Governor Profiles 26-27

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Niranjan Annamalai Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date: 8 October 2020 Current Term of Office: 12 December 2022 to 11 December 2026 Governor Role: Chair Personnel Committee		I have two daughters currently studying at AHS and the youngest is in Year 6 at St Edwards. Both enjoy the educational experiences offered and I am passionate about helping young people to achieve the best they can. I am a pharmacist and count over 20 years' work experience in Healthcare. I am currently work as the Superintendent Pharmacist for the wholly-owned subsidiary of Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. I was instrumental in setting up this new service and building a new team, which has brought about meaningful changes in service delivery. This role involves developing policies and procedures, financial management, governance and providing strategic direction. I believe this knowledge and skills will help develop the board of Governors and school in identifying areas of improvement, resource plans, and meeting the financial demands associated with running a school within the budget. Being able to listen to parents and pupils, bringing different skills to the school from commercial life and caring passionately about the welfare of all involved in the school are the key qualities, I believe would assist me in performing this role.
Helen Bush Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 4 December 2017 Current Term of Office: 23 September 24 to 22 September 28 Governor Role: Co-Chair of Governors; Safeguarding Governor, Development		I have 15 years' experience as a governor in local primary and secondary schools. This includes 7 years as chair of the Governing Board at Bedgrove Junior School where I was originally appointed to the Interim Executive Board which took over the governance of the school when it went into special measures in 2013. As a member of the IEB I helped the school improve to its current 'good' status within two years and remained committed to the school achieving 'outstanding' before stepping down in 2022. I was also a governor at Bedgrove Infant School for 5 years, where I was vice chair for two years. I have co-chaired the Board at AHS with Kate Weir since 2020, having joined the board in 2017. I am also a Member of the Insignis Academy Trust and the Great Learners Trust. I am passionate about the role which education plays in inspiring, challenging and enabling young people to succeed in life, and am personally committed to ensuring that every pupil has the opportunities to achieve to the best of their ability. I have been a full-time mum to my daughter (who joined AHS in 2017) since giving up work in the voluntary sector as a policy advisor, including at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. This included two secondments into government departments to advise on voluntary sector policy.

Chirag Chotai Governor Type: Appointed governor (appointed by the members) Initial Appointment Date: 13th January 2026 Current Term of Office: 4 years until 12th January 2030		I live in Aylesbury with my family and care a lot about the role local schools have in shaping young people's futures. As a parent in the area and someone active in the community, I have a real passion for education. I applied to be a governor because I believe good governance is crucial for supporting school leadership, offering helpful feedback, and ensuring every student can reach their full potential. Professionally, I work in senior operations in the automotive sector, focusing on governance, accountability, and managing complex programs. I also serve as a Buckinghamshire councillor and founded the Aylesbury Gujarati Society, which keeps me closely connected to local families and the wider community. Outside of work and public service, I am an avid motorsport fan and self-confessed petrolhead, and I also enjoy following cricket whenever I get the chance. As a governor, I am committed to supporting the leadership team, listening to the views of parents and students, and helping to ensure the school remains a place where every young person can thrive and reach their full potential.
Charlotte Edge Governor Type: Appointed governor (appointed by the members) Initial Appointment Date: 13th January 2026 Current Term of Office: 4 years until 12th January 2030		I became a governor at Aylesbury High School because I wanted to give something back to education and be more involved in a school that plays such an important role in young people's lives. As a parent of a student at AHS, I have seen first-hand the positive experience the school offers and am keen to support its continued success and help ensure every student can thrive academically and personally. In my professional life, I am Head of Communications at The Open University, with over 20 years' experience across education, government, and the private sector. My role involves leading strategy, using data to inform decision-making, and working with senior stakeholders to deliver organisational change. I began my career in risk and compliance, giving me a strong grounding in governance, financial oversight, and accountability. I also spent six years living overseas with the British Foreign Office, working within international communities and experiencing different education systems. This broadened my perspective and reinforced the importance of preparing young people for a global, interconnected world. I am passionate about education and committed to supporting AHS in empowering young women to achieve their full potential. In my spare time, I enjoy dog walking, a Suffolk beach, and a good book.
Neil Esslemont Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 4 December 2017 Current Term of Office: 3 December 2021 to 2 December 2025 Governor Role: Health & Safety Governor		I became a Parent Governor in late 2017 and I am pleased to have the opportunity to be more involved in the life of the school. I have also been a Parent Governor at Turnfurlong Junior School since 2015. In my professional life I am a Chartered Geologist and I work for Network Rail. In my spare time, I play (and teach) the bagpipes.

