

GOVERNOR PEN PORTRAITS – 2017/18

<p>RACHEL BILLINGTON <i>Chair</i></p> 	<p>Rachel is the Chair of the Birches Head Academy governing body, the Scrutiny Committee and also Finance and Operations Committee. She is a Trustee of the Alpha Academies Trust and Acting Chair at Woodcroft First School in Leek.</p> <p>She is a value driven practitioner working in the field of creative education and strategic leadership.</p> <p>Rachel is an experienced writer, leadership coach, action learning facilitator and project manager and has previously been a Director of Creative Learning for a charity delivering creative learning programmes across Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire. She has been extensively involved with schools via her roles with Arts Council England as Creative Programmer for Creative Partnerships Stoke on Trent and also as an Education and Outreach Officer at the New Vic Theatre.</p> <p>She has also been the Chair of Youth and Children’s Board, Congregational Federation and is currently supporting St Luke’s CofE church, supporting the life of the church in worship, learning and working in the community.</p> <p>Rachel was awarded a BA degree in Drama and has undertaken various management and coaching accreditations.</p>
<p>BARBARA MILLER <i>Vice Chair</i></p>	<p>Barbara is the Vice Chair of the Birches Head Academy governing body and also a member of the Finance and Operations Committee.</p> <p>She is retired from a career in education where she spent many years both teaching and supporting the assessment and wider participation agendas in a city secondary school. Barbara then ended her formal career by working with the Local authority 14-19 team, supporting the focus on teaching and learning, the wider participation agenda and cross-school support for the delivery of vocational courses.</p> <p>Barbara works as a consultant to examination boards, supporting syllabus review, paper setting and the assessment process while also training teachers in the UK and abroad in teaching strategies and assessment for learning techniques.</p> <p>She holds a BA from London University, an MEd from Keele and is a member of MAAT.</p>

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KATIE DIXON
Headteacher



Katie is a member of the Birches Head Academy governing body.

After graduating from Staffordshire University in 1996 with a BA honours degree in Geography, Katie started her teaching career in Stoke on Trent and later moved to the West Midlands where she taught in a large 11-18 school in West Bromwich.

Katie has worked as an advisory teacher for the Local Authority in Stoke on Trent for 4 years and moved to Birches Head Academy in 2008 as an Assistant Headteacher. She was promoted to Deputy Headteacher and in 2015 was successfully appointed to Headteacher.

REV. JAMES GANDON
Co-opted Governor



Reverend James is a co-opted member of the Birches Head Academy governing body and is the vicar at St Andrew's Church in Sneyd Green.

James has a keen interest in education and, working alongside the Church's Children's Worker, has responsibility for the Children's and Youth ministry. He is also engaged with the local community, leading or facilitating a number of outreach projects and is involved with local schools.

As well as working and expanding his career in the UK, James has spent time volunteering abroad, heading a number of mission teams and spending several months in Brazil working on a community development project in a slum and in a prison.

James has a Diploma in Theology and Pastoral Studies from the University of Nottingham, a BSC in Psychology from the University of Leicester and a BA in Theology from Trinity College, Bristol.

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DAN JACKSON
Co-opted Governor



Dan is a co-opted governor on the Birches Head Academy governing body.

He is a long-serving member of staff at the Academy, responsible for managing the Personalised Learning Centre. Dan has previously worked with Young Offenders and at Abbey Hill Special School which provides him with a wide range of experience in different educational settings.

Dan has a daughter who attends the academy and a son who will be joining very soon. He became a governor to be more involved in supporting the strategic direction of the Academy to ensure all pupils receive the best educational experience possible.

SIMON JONES
Co-opted Governor



Simon is a co-opted governor of Birches Head Academy governing body and is also a member of the Scrutiny Committee.

As Director of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, he is the Senior Assistant Head Teacher at St. Joseph's College and is also Director of St. Joseph's College Teaching School Alliance.

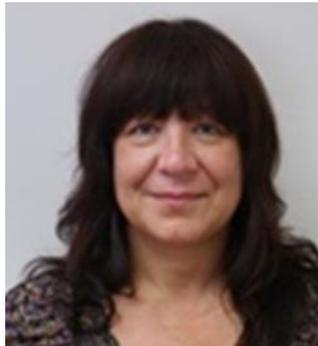
Simon has extensive experience of senior leadership, having held various roles such as Head of Department, Head of Sixth Form, and Senior Lead for teaching & Learning, CPD & staff development, Initial Teacher Training, and School-to-school support.

He values process of school improvement through effective system leadership and is proud of the development of students, teachers and leaders who flourish because of the support and opportunities that he is able to offer them.

