

# **Governor Profiles**

## #AHSWalksTall

### Niranjan Annamalai

Governor Type: Parent Governor

Initial Appointment Date:

8 October 2020

Current Term of Office:

12 December 2022 to 11 December 2026

Governor Role:

Vice Chair Personnel Committee
SEND Governor—Vice



I have two daughters, the eldest is in Year 7 at AHS and youngest is in Year 6 at St Edwards. Both enjoy the educational experiences offered and I am passionate about helping young people to achieve the best they can.

I am a pharmacist and count over 20 years' work experience in Healthcare. I am currently work as the Superintendent Pharmacist for the wholly-owned subsidiary of Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. I was instrumental in setting up this new service and building a new team, which has brought about meaningful changes in service delivery. This role involves developing policies and procedures, financial management, governance and providing strategic direction.

I believe this knowledge and skills will help develop the board of Governors and school in identifying areas of improvement, resource plans, and meeting the financial demands associated with running a school within the budget.

Being able to listen to parents and pupils, bringing different skills to the school from commercial life and caring passionately about the welfare of all involved in the school are the key qualities, I believe would assist me in performing this role.

#### Debbie Brake

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date: 8 December 2022

Current Term of Office:

8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026



I have been a senior leader for over 10 years in two successful grammar schools in Gloucestershire and Kent, firstly as deputy head in charge of teaching and learning and more recently as senior deputy head responsible for pastoral care including safeguarding and mental health. I hold a Master's degree in Education Leadership and Management and I have completed the National Professional Qualification for Headship. I am also a Specialist Leader in Education and have had the privilege of working with teachers and middle leaders in a range of schools to support their development.

As a serving and committed teacher, I hope that I can help and support the senior team, staff and pupils at Aylesbury High School and contribute to its success.

## Nicholas Burgess

Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date:

12 October 2020

Current Term of Office:

12 October 2020 to 11 October 2024

Governor Role:

Chair of the Resources Committee;

SEND Governor



My name is Nicholas. I am a mathematician and work for a major investment bank in London and specialise in electronic trading algorithms. Much of my career has been international. In particular I enjoyed working in Singapore and Sydney.

Currently I am an executive MBA student at Oxford University. I am a visiting lecturer at New York University (NYU) and hold degrees in Mathematics, Languages and Derivatives Trading. Both at work and university I am actively involved in student recruitment, career development and networking events. I occasionally assist with the running of school career fairs.

My daughter is in year 9 at AHS. I am passionate about empowering her and young people to succeed through education, positive relationships and networking. Having a strong education and diverse network of friends has helped me succeed in my career.

I would like to give back and serve AHS students, teachers and parents. I believe my technology background can help digitally navigate the social distancing challenges that we face. I hope to further improve the 6th form experience and help AHS students aspire for university and successful careers.

#### Helen Bush

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

4 December 2017

Current Term of Office:

23 September 2020 to 22 September 2024

Governor Role:

Co-Chair of Governors; Safeguarding Governor; Chair of Teaching & Learning Committee



I have 13 years' experience as a governor in local primary and secondary schools. This includes 7 years as chair of the Governing Board at Bedgrove Junior School where I was originally appointed to the Interim Executive Board which took over the governance of the school when it went into special measures in 2013. As a member of the IEB I helped the school improve to its current 'good' status within two years and remained committed to the school achieving 'outstanding' before stepping down in 2022. I was also a governor at Bedgrove Infant School for 5 years, where I was vice chair for two years. I have co-chaired the Board at AHS with Kate Weir since 2020, having joined the board in 2017. I am also a Member of the Insignis Academy Trust.

I am passionate about the role which education plays in inspiring, challenging and enabling young people to succeed in life, and am personally committed to ensuring that every pupil has the opportunities to achieve to the best of their ability.

I have been a full-time mum to my daughter (who joined AHS in 2017) since giving up work in the voluntary sector as a policy advisor, including at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. This included two secondments into government departments to advise on voluntary sector policy.

#### **Neil Esslemont**

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

4 December 2017

Current Term of Office:

3 December 2021 to 2 December 2025

Governor Role:

Chair of Pay Review Committee Chair of Personnel Committee

Vice Chair of the Resources Committee Health & Safety Governor



I became a Parent Governor in late 2017 and I am pleased to have the opportunity to be more involved in the life of the school. I have also been a Parent Governor at Turnfurlong Junior School since 2015.

In my professional life I am a Chartered Geologist and I work for Network Rail. In my spare time, I play (and teach) the bagpipes.

