

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 just over 2 years, and I could not be more proud of the Academy and the achievements of our staff and pupils. In my day job I work as the Chief Talent Officer for Plymouth University. I sit on the University's Executive team and I have pan-institutional responsibilities as well as specific responsibilities for the functions of HR, Legal Services, Equality & Diversity and Occupational Health. I am passionate about the importance of education and I believe that every young person deserves the opportunity to learn in an environment that is respectful and stimulating. 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.



Dr Tanya Ovenden-Hope

Hello, my name is Tanya Ovenden-Hope and I have been a Governor for

the Marine Academy Plymouth since it opened in 2010. I am Chair of the Curriculum Committee and link Governor for Teaching and Learning. I have been a teacher, teacher educator and senior leader in secondary education, Further Education and Higher Education for just over 25 years. I was Head of School (Secondary and Further Education Studies) with Plymouth University, a MAP sponsor, when I became a Governor and am now Director of Education for The Cornwall College Group., which is also a MAP sponsor. Both institutions are dedicated to improving opportunities for, and raising expectations of, students. I am also a Director of a Multi Academy Trust in Cornwall, an Associate Analyst for the Department for Education, a Visiting Research Fellow with Plymouth University and an Adjunct Professor at Cape Breton University in Canada.

In my spare time I write Education books, reports, papers and blogs. I believe that education should and can transform lives and have spent my career engaged in research to develop, enhance and innovate learning and teaching. One research project I am particularly proud of is the Class of 2010. In 2010 I designed a project to explore MAP's journey as an Academy and have interviewed students, teachers and the Principal once a year since then. The Class of 2010 project will be complete in 2017 when the first ever Year 7 of MAP leave compulsory education. Each year a report on the Class of 2010 has been given to the Governors and the students that have taken part, creating a rich history on the priorities of MAP from both the student and teachers' perspectives.



Karl Sweeney

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.”



Liam Gallagher

“Hello, my name is Liam Gallagher and was given the opportunity to be a part of the governing body at Marine Academy Plymouth during the 2015/16 academic year. I started working as a primary school teacher at Marine Academy Primary in 2014 and have been fortunate enough to work alongside many passionate staff members across the campus. I currently teach Year 4 and was recently given the responsibility of leading the Key Stage Two team as well as a subject which I am enthusiastic about – Computing.

I consider myself as hard working, approachable and dedicated and believe there is no greater satisfaction than helping others around you develop and grow, not only academically but more importantly, as people. My teaching philosophy is centred around positivity and believe that being a governor has allowed me to contribute to the development of not only the Marine Academy Plymouth campus but also the surrounding community.

Outside of education, I am very passionate about many things. I enjoy watching Man United, listening to live music, cooking and spending time with my wife Sian, my son Albie and my dog Eric.”



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.”



Derek Smith



Darren Winter



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.