Simon was awarded with a BSc honours degree in Biochemistry, a PGCE and NPQH. He is also a Specialist Leader in education for ITT.

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**SHIRLEY KLIMENT-
TEMPLE**
Staff Governor



Shirley is a staff governor on the Birches Head Academy governing body and is also a Governor at Hanley St Luke's Primary school.

After initially training as a State registered nurse, Shirley decided to travel Europe and lived in France, Spain and Belgium for several years. She then completed a BA Honours degree in Languages and International Relations and became a teacher.

Shirley has worked in secondary and primary schools in the city, delivering language lessons for 20 years. She has led on many language initiatives in the city and has coordinated over 20 foreign trips and exchanges with secondary and primary schools. Shirley places great emphasis on the importance of encouraging intercultural understanding in our diverse city. She is also passionate about art and photography and strongly believes in bringing creativity into the classroom.

KEITH NICHOLL
Co-opted Governor



Keith is a co-opted governor of the Birches Head Academy governing body.

Keith has spent the majority of his working life employed within various manufacturing industries. With roots in the Staffordshire based "Potteries," Keith's career in industrial engineering and production management commenced with Royal Doulton PLC. Keith then moved into more senior management positions with various engineering based companies prior to joining the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) Industry Forum where he worked as a Senior Change Practitioner with over 100 client companies. Currently Keith is employed by Staffordshire based KMF Precision Sheet Metal as Commercial Director.

Keith attended Birches Head High School, as did his son Matthew, and lives locally in Birches Head.

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<p>ROISIN MAGUIRE <i>Co-opted Governor</i></p> 	<p>Roisin is a co-opted governor of Birches Head Academy governing body, a member of the Finance and Operations Committee and a member of the Scrutiny Committee. She is also a Trustee of the Alpha Academies Trust.</p> <p>Previously at St Joseph’s College, Trent Vale for 18 years, 12 of these as Headteacher, her experience in education is extensive and her areas of achievement include increased academic performance at both GCSE and A Level, achievement of OFSTED ‘Outstanding’ – the first in a secondary school in Stoke on Trent, buildings and facilities improvement, nationally recognised Value Added Performance.</p> <p>She has been involved in a number of Stoke on Trent secondary schools to provide expertise and support, particularly in relation to establishing and driving successful school improvements.</p> <p>Roisin has also set up a School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) and was appointed a National Leader in Education in 2010.</p> <p>She is a Bachelor of Education, holds the national Professional Qualification for Headship NPQH, a Certificate in Education and Catholic Teachers Certificate.</p>
<p>STEPHANIE MORAN <i>Co-opted Governor</i></p> 	<p>Stephanie is a co-opted governor of the Birches Head Academy governing body. She provides a strong link with the Primary Education Sector, having worked as a head teacher across a number of Primary schools since 2000. Within this time, Stephanie has also worked for the Local Authority in Stoke on Trent, and at present is the Executive Principal and accounting officer of the ESPRIT Multi Academy Trust comprising of three primary schools within Stoke on Trent.</p> <p>Stephanie is passionate about equipping children with the skills, confidence and imagination to succeed in life, in whatever future they choose. As a young teacher working in Stoke her aim was to ‘create a little bit of magic everyday’ to inspire and hook children into learning. As an Executive Principal that vision and belief hasn’t changed.</p> <p>Her previous roles and experiences include; nursery head teacher, Early Years Ofsted Inspector, Early Years Advisor and a School Improvement Partner for the Local Authority.</p> <p>Stephanie believes in life long learning and is studying for the National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership; she holds a BA (hons) Degree in Primary Education and is also a Member for the Amethyst Trust in Wolverhampton.</p>

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<p>SAFINA AMIN Parent Governor</p>	<p>Safina is a parent governor of the Birches Head Academy governing body. (Further information will be provided shortly)</p>
<p>MAXINE BAGSHAW Clerk</p> 	<p>Maxine is the Clerk to the Birches Head Academy governing body. She is the Clerk to the Alpha Academies Trust, which includes the Studio Colleges, Maple Court Academy, Excel Academy and the Discovery Academy.</p> <p>She is also Clerk/Company Secretary to the Corporation at Stoke on Trent College and West Nottinghamshire College, Clerk to the Cororation at Bolton College and volunteers as Trust Secretary at the Inspire and Achieve Foundation (charity).</p> <p>Maxine has worked in the FE sector for 14 years and prior to that was a solicitor in private practice. Her role is to support the board and provide independent advice and guidance.</p>