David Hudson Governor Type: Co-opted Governor Initial Appointment Date: 1 September 2024 Current Term of Office: 1 September 2024 – 31 August 2028		I was brought up in Birmingham and attended Handsworth Grammar School (1971-1980). I read History at Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, before completing my PGCE at the University of Oxford. During this time, I was awarded a Blue in football for both universities. I have taught in state schools since 1987 in Bristol, Thame, Didcot and Bicester. As Head of History, I co-authored "The Early Tudors", a text book for A-level study (still in use!). I also spent two years teaching in Paris before being appointed Headteacher at The Royal Latin School in January 2010. At the Royal Latin School, I introduced significant curriculum changes, guided the school to its current Academy status and used the freedom thereof to develop a significant fundraising campaign to improve learning facilities for the school and community (the 600 Campaign). This resulted in a new 12 lab science "Discovery Centre", a refurbished 6th Form Centre and an all-weather sports pitch and fitness suite. I also had the pleasure of organising a series of events to celebrate the school's 600th anniversary in 2023. I retired in August 2024. I have extensive experience of the grammar school sector in Buckinghamshire and also been a governor in two schools (in Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes). I look forward to bringing this experience to the governing body at Aylesbury High School.
Stephen Jordan **Governor Type:** Co-opted Governor **Initial Appointed date:** 5th October 2026 **Current term of office:** 5th October 2026 - 4th October 2030		A native of Liverpool I attended a boys grammar school and graduated from Manchester University with a science degree. I then qualified as a chartered accountant (FCA). Moving into the Pharmaceutical Industry as a Vice President and Director. I was also a pension trustee. I was for many years a school governor at a local Bucks girls grammar school. Serving as chair of the governors and then chair of the multi academy trust when it was established. I believe that a quality education should be available to all our young people. I look forward to working with the team at Aylesbury High School. Since retirement I have enjoyed travelling and spending time with my grandchildren. I also enjoy watching Liverpool travelling to Anfield to see them play when I can.
Rajas Kulkarni Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date: 31 January 2023 Current Term of Office: 31 January 2023 - 30 January 2027		My daughter is currently in Y13. I am self-employed and provide IT consultancy within Cyber Security from a project management perspective to various FTSE 100 customers in the UK. Outside of my day job I assist during AHSA events as required. I was a member of the Parent Governing board in my daughter's primary school. I have the necessary skills with 15+ years' experience in Stakeholder Engagement, Risk and Issues management and Finance just to name a few from project management perspective. As an AHS Parent Governor, I will: 1. Be a critical friend to school leaders at a strategic level to help school achieve its goals and ensure every pupil has the best possible education; 2. Bring my knowledge / experience to further develop the vision and strategy for the school; 3. Engage with pupils, staff, parents and the school community to understand their views; 4. Oversee the financial performance of the school to ensure its money is well spent.

Anthony Macpherson Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date: 13th April 2026 Current Term of Office: 4 years		I have two daughters at AHS. I have spent the last 16 years in various school leadership roles, incorporating positions of responsibility for curriculum development and pastoral provision. Alongside this, I have been a school inspector and a DSL for the past 8 years. My latest professional focus has been on improving wellbeing provision across the wider school community and embedding a values-led approach to school life. I recently completed a doctorate exploring how shared values in a school community enhance a pupil's sense of belonging and identity; as such, I will keep in mind the core values of AHS in all my contributions as a governor. My wider interests encompass marathon swimming, musical theatre, and CrossFit. I am passionate about excellence in education and keen to make a positive contribution as governor to my daughters' wonderful school.
Linda Oatley Governor Type: Co-opted Governor Initial Appointment Date: 28 February 2023 Current Term of Office: 28 February 2023 to 27 February 2027 Governor Role: Vice Chair of the Resources Committee Whistleblowing Governor		To say I'm delighted to be a Governor of AHS is an understatement. All of my experience is in life, which has been rich and variable. My career was in the corporate sector both here and in the USA. I was Vice President for sales & marketing in a medium sized US healthcare company with responsibility for the contiguous USA. In the UK I was a senior manager for a telecoms company working nationally in their commercial division. Since retirement I have taken my 'A' levels and completed my undergraduate degree at the Open University. I have just completed a Diploma in Art History and my next educational challenge will be a Masters Degree in Art History. I was also a Presiding Justice (JP) for fifteen years and sat on both adult and youth cases…all of human life is there. Most recently and for many years I was a Trustee and Chair of the Chilterns MS Centre, (now the Chilterns Neuro Centre) which provides services not available on the NHS for people with multiple sclerosis, strokes and Parkinson's Disease. To say children are our future is another understatement and a cliché but true nonetheless. I very much hope with my experience and enthusiasm I can help and assist the girls and young women at AHS to see and fulfil their enormous potential. Way to go girls….!
John Orchard Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 8 December 2022 Current Term of Office: 8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026 Governor Role: Mental Health Governor Chair of the Resources Committee		I have a daughter in Year 11 at AHS; she thoroughly enjoys the educational, social and extracurricular activities at AHS. I became a Governor in December 2022 following much consideration, due to the commitment the role requires and deserves, with the wish to give back and impart knowledge from my professional life to benefit and serve AHS. In my professional life I work for a major waste management company, as Head of Construction, responsible for delivery of capital construction projects, working with regulators, contractors, designers and stakeholders. Health and safety, sustainability and value for money are key pillars that projects are judged against. Experience and learnings from my work are fully transferable into the Governor role. In my spare time I am an avid sports fan enjoying motorsport, cricket and rugby. I enjoy travelling and walking.

