

Theresa Worrall – Chair of Governors

I am a mum of 3, all of whom are quite grown up now. I have worked in Children's Ministry for the last 15 years and am currently a schools' worker for Hope Community Church in Runcorn. As such, I have been involved in a variety of primary schools, taking assemblies and assisting with RE in both state and C of E schools.

I feel very honoured to have been asked to be a part of the Governing Body at St. Mary's as I feel a Christian based education is a good foundation for future success spiritually, emotionally, and academically.

I hope that I can continue to serve the families and children at St. Mary's for many years to come.

Hollie Furnival - Parent Governor

I am a married mum with one child who is in Year 5. We choose this school because of the excellent reputation, values and ethos that St Mary's holds. St Mary's has been within the family for some time, as both my husband and his sister attended, many years ago.

I was born and raised in Vancouver, Canada, but have been living in England since 2007. My career background has been mainly administrative roles within the local council here in England and as a civilian employee within the police department in Canada. Currently, I am a newly qualified Teaching Assistant and work part-time at St Mary's, which I enjoy tremendously. I believe my combined skills and experience will transfer well to the work of school governance. I am particularly keen to ensure that all children are safeguarded well and can fulfil their full potential whatever their background, special educational needs or disabilities.

Family time is very important to me. We love to go on country walks together, camping, castle hunting and exploring the cities nearby and baking on Sunday afternoons.

Matthew Finch - Foundation Governor

I am a parent of 2 children who attend St. Mary's Primary School and so I have first-hand experience of the caring and supportive approach the school has. In witnessing the dedication of staff to the students, I know I am privileged to be supporting their work as a governor. I am currently Acting Head Teacher at Hope Corner SEN School and an active member of Hope Corner Church in Runcorn, leading in children and youth ministry. This has given me many years of experience working with children from different backgrounds, with varying needs and abilities.

St. Mary's has given my children the opportunity to be open and confident in their faith. I believe a Christian based education and values will support our students to become positive citizens, with determination to succeed in all they do. I look forward to any opportunity where I can be involved in our amazing primary school.

Julie Curtis – Foundation Governor

Having had the privilege of being the last Nursery Teacher for St Mary's School and retiring early in July 2022 I will relish the opportunity to continue serving the school, that I care for very deeply, as a Foundation Governor, being part of a Governing Body that seeks to promote and encourage a strong Christian based education for children.

I am married to Lionel and I have a daughter, son and daughter-in-law who bring great joy into my life. We all enjoy being outdoors and travelling. I also enjoy being an active member in my home church, Emmanuel Leftwich, assisting whenever and however I can.

Kirsty Flemming – Parent Governor

I am proud to be Mum to three children who attend St. Marys' School. School creates another sense of belonging for us as a family; lots of our relatives attend the school and the friends we have made pull us together as one. I live in the local area with my husband, three children and our dog - Rosie. We are a really active family who enjoy exploring new adventures. We love camping, footballing and swimming to name a few.

As a Residential Child Care Worker in Halton, I care for children and young people who have complex needs. It is my responsibility to ensure all children have their voices heard and are listened to, by those supporting them. This is an important aspect for me with the children and families of St. Mary's School. I wish for children and families to feel empowered to discuss and make positive decisions about their school and learning.

I am touched to have been voted as Parent Governor; my work experiences and the opportunities I have sought to work around EYFS and SEN play a fundamental part in supporting those children and leaders within the school.

Tony Mitchell – Foundation Governor

I am the vicar of St Mary's Church as well as of Christ Church, Castlefields. As the vicar of St Mary's, I am automatically one of the Foundation Governors of the school.

I have been vicar/foundation governor since May 2010. In my second year I became chair of the governors and stepped aside to become vice-chair in 2016.

I was born and brought up in Port Elizabeth, South Africa and came to England in October 1999. Prior to going to vicar school, I had been involved in computers, both programming them and then supporting them. I finished that role in September 2005 whilst working for Heinz in Wigan.

