Richard Crosse Governor Pen Portraits

Darren Walsh - Chair of Governors - Parent Governor - I am passionate about improving life opportunities for young people through the provision of outstanding teaching and a rich and full curriculum. I have 15 years experience of school governance, working with the most deprived areas of Birmingham. I have held numerous positions on policing related boards at local, regional and national level, receiving national recognition for diversity and inclusion via the Race for Opportunity Awards. I also have a depth of experience in leadership, school improvement, school disciplinary procedures and performance related matters.

Dr Ann Shilton - Vice Chair of Governors - Foundation Governor - I am a parent of three former pupils of Richard Crosse school and having observed first-hand the commitment and skill of the staff and the wider trust, I am keen to give something back to the school and academy trust in my time, my skills and experience. Furthermore, I am an ardent follower of Richard Crosse's values of 'love, respect and friendship', and believe that such values are vital in the education system today. I am a partner in a local general practice and see many parallels in the ethos of the public service offered by primary medical care and schools. I am aware of the importance of well-run, efficient and responsive services in the community, whether in healthcare or education. I have a number of transferable skills, including an understanding of organisational structures, the need for mandatory reporting, and the need for discretion and confidentiality.

Ms Jodie Jenkinson - Parent Governor - I first became acquainted with the school over 12 years ago when my eldest child started in nursery. Since then, I have had three other children attend the school, with my youngest two sons now in years 3 and 5. As a result, I have experience across all age ranges and stages of development and have witnessed the school change and adapt over that period, through some particularly challenging times. From a personal perspective, the school has had an incredibly positive impact upon the lives of my own children and in terms of their education, I believe has given them the best possible start that a parent could hope for. I have a very good understanding of how theories, ideas and initiatives work in practice, from the perspective of a child, parent/carer and family. Gaining greater insight into the many aspects of school management and activity will provide the context in which I hope to use my knowledge and experience to support future Governance initiatives, for the benefit of the entire school community.