



Ian Marshall – (Chair) Community Governor

Ian has been a school governor at Lord Derby Academy and its predecessor schools since 2002. He became a Parent Governor when his two children were at the school as he wanted to help them and others get the best education possible. His children have now left school but he wanted to continue his support and has remained as a Community Governor. Ian was appointed as Chair of Governors in November 2018.

Ian believes that all children can achieve whatever they want to achieve and as a Governor he can help them along the way. He is a Senior Manager in the Civil Service and he brings his knowledge and experience of operating in this role to the Governing Body.



Andrea Hearn – (Vice Chair) Community Governor

Andrea has been a governor at Lord Derby Academy since 2011 and is currently the Vice Chair of the Local Governing Committee. As a parent of pupils who gained excellent results, she became a governor as she feels passionate about improving our local schools and the community in which she lives and works.

She is also a founder member of the Friends of Lord Derby Academy, which supports the school by running events and raising funds all for the benefit of the pupils. Andrea is proud to be associated with Lord Derby Academy and looks forward to seeing the school continue to flourish in the future.

Andrea works within the financial services industry and feels that the skills she has learnt in her job have been invaluable in her role as governor. Andrea also uses the experience she has gained from a key role on a previous school PTA that she was part of for over 5 years.



Miss V. Gowan – (Headteacher) Ex-Officio

Victoria Gowan is the Headteacher at Lord Derby Academy in Knowsley. Victoria has taught in Knowsley throughout her teaching career, starting as a Newly Qualified Teacher of Modern Languages in 1999. She has held the position of Headteacher at Lord Derby Academy for the past five years. Victoria holds the National Professional Qualification for Headship and the National Professional Qualification for Executive Headship.

Victoria is fully committed to further raising the standards of education in the Merseyside region. Her ethos is founded on an unwavering ambition for every child and her approach in school is traditional, progressive and inclusive.

Victoria is an avid supporter of Liverpool Football Club. She also enjoys the cinema, reading, sport and travel. Ventures over recent years have included Australia, South America, the USA and Jordan. Victoria always welcomes the opportunity to share these experiences with the pupils at Lord Derby Academy as she aims to encourage young people to recognise themselves as global citizens and to understand their place in the World.



Irene Tuzio – Community Governor

Irene's background is in project and programme management. She has now retired having worked at Knowsley Council for 12 years. Prior to this, Irene had a 35 year career in the Civil Service based in the North West which included 20 years programme and project management. Irene's role within Knowsley Council was with Children's Services and included work for the Knowsley Education Commission. Irene is also a Church of England Lay Reader within the Diocese of Liverpool obtaining her license in 2013.

Irene is educated to degree level having obtained a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Management from the University of York in 2009.

Irene was educated in Knowsley and lives in Knowsley. She is married with two adult sons and is a strong believer in social justice and the ethics of society in general. Irene is keen to play her part in shaping, influencing and driving education and training to support young people in Knowsley to help maximise their individual potential, and to support the economic development of the area.

Irene has been a school governor since 1998 and she has increased her knowledge and understanding of school governance through training and development over the years.



Louise Holme – Staff Governor

Louise was successfully appointed as Head of Modern Languages at Lord Derby Academy in 2016, Louise has cultivated a very positive team ethos and she strives towards making differences to ensure each and every child in the school receives the very best education possible.

Louise's ambition is to transform experiences, not only for the current children on roll at Lord Derby Academy, but also for children in years to come. Louise believes that as a Staff Governor, she will gain more opportunities to continue to raise and maintain high educational standards for all, whilst not compromising on her integrity nor objectivity. Louise is seeking to expand her knowledge so that she has a broader perspective and understanding of the development of the strategic direction of the school.

Prior to her teaching career in UK, Louise lived with her five children and husband in Spain, and worked as a Company Director of a successful language school. Louise enjoys travelling and learning new skills, she has a keen interest in the Arts.

Louise's ultimate aim within her career is to inspire and provide young people with the same opportunities and aspirations that she had as a young adult.



Nicole Speer – Staff Governor

Nicole has worked in various schools in Knowsley since the year 2000. Nicole is currently the Head of the Mathematics Department.

Nicole is very passionate about Mathematics Mastery and is one of the 4 Teachers for Mastery Specialist in Northwest Hub Three, she regularly leads collaborative planning sessions with different secondary schools in the Northwest to improve teaching and learning for Mastery in Mathematics. By the end of the year, she will have gained a Professional Development Lead Accreditation from the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM).

Nicole is fully committed to continuing to improve teaching and learning for young people in the community and providing them with better future opportunities.



Mark Bodha – Community Governor

Mark is very proud to join Lord Derby Academy in his first Community Governor role. He is particularly interested in the broader wellbeing and mental health of students, and believes that nurturing these is intrinsic to a good education.

Born in Old Swan, Mark has lived and worked in Manchester and London in software and new media. Mark currently works as a project manager for the BBC delivering technologies used by iPlayer, Sounds and other services. He is Chair of a local community choir and currently training to become a psychotherapist.

Mark is looking forward to offering his skills and experience to support LDA in nurturing confident, strongly educated young people.



Fay Bruce – Parent Governor

Fay has two sons, one in Year 8 at Lord Derby Academy and one in Year 5 at a Dean Trust Primary School. Fay has worked at the University of Liverpool for 15 years and is currently a Student Experience Administrator focusing on exams, assessments and welfare. She has also previously worked within undergraduate and postgraduate admissions as well as in committee services.

Fay believes that all children have the right to an excellent education and looks forward to supporting Lord Derby Academy in delivering this. She has a particular interest in both the academic and pastoral sides of education.



Tina Cinnamond – Parent Governor

Tina has 2 children, who both attended Lord Derby Academy. She is also a community governor for the joint governing body of Park View Academy and Blacklow Brow School. Tina currently works as a Teaching Assistant and as a Forest School Leader at an allotment. Tina does a lot of volunteer work and is involved in work with children of all ages and abilities, as well as working with members of the local community, young and old. In addition, she is now a qualified Forest School Leader.

Tina wanted to become involved with Lord Derby Academy as her daughter gained so much confidence and since attending the school. Tina has great pride in the school and she felt that she wanted to be a part of that and give something back in return. Tina also became involved to learn more about the curriculum and understand how the school works.

Tina continues to ensure that the children are getting the best possible education and enjoyment from school.