I enjoy following English cricket, tennis and Formula One and I am an avid reader. I am married to Lorna.

Each week I am at the school joining in lessons with the children, taking Collective Worship and generally getting involved with whatever is needed. I love spending time with the children – they all know me and I think that's great.

I am Vice chair of the Governing Body and also sit on the Admissions Committee. I am always available if anyone wants to come and talk to me.

Antoinette Woodhead – Foundation Governor

I have been a governor here for two years. I have two adult children and two grandchildren. I am a retired secondary school teacher and have found working in the primary school to be very interesting and rewarding. I have enjoyed getting to know the staff and pupils and how well this school works. I love watching and taking part in lessons and listening to the children read.

Patricia Davies – Foundation Governor

I am a mum of 2 grown up children, and a Nana to 3 beautiful grandchildren, two of whom attend St Mary's. My links with St Mary's go back a number of years as both my grown up children attended nursery / school here. My children were also baptised at St Mary's Church.

I am a qualified signer (British Sign Language) and have worked within the deaf and Deafblind community for 16 years. I worked both in Primary and Secondary schools supporting deaf children in school, ensuring they had full access to the curriculum. I also regularly translate church services within the deaf community.

I have recently spent 6 weeks giving the pre summer year 3 pupils at St Mary's a taster of British sign language, which was warmly received by the children and year 3 teacher and I am looking forward to doing the same with the new year 3 class.

I currently work for the NHS has a secretary and in my spare time (when I get some) I love to walk my two little dogs and spend time with my family.

I feel very honoured to be appointed as a Foundation Governor of such a lovely school and hope that my skills can be of use to the governing body.

Natalie Whittall – Staff Governor

I have lived over the bridge in Widnes for my whole life. I live with my husband and 2 children aged 16 and 19 and recently, my lovely dad came to live with us too.

I have been a part of the St Mary's family since 2017. I completed my final teacher training placement at St Mary's and as soon as I walked around the school and met the staff and children, I knew that it was a very special place. I was lucky enough to secure a teaching post

straight after I finished my degree and have been here ever since. I love to come to work every day and enjoy working with our youngest children in reception.

I feel excited to join the governing body and hope that I can add value to the team.

Tim Coleman - Methodist Deacon

I am married to Helen, who is also a Methodist Deacon working in the Warrington area. Between us we have 8 grown up children (I have 5, Helen has 3) and 4 - soon to be 5 grandchildren.

I arrived in Halton in September 2019 to work with the Runcorn Methodist Churches, and was invited to be a governor of St Mary's Primary school. Prior to being a Methodist minister I was a lay worker with the Methodist church in Norfolk working in a local community - including a variety of schools. Before that I was an electronics engineer for 23 years, working mostly in the UK but also the USA. As a parent I have experienced the UK and the Texas education system. My current work would normally include school assemblies and other similar and related activities - but with the coronavirus pandemic still affecting so much of our lives, such work is limited. However, I am pleased to be able to work with my local school and hopefully be of some help both to the staff, pupils and their families, especially at this time. [July 2020]

Tom Murrell – Local Authority Governor

I am extremely proud to have taken up the role of LA Governor earlier on this year. I am a parent to three children one of which has been a pupil and one is currently a pupil at St Mary's.

Having first-hand experience of the positive learning environment that the staff at the school provide to all pupils, I was pleased to take up the opportunity to be involved in the school in this capacity .

I have amassed 22 years' experience working in the social housing sector providing services to diverse communities within the Merseyside and Cheshire areas; I feel that my career experiences will assist me in my role as a governor.

I have studied at the university of Central Lancashire and have achieved a BA (Hons) Degree in Business and Management.

In my spare time I like to spend time with my family, watching sports, running and playing golf.

I am looking forward to working with the school and the governing body to serve the children and parents of St Mary's.