

Monmouth Comprehensive School Governors 2023/24

Members' Pen Portraits – 23 October 2023

Origin	Name		Pen Portraits
LA	Nicola	Allan	Lives in Monmouth with family, both children attended MCS. Headteacher of 3-19 special school in Newport since 2017. Principal Challenge Advisor with the EAS regional consortium for education improvement 2012 -2017. Senior Special Educational Needs advisor in Berkshire 2009-12. Prior to this headteacher and specialist teacher for visual impairment.
LA	Olwen	Davis	Olwen has a BSc in French and Spanish and has lived in Monmouth for 30 years. Until her retirement in 2019, she had worked at Monmouth School for Girls for 27 years. She started there as a French and Spanish teacher and, over the years, fulfilled many middle management pastoral and academic roles. She was a senior manager at the school for over 15 years and, in her last five years there, she was Deputy Head. Her passion for and commitment to education led her to study for an MA (Ed), her dissertation covering her great interest in Assessment for Learning. Olwen has two children and four grandsons.
LA	Tori	Darlington-James	Tori lives in Whitebrook and is a former MCS student. Mum of 3 (2 at MCS, another to follow). BA (Hons) Criminology, 20 years experience up to Deputy Director level in central and local government (as permanent civil servant and now an independent Management Consultant) across Tax, Defence, Public Health and currently Cyber Security.
LA	Julian	Morgan	Serving Principal at an 11-18 Secondary Academy in Wiltshire. Lives in Monmouth with wife and daughters. History teacher by trade with BA (Hons) in Modern History and MA in Educational Leadership. Has undertaken a variety of educational leadership roles including a previous Headship in Staffordshire and Regional Director for a large Multi-Academy Trust.
LA	Hannah	Woodhouse	Lives in Monmouth with her young family. Hannah is the Department for Education (England) Regional Schools Commissioner South West. Has worked in school improvement policy and delivery all her working life including the DfE, leading the inner London challenge team, 14-19 funding policy and New Zealand's Ministry for Education. Was Director for Strategy and Commissioning Children and Adults Services in Cambridgeshire County Council from 2010-13 and MD of the Central South Consortium School Improvement Service in South Wales 2013 -17.
Community	Catherine	Haynes	BA Modern Languages (French and Russian), BD, MA (Christian Liturgy), currently completing a doctorate in Church History, related to the relationship of children and the church in the nineteenth century. Vicar in the Church in Wales since 1996 and currently Team Vicar and Community Engagement Priest for Monmouth. Previously Children's Advisor for Llandaff Diocese, Diocesan Director of Education for Swansea and Brecon Diocese (& vice chair of the Powys Schools Forum) and Children and Youth Advisor for Monmouth Diocese. I was the resident school chaplain teaching at Haberdasher's Monmouth School for Girls between 2012 and 2014. Formerly a trustee of CAB in Powys, then Monmouth. Currently a trustee of the Monmouth and District Night Shelter and chaplain to the Royal Naval Association. Also a governor at Osbaston Church in Wales Primary School.
Community			
Community	Jamie	Powell	BSC Geography followed by hotel management training leading to over 10 years in management positions with BUPA/Spire Healthcare. Currently Centre Manager of the Rutherford Cancer Centre in South Wales that offers the latest high energy proton beam treatment. Lives in Newcastle with his wife and 4 children (2 attending MCS)
Community	Antony	Smith	Business Director for a group that owns classical record labels, CD/DVD manufacturing, printing, publishing and commercial property. I have lived and worked in London, New York and Singapore and travelled extensively for business and pleasure. Former Chair of Governors at Osbaston Primary for 8 years. I have one son at MCS.
Community	Vicky	Smith	Solicitor following a portfolio career. Current roles include Member of the House of Commons Standards Committee, part time judge, legally qualified chair/chair for various regulatory bodies, independent member for the Ministry of Defence, independent assessor for the Student Loans Company, Adjudicator for the SRA and ad hoc legal advisor for HMCTS..
Head	Hugo	Hutchison	Experienced school leader who has returned to Monmouthshire after 20 years in London. Hugo has led a wide range of schools, most recently as Executive Principal at Future Academies in London, and has also worked in school improvement across the South East. Ex-Chair of Governors of a London primary. Recent M.A. (Distinction) in Philosophy of Education from UCL. Prior to his career in education, Hugo worked in book publishing and the film industry.
Parent	Paula	Doody	BA Business Studies and CIPD qualified. 30 years Corporate experience in senior HR roles. Currently Director of an HR consultancy business. Married with 3 children – all at or previously attended MCS. Parent governor for in second 4 years term and passionate about ensuring all young people have the opportunity to reach their potential.
Parent	Catherine	Fookes	Director of charity Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales @WenWales with a particular interest in empowering girls, equality and social justice. I have two children at MCS. Previously a Campaigner at Action Aid, Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming amongst others. Skills in marketing, communications and fundraising. Passionate about ALL our students at MCS thriving, no matter what their educational ability, in all different ways and helping to make MCS an outstanding school.
Parent	Jessica	McHugh	Lives in countryside outside of Monmouth and has three children, two in MCS and one in Cross Ash primary school. A qualified solicitor for almost 20 years practising in an international law firm in Cardiff. Also a parent Governor at Cross Ash school and former chair of Cross Ash Under Fives playgroup committee.
Parent	Satinder	Smith	I live in Monmouth and have 3 children who are all currently studying at MCS. I work as a Primary School Teacher in a local catchment school. I have previously been Parent Governor at Overmonnow Primary, Co-Chair of the PTFA and Treasurer for the Pre School Committee. Prior to becoming a parent, I worked at a non profit Science Centre as HR Director.
Parent	Kate	Williams	I live in Monmouth and have 2 children. The first is at MCS and the second is still in her final years at a local primary school. I work as a Consultant Clinical Psychologist and have extensive experience working in NHS and public sector settings. I am passionate about addressing the emotional and mental well being of students and staff at MCS and to use my healthcare leadership skills to ensure that the school is an environment for all to thrive.

Parent	Ceri	Jones	
Staff	Sarah	Bradley	Lives in Monmouth, married with 2 daughters who previously attended MCS and 1 grand-daughter. I have been an administrator at Monmouth Comprehensive School for 23 years, previously worked at Lloyds Bank. Previously Trustee/Secretary of Friends of MCS Boat Club and still actively supporting.
Teacher	Janet	Chaplin	I have been teaching for over 30 years in the secondary sector in the Gwent area. I have been a head of department as well as pastoral lead of Year 10 and 11 as well as a Key stage 4 leader. Having been at Monmouth Comprehensive school for 18 years concentrating on A' level Art. Outside of my teaching I am a professional exhibiting Artist and a moderator for WJEC.
Teacher	Dorrie	Gaylard	