

Beech Hill Community Primary School

Governor Profiles

Jim Waterworth



Chair of Governors

I am a chartered geologist, working as a freelance geoenvironmental engineer.
I have been a governor at Beech Hill Primary School since 2010 and Chair of Governors since 2012. I have a keen interest in making sure that every child in our school develops their own abilities and interests to the highest level of personal achievement, bringing out the best in every child.

I work with the senior leadership in school and with the governing board to ensure that every child feels valued and safe.

I believe that we have a strong team working throughout the school with the motivation and capability to continue to teach and support our children to be the best they can be.
I enjoy being a part of the management of the school and will continue to use my personal strengths and experience from within and outside the education sector, to ensure that the school achieves its objectives.

Governor Time of Service:

- 15 years

Responsibilities as Governor:

- Chair of Governors
- Health & Safety and Safeguarding

Fun fact:

- At weekends I enjoy cycling and walking in the Lakes

Dan Driver



Vice Chair of Governors

I work as a Service Lead for Wigan Council Adult Social Care, managing our community Social Care Teams. I have previously managed teams in the voluntary sector supporting young people not in education, employment or training and have a degree in youth and community work.

Governor Time of Service:

- 8 years

Responsibilities as Governor:

- Vice Chair of Governors
- Health & Safety and Safeguarding

Fun fact:

- I used to be an outdoor activity instructor and was qualified in canoeing, archery, climbing and surfing as well as being a beach lifeguard

Emma O’Brien



Co-Opted Governor

I am a qualified primary teacher and taught for 10 years before taking a break to have my children who attend our school. I began as a parent governor in 2021 when my eldest son was in reception. Since then I started to work in school as a teaching assistant and became a co-opted governor in 2025. I feel very privileged that I get to spend so much time with the children at Beech Hill and I am committed to making sure that they get the most out of their time at our school and feel supported to be the best that they can be.

Governor time of service:

- 4 years

Responsibilities as governor:

- Attendance and behaviour
- English and Oracy

Fun fact:

- I am a qualified SCUBA instructor and have explored the waters of Turkey, Egypt and Australia. Some of the highlights were diving beyond 40m to find Groupers and swimming with sea turtles on the Great Barrier Reef.

Vivienne Robertson



Co-Opted Governor

I am a Registered General Nurse who has spent a fulfilling 36 years in the NHS, where I worked as a Theatre Sister and Deputy Team Leader in Anaesthetics and Recovery. I retired in October 2021.

Since November 2024, I have taken on the role of Public Governor at Liverpool Heart & Chest Hospital. Additionally, I spend some of my time volunteering at the very same hospital, lending a helping hand wherever I can.

Governor time of service:

- 4 years

Responsibilities as governor:

1. SEND governor
2. PSHE
3. Staff wellbeing
4. Pupil premium

Fun fact:

- I am an Everton season ticket holder

Christopher Bottomley



Co-Opted Governor

I graduated from the University of Liverpool in 2005 and Edgehill University in 2010 with a PGCE in Secondary Education. My previous work experience includes Teaching (ICT), Wigan Council (Education Intelligence) and more recently Star Academies and Greater Manchester Academies Trust (Education Intelligence).

I really enjoy working in education, specifically my role encourages the use of data in teaching with a focus on making access easy and timely to encourage and support outstanding teaching and learning.

In my spare time, as well as school governance, I play competitive badminton in Wigan and Liverpool, enjoy building Lego and am creating an automated smart home.

Governor time of service:

- 2 years

Responsibilities as governor:

- Pupil Outcomes
- School Data

Fun fact:

- Last season, my team joined the Wigan Badminton league, came 1st and got promoted.

Kellie Whittle



Co-Opted Governor

I am a former estate agent and graduate of the University of Salford, where I achieved a First-Class Honours degree in Psychology and Criminology. For the past ten years, I have worked in Higher Education, and currently as a Partnership Development Officer. In this role, I work closely with a wide network of schools across the North West to organise opportunities for students to train as teachers. I also co-ordinate raising aspiration activities for primary and secondary pupils, which aim to encourage early consideration of future education and career pathways.

I am deeply committed to ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education, equal opportunities, and positive life chances, enabling them to achieve their full potential. As a former pupil of Beech Hill Primary School, I am also passionate about giving back to the school which provided me with the best start to life and our local community.

Governor time of service:

- Newly appointed (December 2025)

Fun Fact:

- When I was younger, I appeared on Noel Edmund's House Party and even met Mr Blobby! (For anyone born after the early 90's this was a popular Saturday night TV show!)

Dr Calvin Machaya



LA Governor

I am a Chartered Accountant by profession. I hold an MBA-Finance and an MSc (Accounting & Finance) from North Wales Management School and The University of Northampton respectively. I also hold a PhD in Management Accounting from the University of Salford. I worked in various industries in Africa and here in the UK. I have always been passionate about education after having trained as a Primary School teacher after my secondary education.

I am currently a fulltime lecturer of accounting & finance at the University of Hull. I also own my own small accounting hustle that keeps me up to date with current accounting and tax issues.

I am a devoted educationist believing in knowledge transfer with particular interest in practice and current affairs. I also delight in the success of students and there is nothing that gives me satisfaction than seeing young people develop into successful professionals.

Governor Time of Service

- Newly Appointed (January 2026)

Fun Fact

- I love road trips, safaris and camping. I also like going to the gym (although the stubborn belly fat doesn't speak to that). Lately, I have started walking all over Wigan with the hope of slowing aging.

Kerry Williams



Staff Governor

I have worked at Beech Hill Primary School for the last 9 years as a Teaching Assistant. I graduated from University of Lancashire in 2025 in Children and Young People Services. My role now is in pastoral supporting children as learning mentor and attendance officer. I am a Trauma Informed Practitioner and have just completed to be a facilitator in delivering Riding the Rapids for parents whose children have an Autism diagnosis, or they are on the pathway.

Governor Time of Service

- 4 years

Responsibilities as Governor

- Maths
- Personal development and Well-being

Fun fact

- I am creative and love to draw characters on my children's bedroom walls. Another passion is creating celebration cakes for special occasions.

Michelle McCarthy



Headteacher Governor Ex Officio

I have held a number of school leadership roles over an even larger number of years. My time working in education has taken me from Liverpool to London and finally Wigan where I have had the enormous privilege of being the headteacher of Beech Hill Community Primary School since 2017.

Fun fact

- I have had my Everton Season ticket for nearly thirty years. While this is a fact, it is seldom fun.