

TSSMAT Members – Pen Portraits

1. Diocese of Lichfield Board of Education (DBE) – Member

The Diocese of Lichfield Board of Education is a corporate Member of TSSMAT. The Diocese appoints an authorised representative to attend the AGM and other Members' meetings and to vote on its behalf. As the representative may change from meeting to meeting, no individual pen portrait is provided. The Diocese plays a key role in supporting the Trust's Christian vision, values and governance, helping to ensure that the Trust remains rooted in its foundation while serving its schools and communities effectively.

2. David Grewer – Member (Chair)

David brings extensive experience in education leadership, school improvement and inspection. He has held three primary headships in schools ranging from 250 to 550 pupils and has a strong track record of leading successful school improvement initiatives.

A retired Ofsted Inspector and former Lead Facilitator for the National College for School Leadership, David has supported schools and leaders across the country. He has worked as a Senior School Improvement Partner for Serco, supporting schools in Liverpool, Walsall, Bradford and Leeds, and has also served as a Senior Leadership Consultant for GEMS Education, working internationally with schools in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Vietnam.

David's breadth of experience in leadership, governance and school improvement enables him to provide valuable strategic oversight and challenge as a Member of the Trust, supporting its ambition to deliver high-quality education for all pupils.

3. The Revd Simon Davies – Member

The Revd Prebendary Simon Davies is Vicar of St Stephen's Church, Great Haywood, and brings over 25 years of governance experience across both state and independent education sectors. His governance experience includes primary and first schools, as well as an independent school serving pupils from Key Stage 1 through to Sixth Form boarding provision.

Before entering ordained ministry, Simon worked in industrial electronic engineering and remains a member of the Institute of Engineering and Technology. He has served as an Anglican priest for over 30 years and currently leads a team ministry across five parishes in Mid-Staffordshire. He also serves as Area Dean for a further fourteen parishes and is a Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral.

In addition to his parish and diocesan responsibilities, Simon is involved in the training and mentoring of those entering licensed ministry. His work across multiple communities gives him a strong understanding of leadership, organisational development and the practical challenges of implementing strategy across diverse settings. As a Member, Simon brings valuable experience in governance, community engagement and organisational leadership, supporting the Trust's commitment to both educational excellence and its Christian distinctiveness.

Outside his professional and voluntary roles, Simon enjoys music, the arts, history and science and is an enthusiastic amateur musician.

4. Heather Bowman – Member

Heather has been a Member of TSSMAT since 2023, having previously served on the Trust Board for eight years, including a significant period as Chair. Her experience provides continuity and a deep understanding of the Trust's development, governance and strategic priorities.

With more than 35 years' experience in secondary education, Heather has held two headships and has led schools through significant periods of challenge and transformation. Notably, during her first headship she successfully led the rebuilding of one of Staffordshire's largest secondary schools following a devastating fire during the summer holidays. At the same time, she maintained a relentless focus on educational outcomes, leading the school to achieve its best results to date.

Heather's extensive leadership experience, combined with her long-standing commitment to the Trust, enables her to provide informed support and constructive challenge as a Member. Her knowledge of governance, school improvement and strategic leadership helps ensure that the Trust continues to fulfil its vision and provide the very best opportunities for its pupils and communities.

5. Charles Bradshaw-Smith – Member

Having previously served as a Director of the Trust board, attending full board meetings and using his expertise acquired to support the FAR board (finance audit and risk.) working closely with finance manager across finances, estates and health and safety.

Charles was appointed as a Member in recognition of his ongoing dedication and commitment to the Trust and his extensive understanding of its strategic direction and position both locally and nationally. With experience of governance, combined with knowledge of the Trust's schools and communities, enables Charles to provide informed support and challenge, helping to ensure the Trust continues to fulfil its charitable objectives and deliver excellent outcomes for children and young people.