Marina Parker-Allotey Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 8 December 2022 Current Term of Office: 8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026 Governor Role: Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor School Food		As a Chartered Accountant (FCCA) with extensive experience in the Financial Services and Telecom industry, I bring a wealth of financial expertise as well as regulatory and management knowledge to my role as a governor. Over the years, I've led Regulatory Reporting, Risk assurance and Profitability teams, as well as providing accounting expertise to Change & Restructuring projects, contributing to the strategic decision-making that drives success. Beyond my professional experience, I have a deep passion for education and a strong commitment to supporting our school community. I have been an active volunteer since 2015 at my children's schools. I have participated in various school initiatives (reading, career, diversity) as well as school trips, events and curriculum consultations. I have also delivered financial training programmes to primary schools, helping to foster financial literacy and community engagement. As a parent of three children, with my eldest currently in Year 9, I understand the importance of providing a nurturing, diverse, and inclusive environment for all students. My roles as an Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor, and School Food Governor, reflect my dedication to ensuring our school is a place where every child can thrive. It is an honour to contribute to the development of our children and to work alongside staff, parents, and the wider community to ensure the success of the school. In my spare time, I enjoy playing competitive tennis and keeping fit.
Emma Roberts Governor Type: Appointed governor (appointed by the members) Initial Appointment Date: 13th January 2026 Current Term of Office: 4 years until 12th January 2030		My daughter is in year 7 and I became an appointed governor in January 2026. I've taken this role on so I can do my bit to help make sure AHS continues to support its students in the best way possible. My professional background is in government affairs and communications and I'm currently Director of External Affairs at a national skills charity so have a good knowledge of post-16 education and skills policy and how students can prepare for working life. I believe that young people from all backgrounds should have the chance to excel whatever path they choose.
Nita Taank Governor Type: Parent Governor Initial Appointment Date: 13th April 2026 Current Term of Office: 4 years		I am excited to be a Governor at Aylesbury High School. I have one daughter in Y8 and another who will join AHS in September. I have previously been a School Governor, and I am an experienced school inspector, so I know how to hold leaders to account in a purposeful and supportive way, ensuring strategic targets and statutory obligations are met. I recently completed a doctorate exploring how shared values in a school community enhance a pupil's sense of belonging and identity; as such, I will keep in mind the core values of AHS in all my contributions as a governor. I have spent the last 16 years in various school leadership roles, incorporating positions of responsibility for curriculum development and pastoral provision. For the past 8 years I have been a designated lead on safeguarding, so I understand and recognise the challenges for schools in this complex and important area. My latest professional focus has been on improving wellbeing provision across the wider school community and embedding a values-led approach to school life. My own interests encompass marathon swimming, musical theatre, and CrossFit. I am passionate about excellence in education.

Arpana Valji Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 8 December 2022 Current Term of Office: 8 December 2022 to 7 December 2026 Governor Role: Careers Governor		I am a business owner and entrepreneur and have been a member of the school's governing body since November 2022. I am deeply committed to ensuring that every student at the school receives the best possible education and support. In my role as a governor, I work closely with the school leadership team to set the strategic direction of the school and to ensure that it is well-managed and financially stable. Additionally, I also serve as a link between the school and the local community, and work to promote the school and its achievements. Outside of my role as a governor, I'm a busy mother of three, I actively run my businesses and play various sports. I am hugely passionate about making a difference to the future generation and helping to guide them not only to prepare them for life after school, but to empower them to truly live their best life.
Kate Weir Governor Type: Appointed Governor (by the Members of the Academy Trust) Initial Appointment Date: 15 December 2014 Current term of office: 3 December 2021 to 2 December 2026 Governor Role: Co-Chair of Governors Wellbeing & Arts Governor		I first became a Parent Governor in December 2014 when my daughter was in Year 9. We had been very impressed with the approach to education taken by the school and I decided that I would like to help in the school's continuing development. I was educated at Mill Mount Grammar School in York and believe that the Grammar System benefited me both in terms of my academic achievement and as a rounded individual. I am sure that the Grammar System and AHS in particular continues to provide these benefits to young people today.