all enjoy watching Bolton Wanderers together. I enjoy going to the gym and going on bike rides to keep fit.



Mrs Andrea Malley, Staff Governor

I am the staff governor at St George's Central CE Primary and Nursery School. I became a governor in 2020 to further develop the links between staff, governors and the school.

I have worked at St George's Central for the last 17 years and have experience of teaching across Key Stages One and Two. Currently, I teach Year 6 and have responsibility for the KS2 department. I am also Assistant Headteacher and lead English and Science in school as well as mentoring Early Career Teachers.

I am married with two children. My daughter Katie-Lou is 11; she enjoys competing in running events for Wigan Harriers. My son Thomas is 7; he enjoys playing rugby. We enjoy family time together and my personal hobbies are making cakes, running and attending the gym.

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Mr Iain Hodcroft, Foundation Governor

I have been a governor at St George's Central for many years, and as well as fulfilling this role, I am a Churchwarden at St George's Church and I currently chair Shakerley Community Partnership.

Within the wider church, I am Secretary of Salford and Leigh Deanery, a Member of Diocesan Synod and since Summer 2022 a member of Bishop's Council. Both church and school work very closely together in Tyldesley and focus on welcome, hospitality and supporting families in need.

I have been retired from paid employment since 2011. Originally I trained in Hotel Keeping and Catering in the late 1960's. I worked in and around London with a major catering company for a number of years, before changing direction to work with children and families. I was employed by NCH Action for Children (now 'Action for Children') for 30 years, before taking early retirement and part-time employment with children with disabilities. From 2008 to 2011, I worked in Community Development in east Bury for the Diocese of Manchester.

In school, I am particularly interested in three areas – supporting children with special educational needs, school's community links and the well-being of the school community.



Mr Hal Eccles, Foundation Governor

I have lived in the area since 1999 and Tyldesley itself for five years. One of my four children attends St. George's Central C.E. Primary School and Nursery in Reception. My wife, who many of you will know, is the Reverend Cath and you will find me at all the Parish Church events and most services.

My day job as a full-time secondary school teacher in Salford keeps me current with changes in educational policy and safeguarding and I am happy to lend my experience to St. George's Central in my capacity as a governor whenever required. As an ECT (Early Career Teacher) lead mentor at my school I am committed to developing teachers and allowing them to fulfil their potential in the classroom.

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Mrs Dawn Buck, Parent Governor

I have been a parent governor since 2019. I live in Tyldesley, I am married and have two children, one who attends St. George's Central CE Primary School in year 3, and one who is in year 7 at Fred Longworth High School.

I have worked for Bolton NHS trust for 15 years as a Diabetes specialist podiatrist, a job which comes with lots of challenges. I have many transferable skills that I use day-to-day around governing the department and ensuring safe practice which I felt I could bring to the governing body.

As a parent, I feel it is important that their voice is represented in the governing of the school. I am sure most parents agree that their number one priority is their children and striving for the best outcomes. Through life, we all have different views/outlooks and I respect the fact that we are all different in our opinions, but ultimately the safety, welfare and happiness of our children is a number one priority.

My current governing roles are around early years and the pay committee. My class link area is both Nursery classes.



Rector Martin Cox, Ex-officio Foundation Governor

I am originally from Stoke-on-Trent, known as 'The Potteries'. I have been ordained for 20 years before which I worked in the public sector. I have been the Team Rector of the Astley, Tyldesley and Mosley Common Team since July 2016 and as such I am an ex-officio governor of both St George's Central Primary School and St Stephen's Astley Primary School. This means that I am a governor by virtue of my role as Team Rector.

I am committed to church and school working together to encourage our children in aspects of their development and together to make a lasting contribution to the life of our communities. I am married to Heather, who works in another local primary school. Our children and grandchildren live elsewhere in the country so we spend much of our free time travelling to see them and other members of our family. I like to swim and read as well as cook.

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Miss Rosie Dandy, Foundation Governor

I have lived my entire life in Tyldesley. I have recently secured a permanent role at AstraZeneca as a Business Analyst and Scrum Master in IT after completing my four-year degree apprenticeship in BSC Digital and Technology Solutions gaining a First Class Honours. During my placements, I worked in a variety of departments and jobs, including Supply Chain and Operations. I have just started my master's in Digital and Technology Solutions but specialising in Digital Leadership and strategy. I feel it is critical to break down stereotypes about STEM and IT careers and to inspire young talent, particularly women, to be more open to a career in IT.

Outside of work, I enjoy coaching gymnastics, which has been a hobby of mine since I was five years old. I also spend a lot of time helping out at my grandparent's farm and in the gym. I have also shown some of St George's Central children around the farm on a school trip!

I enjoy attending school and talking with the students and teachers. Being a governor is really rewarding and I appreciate being part of a team that is working to improve the educational experiences of children from diverse backgrounds. I wanted to become a governor to give back to society and to help children at an important time in their lives. I loved every minute of school and I hope that as a governor, I can help other students feel the same way.



Mrs Lesley Bashford, Foundation Governor

My name is Lesley Bashford and I am one of the foundation governors, I became a governor just before lockdown. I am class governor for Miss Scotting's class and my governor subject areas are Eco, English and PSHE. I live locally in Tyldesley with my husband and our daughter when she is home from university. I work in the local Start Well Family Centre, so some of you may know me from there. I really like cooking, going for walks and travelling.

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