## **Atiya Kenworthy**

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

8 December 2022

Current Term of Office:

8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026

Governor Role:

Chair of the Personnel Committee



I have 3 children; daughters in Years 7 & 8 at AHS, as well as a son currently in Year 4. I also have 3 cats and a St Berdoodle puppy called Alan.

I was educated at Watford Girls' Grammar School and believe strongly that the opportunities and experience in these crucial years of education shape what and who we are today and how we pave our way for the future.

I currently work as a Medical Director for a Pharmaceutical company researching and developing therapies for rare diseases. Navigating my way through difficult processes, procedures, governance and healthcare funding systems in the UK, Ireland and across Europe provides a good foundation in which to provide support, guidance and innovation to pupils, staff and parents at Aylesbury High School. Am looking forward to this opportunity and challenge and making it a success.

#### Rajas Kulkarni

Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date:

31 January 2023

Current Term of Office:

31 January 2023 - 30 January 2027



My daughter is currently in Y11. I am self-employed and provide IT consultancy within Cyber Security from a project management perspective to various FTSE 100 customers in the UK. Outside of my day job I assist during AHSA events as required.

I was a member of the Parent Governing board in my daughter's primary school. I have the necessary skills with 15+ years' experience in Stakeholder Engagement, Risk and Issues management and Finance just to name a few from project management perspective.

As an AHS Parent Governor, I will:

- 1. Be a critical friend to school leaders at a strategic level to help school achieve its goals and ensure every pupil has the best possible education;
- 2. Bring my knowledge / experience to further develop the vision and strategy for the school;
- 3. Engage with pupils, staff, parents and the school community to understand their views;
- 4. Oversee the financial performance of the school to ensure its money is well spent.

#### Sandra Maher

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

12 October 2020

Current Term of Office:

12 October 2020 to 11 October 2024

Governor Role:

Vice Chair of Teaching & Learning Committee



As a passionate advocate of AHS and the academic excellence and preparation for life it provides, I am honoured to serve as a Governor, striving to help the school constantly improve and innovate. I hope to use my experience in business and education for the benefit of AHS.

I have been a school governor for a local 'Outstanding' primary school for 12 years, currently as a Foundation Governor. After studying for a Business Law degree, I worked for the Open University and for many years was their International IT Director with the role of delivering high quality online education to many areas of the world including the USA, Middle East, SE Asia and South Africa. Currently, as well as being a mother to two children, one each at AGS and AHS, I work for the children's charity WorldVision who help the most vulnerable children in the world experience the fullness of life.

In my spare time I enjoy playing the piano, violin and harp, painting and walking in the woods.

My aim is to enable AHS to help our girls be the best that they can be, encourage them to be creative, compassionate and courageous young women and prepare them for their journey to happy and fulfilled lives.

## Linda Oatley

Governor Type: Co-opted Governor

Initial Appointment Date:

28 February 2023

Current Term of Office:

28 February 2023 to

27 February 2027

Governor Role:

Co-Vice Chair of the Resources Committee

Whistleblowing Governor



To say I'm delighted to be a Governor of AHS is an understatement. All of my experience is in life, which has been rich and variable. My career was in the corporate sector both here and in the USA. I was Vice President for sales & marketing in a medium sized US healthcare company with responsibility for the contiguous USA. In the UK I was a senior manager for a telecoms company working nationally in their commercial division.

Since retirement I have taken my 'A' levels and completed my undergraduate degree at the Open University. I have just completed a Diploma in Art History and my next educational challenge will be a Masters Degree.

I was also a Presiding Justice for fifteen years and sat on both adult and youth cases...all of human life is there. Most recently and for many years I was a Trustee and Chair of the Chilterns MS Centre, which provides services not available on the NHS for people with multiple sclerosis.

To say children are our future is another understatement and a cliché but true nonetheless.

I very much hope with my experience and enthusiasm I can help and assist the girls and young woman at AHS to see and fulfil their enormous potential. Way to go girls....!

#### John Orchard

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

8 December 2022

Current Term of Office:

8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026



I have a daughter in year 9 at AHS; she thoroughly enjoys the educational, social and extracurricular activities at AHS.

I became a Governor in December 2022 following much consideration, due to the commitment the role requires and deserves, with the wish to give back and impart knowledge from my professional life to benefit and serve AHS.

In my professional life I work for a major waste management company, responsible for delivery of capital construction projects, working with regulators, contractors, designers and stakeholders. Health and safety, sustainability and value for money are key pillars that projects are judged against. Experience and learnings from my work are fully transferable into the Governor role.

