



## Great Dalby Primary School

### Meet our Local Advisory Board

#### **Debbie Hardy – Chair & Finance/SEN LAB Member**

I'm very proud to be part of our governor team for Great Dalby Primary school. I joined initially as a parent governor in 2020 and have lead roles in SEN (Special Educational Needs) & Finance.

I enjoy being a member of our PTA (FOGDs), who raise an incredible amount of much needed funds for our children and give their time to volunteer to help with jobs that don't have a budget. Our teachers also play a key PTA part in their own time, all credit to how much they care too.

I feel passionately about our school and wanted to pay back the huge improvement in my own son's development and happiness. I'm keen to do whatever it takes to make a positive difference for our children and help them achieve the best education, life skills, core values and thoroughly enjoy their school years. Immediately from the first school visit, we felt the warm, loving and inclusive environment from both staff and children, together with the super standard of teaching and school values.

My career background started in Finance, I'm a Chartered Management Accountant, moving into IT 21 years ago. I'm a senior director in Cloud Development, leading two global Infrastructure teams that look after data centres, plus other exciting projects and events. The governor opportunity has made me truly appreciate the incredible hard work and commitment behind the scenes, I'm very lucky to be part of this wonderful school and keen to use my skills and energy to support staff, governors, parents and the main stakeholders, our children.

#### **Laura Sanderson - Vice Chair/Safeguarding LAB Member**

I became a governor after we moved into the village and my son joined the school in year two. I thought it would be a great way to become more involved in my son's education, and get to know and support the school.

I feel really strongly that schools should be a safe and inclusive community, inspiring children to achieve their potential, both academically but also to develop wider skills that will support them throughout their lives.

I have the safeguarding lead within our Local Advisory Board (LAB) and it's an area I have a real interest in. In my career I am a social worker and have worked in safeguarding lead roles for around 14 years, previously in a local authority and now as a safeguarding manager within a university.

I have learnt so much being a governor about how schools work, and the expectations on them. I have also developed a much better understanding of the extent of the work undertaken by teachers and all staff working at Great Dalby to help ensure that our school meets these requirements and will continue to work to try and support them in this.

I really enjoy being part of the LAB, and as Vice Chair in supporting Debbie in all her hard work in her role as Chair. I am happy to be contacted if parents have any questions for us.

**Lee Freer - Achievements LAB Member**

I'm very proud to be part of our governor team for Great Dalby Primary School, I joined initially as a parent governor in 2021.

I have one son currently at Great Dalby Primary School and am hoping in the years to come my two younger children will also attend the school. I have wanted to be involved with the school since my son started in September 2020 in the midst of the Covid pandemic. I wanted to be involved as much as I could within the school and becoming a governor allows me to do this. Anything I can do to help support and develop the school I feel very passionately about.

I am very passionate to see my children develop and enjoy their school setting, something I have seen so much of already for my eldest down and the developments we have seen since he has been at Great Dalby has been fantastic to see. For me wanting to be Governor allows me to give back. I know from my time at school that these years are so important for children and being part of the governor team allows me to be involved in things that really matter to the school and the children, any difference I can help make at the school is important to me and I am grateful to have the opportunity to be a parent governor.

My career background started in banking qualifying in the mortgage and financial services space. I have also been a will & estate planning professional for the past 10 years currently director of a national company with offices in Yorkshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire. The opportunity has really opened my eyes to the immense amount of work that the school staff have to do to ensure that our children are getting the very best in the school/learning journey.

I am proud to say my son is at Great Dalby and I am proud to say I am a parent governor.

**Andrew Edwards – Co-opted Health & Safety LAB Member**

I joined the board of governors in 2019 as parent governor and recently transitioned to co-opted governor when my son moved up to secondary school. I currently have the lead role in health and safety. I was also a member of the school PTA (FoGD) which included being an officer on the committee. I loved seeing the children (and adults!) enjoy all the activities and events and then seeing the funds raised being used to enrich the school experience. Walking around the school and witnessing the day in full flow really makes you appreciate all the hard work and effort from the children and staff. It was clear why my son thoroughly enjoyed his time at Great Dalby School and has made fantastic progress. I wished to repay this by helping our school in any way possible.

I am currently a Health and Safety Advisor for a local FE/HE college having switched career during the restrictions. Before that I worked in theatre and events for over 20 years as a technician and then as a venue manager. Alongside this, I was Data Protection Officer for the organisation. I bring a wide and varied skill set to the governing team and I am keen to use them to assist and support our school.

**Charlotte Mitchell – PSHE LAB Member**

I am very proud to join the team as a parent governor for Great Dalby Primary School. I currently have one child at the school and another who I hope will join in the future. It is an absolute joy to see how much my son has grown in confidence and the progress he has made since joining the school. The learning environment is very nurturing and as parent governor, I am enthusiastic to continue to develop this.

My career as a qualified teacher of 7 years' experience in a nearby Bradgate Education Partnership school means I am passionate about education. Over my career so far, I have led a variety of subjects including phonics, history, music and languages. I have taught a range of different year groups and most recently I have been a mentor for a student who is undertaking their teacher

training. I care greatly about the outcomes and prospects of pupils as well as the development of the whole child.

Being a parent governor, I'm keen to ensure Great Dalby offers children a broad and rounded education, long lasting friendships and wonderful memories so in the future they will look back at their primary school years with great fondness. From my experience in education, I am very aware of the current issue schools are facing and will continue to support our school to meet those challenges.

Great Dalby is a brilliant school that provides excellent learning opportunities for their pupils. I look forward to supporting the school and seeing the school succeeding for many years to come.