

Governors



Vikki Matthews

My name is Vikki Matthews and it's my great privilege to be the Chair of Governors for the schools and the nursery within Marine Academy Plymouth (MAP). I have served as a governor at MAP for 4 years during which time I have seen the Academy develop, expand and improve with a continually increasing focus on student wellbeing and achievement. In my day job I run a consulting business called Matthews & More and I also lecture at Plymouth University on HR, leadership and business related subjects.

I am passionate about my work with MAP and about the importance of education more generally. I fervently believe that every young person deserves the opportunity to learn in an environment that is respectful and stimulating and that is what we aim to do at Marine Academy Plymouth.

When I'm not working I like to read, travel and play tennis. I live in Kingsbridge with my husband, daughter and our 2 cats.



Siân Millard

Hi there, my name's Siân Millard and I'm a Governor at MAP and a member of the Finance Committee. I've been a MAP Governor for a three years and thoroughly enjoy serving the schools and nursery. MAP is inspirational. Its level of ambition for its students and staff is fantastic and its commitment to fairness and equity is motivational. I am glad to be involved in MAP's continuing development as it improves and strives for the best for local children. In my work life I'm Oversight and Governance Manager at Plymouth City Council and I have a keen interest in the way in which good governance can enable organisations to both fulfil their strategic goals and achieve a great working/learning culture. I live in Plymouth with my husband and two young daughters, and enjoy spending time with them, DIY, reading, and pretty much any sport to watch or play.



Karl Sweeney

Hello I'm the Vice -Chairman, Safeguarding Governor, Chair of the Student Welfare committee and was originally one of the Local Authority representatives on the governing body. I now work independently as a trainer of teachers locally and nationally.

Before joining the LA I was, for 25 years, a secondary teacher and Head Of Social Science working in Hong Kong, London, Australia and finally here in the South West, where I've lived since 1988. I've been involved with MAP from the earliest planning stages in 2008/9 and have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the school become a success story over the years since then.

I enjoy travelling the world, playing squash, walking on the coast, flying my hang glider, watching Man Utd, eating good food and, most of all, living in Plymouth - the best city in the world.



Beth Gompertz

Hello, my name's Beth Gompertz and I have been a Governor at MAP and a member of the Nursery and Primary and the Curriculum Committees for a year now.

It is a great privilege to be part of such a successful Academy and I enjoy finding out what is happening day to day as well as considering questions for the future.

I work at Plymouth University as the Deputy Director of the Plymouth Institute of Education and have a background in teaching and teacher education. I have particular interest in research around children's rights and voice and in science education and learning in the outdoors.

I live between Totnes and Newton Abbot with my partner and two dogs. My children are all grown up but I still manage to see them frequently. I love walking, reading, cooking and gardening but my real passion is my two horses, one of whom is still a foal who I am bringing up.



Adrian Hollister

My name is Adrian Hollister and I have been a Governor of MAP since 2013. I am a member of the Finance and Personnel Committees. Along with being a MAP Governor, I am Chair Digital Plymouth and sit on the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Smart Cities. In my professional life I am Head of Strategy and Architecture at the University of Plymouth. I have worked in the IT sector for over 20 years and believe that my experience as a digital innovator and strategist makes me well equipped to support MAP as we move into an increasingly digital environment. I am married with 4 children and live on Bodmin Moor in Cornwall where I strive to lead a sustainable and environmentally aware lifestyle.



Justinian Olosunde

Hello, my name is Justin Olosunde and I am a new governor having joined at the end of the 15/16 academic year and now also serve as a new member of the finance committee. In my day job I am the Head of Falmouth Marine School and the Director of technology curriculum at The Cornwall College Group, a MAP sponsor; a job that stills allows me the joy one day every week of getting in the classroom and teaching STEM subjects. Working with MAP will allow me to bring my passion for up-skilling our young people in science and engineering to support our local industries skills needs with a specific focus on marine.

Prior to becoming a teacher, I worked in finance for over 10 years operating in domestic and investment banking as a Vice President and Director.

I live in Cornwall with my partner Beth and in my spare time I love playing tennis, golf and any other ball game I can think of with my son Ben.



Darren Winter

I'm Councillor Darren Winter; St Budeaux's elected representative for Plymouth City Council. It's a great privilege to be invited to the board of Governors for Marine Academy Plymouth (MAP).

This is my second time serving on a school's Governing body having been a governor at Leigham Primary School overseeing its transition towards becoming a member of the Connect Multi Academy Trust. In addition to serving the residents of St Budeaux, I'm an engineer for Babcock based at Devonport having previously completed 17 years' service in the Royal Navy.

I passionately believe in the importance of education and the effect that it has on life chances and opportunities for our pupils. I hope by joining the board Marine Academy Plymouth I can help shape the direction of the school and the successful futures of our young people.

Outside of work, as well as running a highly un-skilled 5-a-side football team, you'll find me exploring the South West's beaches with my children, and most weekends cheering on Argyle.



Martin Wright

My name is Martin Wright and I have been a parent governor since 2014. I have 2 sons that attend the academy one in the secondary and one in the primary and both enjoy the school, which for me is the most important factor.

Part of my role as a Parent Governor is to ensure that the school is working with parents and the community, of which it is school is an integral part, to ensure that the needs of our learners are supported and that they are challenged throughout their time at MAP.

I am a teacher at another school in the county which allows me to see different practice and then share the good aspects with my colleagues on the board.

In my spare time I am a film fan watching everything from Aladdin to Zulu, but Harry Potter is my favourite.



Jane Stephenson

I am the Head of HR Business Services at Plymouth City Council. I have 30 years' experience working in Human Resources and have undertaken many different roles from Training, HR Advisory, Trade Union negotiations, Policy Development and now I lead on Payroll, Recruitment and HR systems.

I am delighted to become a Governor for MAP as I really enjoyed my time at school. I started developing my interpersonal skills at school as I was a member of both the school public speaking team and drama/dance clubs. We regularly gave performances in front of parents and friends, and this experience proved to be really valuable, especially when I got my first job running training sessions at work.

My hobbies include travel, watching live music and going for long walks in our wonderful countryside.



Russell Geach

I am a qualified secondary mathematics teacher and for the past 15 years I have worked in the Centre for Innovation in Mathematics Teaching (CIMT), first at Exeter University and, since 2005, at Plymouth University.

During my time working for CIMT, I have been involved in a number of initiatives including a comparative international research project into teacher training, working with lead schools across the country to help deliver Teacher Subject Specialism Training courses in maths and working with the Core Maths Support Programme to support implementation of the new level 3 mathematics qualifications. I joined the MAP governing body in July 2017 and have taken on the link governor role for mathematics. In my spare time, I enjoy watching live sport, live music, travelling, watching films and spending time with my family.

Alice Ludgate

My name is Alice Ludgate, I joined the Governing Board of MAP in the summer of 2017 and am delighted to be part of the team. Originating in Bristol, I moved to Plymouth around 12 years ago and now work at the University of Plymouth within the Student Services directorate as a Business Manager. In this role I'm responsible for co-ordinating policies and activities, for instance safeguarding and out-of-hours services, all in our objective of supporting students during their time at University as they study and learn.

Throughout my career up to now I've mostly worked in Human Resources, within the NHS as well as the University, and I'm particularly interested in the areas of organisational development, leadership and employee relations.

In addition to work and volunteering, I am susceptible to 'wanderlust' and love to travel, although increasingly find my time spent enjoying more local pursuits! I live very close to MAP and am looking forward to becoming more involved with the local area.