

Academy Councillor Statements

Alison Parr



Alison is Principal of Blackfriars Academy. She has had a varied career, starting her teaching in Surrey as a teacher of History and Politics and then spending the next 15 years teaching a range of subjects across the ability spectrum from special needs to A Level. Having completed her MA in Leadership and Management in Education, Alison took up a post at Keele University training history teachers. During the next 10 years, she developed the Keele University Initial Teacher Education Partnership into a strong collaboration with over 70 schools across five Local Authorities. She also has extensive experience working on International programmes in India and South East Asia. Alison's passion lies in supporting and empowering staff to create meaningful, creative and memorable learning opportunities that stretch and challenge all students, no matter what their dis/abilities.

Rob Millington (have we got a statement / photo on the school website?)

Steve Cropper – Chair



I am Chair of the Academy Council of Blackfriars Academy, having been appointed to the Academy Council in September, 2015. I am also a co-opted Governor at Willaston Primary Academy, Nantwich. I have no financial or business interests to declare. I live near Woore, just into Shropshire, and work as a Professor at Keele University, with a specialisation in health services and education management. My research is about ensuring services are organised to produce fair and high quality outcomes for children and young people. As you will imagine, I talk a lot, but I am learning to listen too, I walk a bit and I really enjoy music, food and drink, and travel.

Fay Harris – Vice Chair



My name is Fay and I am the Head of Student Voice and Advocacy at Keele University Students' Union. I have been delivering services to support students for nearly 20 years. I deliver a range of services which involves understanding, and adhering to, diverse regulatory and legislative frameworks. I have a good understanding of issues around equality, diversity and disability. I have delivered papers and sessions at a number of national conferences. I am a Mental Health First Aid trainer. I am a parent, I have three boys in year 4, 7 and 11. I am really excited about my role here and look forward to supporting the dedicated staff team to continue to provide a fantastic learning environment for all at Blackfriars.

Ricky Porter



I am the Deputy Principal at Blackfriars and have worked here for 6 years, beginning my career as the Literacy co-ordinator. Prior to joining Blackfriars, I worked within retail management and also taught English as an additional language to students from abroad. I have a strong interest in complex autism, which has been further extended through my current studying of a Masters Degree in Special Educational Need and Disability.

Carmel Martin

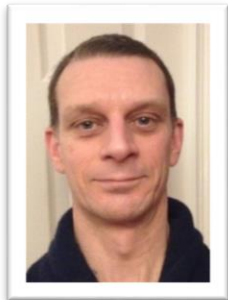


I am the English teacher and also the Key Stage 3 Coordinator at Blackfriars Academy. I am also qualified to assess for dyslexia and deliver interventions for pupils with dyslexia, or dyslexic tendencies. My vision is that all children, regardless of ability or background, should have their lives enriched by the written and spoken word.

Prior to teaching I qualified as a Chartered Librarian working for Kent County Council Children and Young People's Service before moving to work in publishing and library supply as a Sales Director.

It is a privilege to serve our school community and to come to work at Blackfriars Academy every day.

Keith Jump



I'm married with three daughters, one of whom attends Blackfriars FE.

I work as technical manager in a small engineering manufacturing business.

In my spare time I teach lifesaving to children at a local swimming pool, also I am currently training as a Samaritan.

Abigail Brough



I am a Director of a HR Consultancy firm responsible for providing HR support, advice and guidance to a range of educational establishments across Staffordshire and beyond. I have been working in this field for over 15 years and thoroughly enjoy it. I am a Chartered Member of the CIPD.

I am also a mum to 3 lively boys who attend a Secondary, Primary and Primary Special School in Staffordshire and as such I also have a personal interest in supporting Education across all sectors with a particular focus on special education in this area and helping to ensure that pupils achieve their best possible outcomes.

Jackie Onions



My name is Jackie Onions, my association with Blackfriars began in 1986 when my eldest child joined nursery. I was lucky enough to work at Blackfriars for a number of years, retiring in 2015. I am looking forward to working with Blackfriars to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to become the best that they can be.

Neil Harrison



I'm a full time dad/carer for 6 kids who are all in either primary, secondary or higher education and I think I have a fairly decent grasp of the way things work from a parents point of view! Being a new parent representative on the Academy Council will hopefully be a great way for me to see what goes behind the scenes and help bring the views of parents and carers into the decision making process.

Sue Milnthorpe



I am a former secondary school teacher (ICT and Maths). Among other things I have been a company accountant, a director of several different companies and I have a Masters degree in Forensic Computing. I believe that my former work experience and knowledge of being a parent of a child with additional needs will enable me to make a valuable contribution to the Academy Council.

Dr Uppugonduri



I'm married with 3 kids one of whom attends Blackfriars school. I am a doctor and specialises in Anaesthetics. This involves putting people to sleep so that they can have their operations comfortably and wake up without pain.

Andrew Woolley



Hi I am Andy Woolley, store manager of Tesco Newcastle express. I have worked for Tesco for the last 22 years across all formats. I am responsible for all aspects of health and safety and achieving finance budgets for the store and feel I can bring this experience to Blackfriars Academy. I look forward to sitting on the councils and hope to bring a difference to the children of the school. Outside of work I enjoy playing golf, going to the gym and watching Stoke City.