

Meet the Governors of The Winstanley School



Vivien Evans Chair of Governing Body (from June 2019)

Governor type Community Governor

I worked as a full-time secondary school teacher for 34 years in several different schools in Leicester City and Leicestershire prior to taking early retirement at the end of the 2014/15 academic year. During my teaching career I held various roles, including being a classroom teacher, Curriculum Leader, Language College Director, Assistant Principal and trainee Headteacher.

I was appointed to the Senior Leadership Team at Groby Community College to achieve and maintain Specialist Language College status in partnership with Brookvale High School.

In my role as Language College Director I took a lead in the college being twice awarded the International School Award as well as achieving International Baccalaureate World School status.

During my last few years as Assistant Principal, I was responsible for the behaviour, attendance and punctuality of KS4 students and was also the designated Safeguarding Lead. In this role I also supported the college to achieve the Equalities Award.

In retirement I am very keen to use my skills and experience to support The Winstanley School to be formally recognised as a provider of high quality learning for all students.

This year I have expressed a particular interest in monitoring the effectiveness of Leadership, at all levels



Steve Reeves Vice Chair of Governing Body

Governor Type: Parent Governor

A little over twenty years ago I came to work at Millfield Primary School as a Key Stage 2 teacher. I became Deputy Head teacher a few years later. During this time, I developed good links with the other local schools including Winstanley.

Unfortunately, I have had to take early retirement through ill health, so I have swapped my teaching specialisms of ICT and Science for writing children's books and gardening!

After twenty years I still feel an affinity to Braunstone Town and want to continue to contribute to the schools and its community.

When I was asked to be a governor at The Winstanley School I was very pleased to accept and I am proud to have been the Chair of Governors for the last year. I am now returning to the ranks to continue with my support.

Winstanley has gone through some significant changes in recent years and months and these are exciting times as the school moves forward and, with teaching and learning improving at a pace, I am excited to be a part of helping to make The Winstanley School a "shining beacon of the community".



David Bennett

Governor Type: Head of School

I worked for 23 years as a Religious Studies Teacher, Head of Humanities and Advanced Skills Teacher at Babington Academy on Beaumont Leys Estate. In my time at Babington I won National Teacher of the Year in a Secondary school and was awarded an MBE for Services to Education. I moved schools in 2012 to become an Assistant Principal at Bosworth Academy overseeing Data and Quality Assurance. I then became a Deputy at Bosworth and when The Winstanley School joined the LiFE MAT I started to work 2 days a week at Winstanley. Since September 2017 I have been working

full-time at Winstanley initially as Co-Head of School and since January 2019 as Head of School. I worked for 10 years as an OFSTED Inspector which provided me with valuable insights into the Inspection process.

I am passionate about education and its power to change young people's lives. I see my role as Head to ensure that we do all that we can to ensure that every young person in our care gets the best opportunities possible. I want every student to 'shine brighter than they thought they could.'



Denise Dowthwaite

Governor Type: Parent Governor

As a mother of 7 children, two children having gone through The Winstanley School who are now in College, two currently at the school with another child due to move up and two thereafter.

In the 7 years my children have been at the school I have seen many positive changes and improvement, especially in the past 4/5 years and I was delighted to be asked to be a governor at The Winstanley School where I could be a part of this continued success, seeing not only my children benefiting but others too, as education plays such an important part of the pupils lives.



Mandy Forrest

Governor Type: Co-opted Governor

I work part time as a PA for a vicar in a busy Church of England Church, in the centre of Leicester. I am married to Richard and have 3 grown daughters, two sons in Law and 3 grandchildren with one on the way.

I love reading, knitting and discovering new recipes to try out on my family and friends. When my youngest daughter who attended Winstanley went off to University, I decided it was time for me to give something back, so I offered to help out as a Volunteer, mentoring the more-able students on a weekly basis. Six years

ago I was invited to join the Winstanley Community College Governing body. I have seen a lot of change over the past few years, including joining the Life MAT and the formation of The Winstanley School- which I have seen as very positive and it's great to actively support the School.



Gareth Owen

Governor Type: Community Governor

I came to Leicester from South Wales to train as a teacher and 40+ years later still live here.

Now retired, I worked in education for all my working life. I taught in nearby New Parks for 18 years before commuting to Birmingham and then Nottingham for Headships and a brief period working for a local authority.

I loved working in city schools and loved working with teachers willing to always go the extra mile to ensure their pupils became citizens who added to their communities. Winstanley seems a perfect match for me a school never shying away from its academic duties but placing youngsters well-being at the heart of its work.



Pankaj Thacker

Governor Type: Staff Governor

I am a qualified science teacher with over 15 years of teaching experience across the 11-19 age range. I have worked in five different schools across Leicestershire and am now proud to be the science curriculum coordinator at The Winstanley School.

I am passionate about education and the importance of developing life skills in children and want to be able to use my experience as a teacher to help make decisions on improving the outcomes for all students.

I am keen to help support the school in providing children with a good education, but also in ensuring that they are happy and that we support their emotional and social well-being as well as their academic ability.

As a part of my role, I want to help ensure that the school continues to make huge progress in the coming years in providing all students with the best education in Braunstone so that they can fulfil their potential.



Grant Turner

Governor Type: Staff Governor

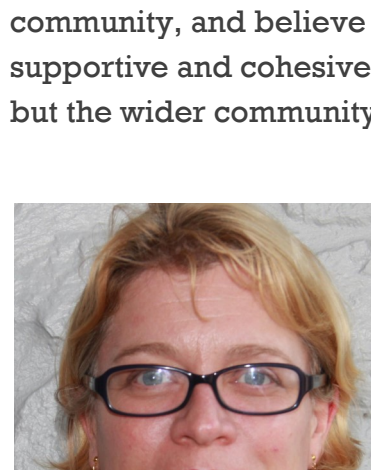
I am the Head of Year 11 at the Winstanley School having been in post since January 2018.

Prior to this, I was working with young people at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) across the UK, supporting them in raising their aspirations and securing long term employment.

I came in to education after enjoying a career as a professional sportsman where I was fortunate enough to compete at the London 2012 Olympics. Originally from Swindon, I have enjoyed living

and working in Leicestershire for the past 10 years.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to positively impact The Winstanley School, not only in my role as a Head of Year, but also in the role as staff governor. I am also very passionate about community, and believe the community that The Winstanley School serves is a wonderfully supportive and cohesive one, and I look forward to supporting not only The Winstanley School but the wider community in its endeavour for continued success.



Nicola Green

Governor Type: Community Governor