



DENBIGH SCHOOL

# Meet the Denbigh Local School Board of Governors

# Pen Portraits



# Dominic Wood

## Chair of Governors

### Parent Governor



Dominic is a Director at BT, responsible for security governance. He has a very broad remit managing the security risks to BT (cyber, physical, IT, personnel etc.) in the UK and globally. Dominic's career in the security profession spans 25 years, where he has carried out a diverse set of security functions, in both an operational capacity, and is now in a governance and senior leadership position. He has extensive experience of team leadership and project delivery.

Dominic has two children at Denbigh and he fully supports Denbigh's aims, principles and values. He believes that the provision of high quality curriculum teaching, that equally values academic attainment alongside the creative arts, PE, citizenships is key. This coupled with extra-curricular activities and opportunities enable students to build personal resilience and reach their full potential.

Dominic is a graduate of Newcastle University (Geography BSc (Hons)) and he was elected as a parent governor in 2021. He was elected Chair of Governors in July 2024 and is the Safeguarding Assurance Governor for the Board.

# **Kirstin Pryor**

## **Vice Chair of Governors**

### **Parent Governor**

Kirstin is a parent of a current Year 7 student at Denbigh and is keen to support and contribute to the School's progress. Kirstin's background is in Finance, in which she has worked for over 20 years for an International Hotel Chain. She is currently Chair of Governors at Glastonbury Thorn School where both her children attended and it's from that experience she developed a love of working with school staff to enrich children's lives. Kirstin is delighted to be part of the Denbigh Local School Board to help develop strategies to enhance the educational journey of each and every child and to make as many happy memories as possible for them. In her spare time, she manages her son's rugby team and is Treasurer of a local scout group. Kirstin was elected as a Parent Governor in February 2024. She was elected as Vice Chair of Governors in July 2024 and is the SEND Assurance Governor for the Board.

# Akhtar Jan

## Board Appointed Governor



Akhtar is a parent of two children studying at Denbigh and has a keen interest in ensuring that Denbigh School continues to excel and succeed. She has a BA Hons degree in Business and worked in the financial sector for 10 years. The majority of her career was spent in project management, people management, recruitment and training. Akhtar has extensive experience in time critical projects, producing and implementing development plans and driving businesses forward. Since the birth of her first child she has chosen to stay at home and raise her family. She has undertaken voluntary roles at her children's infant school and has been a parent governor previously. In this role she participated in an Ofsted inspection and played a key role in developing and implementing the School's Strategy Plan. She was also involved in the performance management role of the Governing Body in terms of senior staff. Akhtar has a strong Business and Finance background bringing with her skills in strategic development and performance management. She is the Curriculum & Achievement Assurance Governor for the Board.

# Andrea Frame

## Headteacher



Andrea is on the Local School Board in her role as Headteacher, a role she was appointed to in 2019. She joined Denbigh School in 2015 as a Deputy Headteacher and Maths teacher. Prior to that she taught at Walton High in Milton Keynes for eight years as the Director of Maths and Assistant Head. Before teaching at secondary schools, Andrea taught at university, including the Open University, for 10 years completing her PhD and Maths Degree.

# Gill Molloy

## Staff Governor



Gill is from Lancashire and studied Home Economics with Dress & Textiles & Design & Planning at university in Manchester. After university, she moved to London working for Haymarket Publishing Ltd as an Accounts Manager. She then moved back to Lancashire, working as a Trainee Branch Manager for a Building Society in Preston. Marriage and a move to Hampshire followed while still working for the Building Society. Gill then took a career break to concentrate on building a family and also made the move to Milton Keynes. Gill has three sons. During this time she was a governor at her son's primary school. Gill then took the decision to enter teaching to show her boys the value of education. She joined Denbigh in June 2004 as an Unqualified Teacher whilst also studying for a PGCE with the Open University. She qualified in 2006 and became a Head of House in 2008. She was appointed Pupil Premium Champion in 2017 and added the role of Designated Teacher in 2018. Gill was re-elected as a staff Governor in 2022 by Denbigh staff and is the Board's Health & Safety Assurance Governor.

## Pradeep Narayanan Parent Governor



Pradeep is a Chartered Engineer & Civil Servant. He has a child at Denbigh School. He became a governor to give back the skills he has developed in his professional career to the community, as he believes that schools are at the centre of the community. Pradeep believes that school is so much more than academic learning and brings this ethos to his role as Parent Governor. The recent pandemic has taught him that life is short and using his valuable skills for the betterment of our future generation is a way of expressing his gratitude to the community. Pradeep was elected as a Parent Governor in 2021 and is the Board's Pupil Premium Assurance Governor.

# Russell Newham

## Parent Governor



Russell is a Director of the Energy Saving Trust. He is a member of the Trust's Remuneration Committee, acting as both company secretary and People Director. He is experienced in implementing leadership development and cultural transformation change programmes. Russell is qualified as a Chartered Expert in the Institute of Personnel and Development (MCIPD). He is also currently studying for an ILM5 qualification in coaching.

Russell is a parent governor who was elected to the Board in 2023. Russell is the Board's Wellbeing Assurance Governor.

## Christopher Pitt Co-opted Governor



Having graduated from York University (Economics & Econometrics), Chris started his career in retail financial services, working for major corporate organisations. Then, having qualified as a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute, he gained an MBA from Loughborough University Business School and acquired senior management experience across multiple disciplines. Chris first moved into the consultancy market before entering the FinTech market (Financial Services Technology). Throughout his varied career, Chris has acquired a wide variety of transferrable skills including business strategy, technology design and deployment, change management, team-leading, commercial management, public speaking, sales and marketing. He is passionate about promoting the use of technology to broaden access to financial services and advice, especially amongst the young and the less well-off. Outside of work Chris is a keen club cyclist and enjoys long-walks with his wife. Chris was appointed a Co-opted Governor in April 2022 and is the Board's Careers & Visits and Sixth Form Assurance Governor.

# Neil Stickland

## Co-opted Governor



Neil is a Co-opted Governor. He is a grandfather to three, one in first school, one who attends Loughton School, and the eldest who attends Denbigh. Neil worked for his last company for 28 years, the last ten years of which were as a Senior Customer Service Agent. He now runs a small on-line business and enjoys DIY. Neil has considerable experience as a governor and is currently on the Loughton School Governing Body where his roles include Premises, Health & Safety, Safeguarding and Vice Chair of the Resources & Environment Committee. He also served as a parent governor at Lord Grey School in the 1990's and was Chair of the Premises Committee. Neil is the Board's SEND Assurance Governor.

# Louise Conway

## Staff Governor



Born and raised in France, Louise moved to London when she was 19 whilst still studying Anglo-Saxon Language, Literature and History at the University of Aix-Marseille, with an emphasis on Medieval History. After three years tutoring in Hungary, she returned to the UK in 2016 to train to become a History teacher – in London first, before moving to Milton Keynes in 2019. At Denbigh, she has developed her practice to teach Philosophy, Religion and Ethics as well as History and has co-founded the Humanities After-School Club. Beyond the Humanities department, Louise is interested in promoting literacy & oracy and cross-curricular learning; and became a Staff Governor in 2024. Louise is married and mother to a little boy.