In my spare time I am an avid sports fan enjoying motorsport, cricket and rugby. I enjoy travelling and walking.

#### Marina Parker-Allotey

Governor Type: Appointed
Governor (by the Members of the
Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

8 December 2022

Current Term of Office:

8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026

Governor Role:

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Governor

School Food



I am a chartered accountant (FCCA) and have worked in Telecomms industry as an Internal Audit Consultant for several years and then 12 years within the Financial Services industry. I have led Regulatory Reporting and Profitability teams as well as working on Risk Assurance, Change & Restructuring projects as a lead accountant.

I am married and have 3 children. My eldest child is currently in Year 8

Since 2015, I have been actively engaged in supporting my children's school and community through volunteering (trips, events, guided reading etc.), delivering a financial training programme and participating in curriculum consultations.

I am passionate about the education of our children and it is a privilege to have the opportunity to contribute towards their development as well as the school's success.

In my spare time I enjoy playing tennis competitively, as a member of my local tennis club.

## **Uday Shankar**

Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date:

31 January 2023

Current Term of Office:

31 January 2023 - 30 January 2027



Uday is a devoted parent who is actively involved in his daughter's education at Aylesbury High School since 2020, has recently been elected as a Parent Governor and is enthusiastic about serving in this capacity.

With a background in working alongside top business leaders, board members, and governance, Uday has extensive business expertise and a wealth of experience in strategic planning and project management. As an Associate Director, he provided guidance and monitored the growth market strategy, ensuring effective implementation of these strategies while meeting compliance and regulatory requirements. He has a proven track record in digital technology, stakeholder management, and people coaching, having collaborated with numerous senior leadership teams and C-suite executives. Currently pursuing a Business Administration degree at Warwick Business School, Uday's focus is on Organizational Performance and Board Governance Business Sustainability.

#### **Richard Smith**

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (By the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

1 September 2022

Current term of office:

1 September 2022 to 31 August 2026

Governor Role:

Pupil Premium Governor



For the last 15 years I have been within the world of secondary education teaching IT & Computer Science. Seven of those years I supported the head teacher of a large secondary school in Buckinghamshire as an Assistant Principal, with oversight of the school timetable, IT strategy and quality of education as well as other school leadership domains. More recently I have moved away from education and into IT Security.

I hope my combined skills of education and IT Strategy can help Aylesbury High School achieve the best for its pupils.

## Arpana Valji

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

8 December 2022

Current Term of Office:

8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026

Governor Role: Careers Governor



I am a business owner and entrepreneur and have been a member of the school's governing body since November 2022.

I am deeply committed to ensuring that every student at the school receives the best possible education and support. In my role as a governor, I work closely with the school leadership team to set the strategic direction of the school and to ensure that it is well-managed and financially stable.

Additionally, I also serve as a link between the school and the local community, and work to promote the school and its achievements. Outside of my role as a governor, I'm a busy mother of three, I actively run my businesses and play various sports. I am hugely passionate about making a difference to the future generation and helping to guide them not only to prepare them for life after school, but to empower them to truly live their best life.

#### **Kate Weir**

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date:

15 December 2014

Current term of office:

3 December 2021 to 2 December 2025

Governor Role:

Co-Chair of Governors

Arts Link



I first became a Parent Governor in December 2014 when my daughter was in Year 9. We had been very impressed with the approach to education taken by the school and I decided that I would like to help in the school's continuing development.

I was educated at Mill Mount Grammar School in York and believe that the Grammar System benefited me both in terms of my academic achievement and as a rounded individual. I am sure that the Grammar System and AHS in particular continues to provide these benefits to young people today.

## **Chris White**

Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust)

Initial Appointment Date: 12 October 2020

Current Term of Office: 12 October 2020 to 11 October 2024



I now have two daughters at AHS, with my youngest one joined in Sept 2019 and the elder having started GCSEs in Sept 2020, so now is one of the best times to offer my knowledge and support to the School as a Governor.

My background is technical, as a rather unique Audio / Visual / IT engineer. I have run my own SME business since 2010, constantly having to deal with both client and technical challenges. I like to think this puts me in a great position to be able to provide the school, its pupils and staff with some positive and unique governance.

As an active Christian, I believe faith is an important aspect of life and that all faiths should be protected and encouraged within any environment, especially in these formative school years.

My vision as a Governor, is to encourage the business and technology aspects of both the education and school as a whole, providing support and governance for the safeguarding of our children, teachers and non-teaching staff, as well as enhancing the whole experience of the school environment.