

Our Team – Trustees

Craig Graham (Chairman of the Board)

Craig originally wanted to pursue a career in law after studying it at University, but along with his business partner, decided to set up his own commercial estate agency business. Since 2011, his business has grown significantly into a group of companies offering advice, finance and agency services to both buyers and seller of businesses and commercial properties. Craig is hands on in his own business overseeing HR, Finance, Compliance and Operations, and his strengths to the school lie in commerciality and leadership. Craig is committed to enhancing the lives of young people and this fuels his desire for excellence within every aspect of the trust. Craig is an experienced school governor and has been involved with schools as a governor and chair of governors since 2013. Craig is a keen Rugby fan and in addition to the work he does with the trust his business is a patron of the Bolton Lads and Girls Club.



Anne Quigley (Vice Chairman of the Board)

School Improvement Trustee

Anne is now retired but having worked in the Education Sector for over 30 years as a teacher, Headteacher, Executive Headteacher and School Improvement Professional, she has a continuing passion for supporting children and young people to engage in education that supports them as 21st century citizens. Anne would consider her strengths to be leadership and management, teaching and learning, professional development of all staff and managing change in education. As well as being School Improvement Director and Vice Chairperson of the Trust, Anne is also Chair of the Local Governing Board for Masefield Primary School.



David Webb

David graduated from Lancaster University with a MSc and began his professional career at Norweb in 1996. He has since worked with a number of blue-chip companies such as Shell, United Utilities, Eon and Npower. David currently works within the Utilities sector helping businesses define processes and implement change across organisations. David also specialises in the analysis and management of risk. David was a Parent Governor at Masefield Primary School and was appointed to the Board of Directors for BASE Academy upon its formation in August 2016.



Jennifer Walsh- HR Trustee

Jenny is a fully qualified Chartered member of the CIPD. Prior to her current HR role with Oldham Council, Jenny spent over 16 years working in the Schools HR Service at Bolton Council as a Senior HR Advisor. During this time she provided advice and support to both Red Lane and Masefield on all aspects of HR.

Jenny is passionate about education and with her existing knowledge of the Trust can use her experience to support the board of Trustees in driving forward the success of BASE Academy.



Douglas Overbury

Douglas is now retired after working in the financial sector for over 45 years. For the first 10 he worked in the accounting profession. He was then a financial manager in the construction trade and latterly moved into the motor trade, overseeing the production of both management accounts and statutory accounts. Douglas has also been involved as both church and circuit treasurer in the Methodist Church. Using his experience and skills of



working within the business sector Douglas will contribute towards the strategic, financial direction and compliance of the Trust.

Elaine Morris - Finance Trustee

Elaine began her own company, Canopies UK, in 1992 and was the Managing Director. In 2018 Elaine took a step back in the business, working part-time as the Finance Director whilst developing her own business consultancy and since 2019 has worked as a business consultant. Elaine would like to use her experience and skills of working within the business sector to contribute to strategic, financial direction of the Trust.



Karen Spencer

Karen has worked in the retail banking industry for the past 20 years. She is a Professional Manager with a proven track record for driving teams to create a culture of continuous improvement. Karen is adept at simultaneously coordinating multiple projects with a high degree of efficiency and has an extensive technical knowledge of Retail Banking. She is passionate about delivering excellent customer service, with the ability to build successful working relationships. Karen has worked within the parameters of stakeholder management and using her breadth of skills will contribute towards the business and financial direction of the Trust.



Lisa Whittaker - Accounting Officer and CEO

With over 25 years' experience in the Education Sector including over 10 years' experience as both a Headteacher and Executive Headteacher in 3 schools, Lisa has a passion for school improvement and securing educational excellence for all pupils. Utilising her skills in strategic planning, school improvement, performance management and leadership Lisa is also a strategic partner for a local Teaching School and has been a Local Leader since 2011. Lisa achieved her NPQEL in Jan 2020.



Our Team – Clerk to the Trust

Judith Pollard

As Senior Governor Support Officer, Judith monitors the delivery of a quality and cost effective Clerking and Support Service for governors and leaders, and assists the Governor Services Manager in quality assuring this part of the service. Judith provides support to governing boards in fulfilling their strategic responsibilities and also line manages the team of Governor Support Officers to ensure that high service standards continue to be maintained.

