## **Governor Pen Portraits**



Mike Pride Executive Director

Mike has overall responsibility for the Respect Collaboration of Schools, setting the strategic direction and ensuring that the schools are both financially sustainable and exhibit high levels of performance. As the Executive Director, Mike reports to the governing board and is supported by the Executive Team and School Leaders.

Mike possesses significant school leadership experience, particularly in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), Alternative Provisions (APs), and Special Schools. He has provided School-to-School support for numerous schools, both locally and nationally. His work within Derby City has transformed the local landscape for children with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) needs.

Mike is passionate about collaborating with colleagues and developing unique methods to provide education to children who may find learning challenging.



Sandra Fletcher Chair of Governors

Sandra has been involved in governance for many years, with experience in primary schools, stand-alone and MAT academies, Special school and Pupil Referral Unit. Currently, she is Chair of Governors at the Respect Collaboration of Schools and a Trustee in a large MAT. In all of her time in education and governance Sandra's passion for doing all we can to enhance the life chances of our young people has not diminished, in fact as life becomes a greater challenge for many, she feel this commitment more keenly.

Sandra worked at a national level as a National Leader of Governance for over ten years. Part of this role, and one she continues to carry out, is the External Review of boards to judge effectiveness and support development. In addition, Sandra has sat on several Interim Executive Boards following the removal of the previous board. The aim being to secure strong governance.

Sandra is currently self- employed as an educational consultant and works extensively in governance and school leadership. Sandra's background is in secondary education, where she had extensive leadership experience.

Sandra is commitment to provide the best educational experience for all pupils and as such is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching (FCCT) who strive to provide the best life chances possible for children, hence her work with school leaders and governors who have an overwhelming remit to secure this for them.



Will Broderick Staff Governor

Will Broderick is a seasoned educator and leader whose career spans over 15 years, dedicated to reshaping the landscape of alternative education in Derby. His extensive experience as a teacher, leader, and governor has made him a key figure in ensuring that young people who face challenges in mainstream schooling still receive a meaningful and supportive education. As a teacher, Will's approach is deeply rooted in empathy and understanding. He recognises that every student's challenges are unique, and his teaching philosophy reflects a commitment to meet them where they are. He has consistently demonstrated the ability to craft personalised learning experiences that nurture both academic growth and personal development. His classroom is not only a place of learning but of safety, respect, and opportunity.

In his leadership roles, Will has been instrumental in shaping policy and practice within alternative provisions, driving forward strategies that prioritise inclusivity, emotional support, and student well-being. His leadership style is characterised by collaboration and integrity, always seeking to build teams that are as dedicated to the welfare of the students as he is. Colleagues and stakeholders alike respect him for his clear vision, thoughtful decision-making, and his relentless commitment to improving outcomes for disadvantaged students.

As a governor, Will's strategic oversight has helped to strengthen the governance of alternative provisions in Derby, ensuring that these institutions are equipped to provide high-quality education while navigating the unique challenges they face.



Dr Deborah Robinson Chair of Standards Committee SEND & LAC Governor

Deborah is a Professor of Special Educational Needs, Disability and Inclusion at the University of Derby and her area of expertise is inclusive education. Deborah is widely published in this area, and her specialist work has focussed on teacher education for inclusion, and policy development. Deborah has directed research on behalf of governments and government departments. For example, in Ireland, she led an investigation into the implementation and impact of Ireland's early education policy for inclusion, and this research has led to policy change and greater investment in support for children with disabilities in pre-schools.

Deborah is an executive board member for the British Journal of Learning Disabilities, with leadership responsibility for education and employment.

Prior to her current role, Deborah has been a teacher educator, a primary teacher and a special needs co-ordinator working in schools in London and Nottingham.



Maria is a Key Stage 2 Teacher working within the Respect Collaboration of Schools, at Bridge Street School. She has experience of working with children and young people in a range of settings and Key Stages across the city, including mainstream schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and Special Schools. Maria believes that every child deserves to feel safe, happy and heard in school. She is passionate about ensuring that every child is

## Maria Lewis Staff Governor

given the opportunities and support they need to engage with education and achieve their full potential. Maria considers a sense of belonging and community to be vitally important to social and emotional development, and for over 10 years, Maria has been an active member of the Our Mickleover Community Group, which received the Kings' Award for Voluntary Service in 2023.



Kieran Dwyer Chair of Resources

Kieran is a seasoned commercial leader with over 15 years of experience holding senior roles within organisations serving the education sector.

His expertise encompasses a broad technical and market understanding of school support services, curriculum delivery, online education and assessment, and management information systems. In addition to his professional roles, Kieran has served in previous governance positions and as a charitable trustee.

Through his career Kieran has established strong connections across the education sector, including primary and secondary schools, multi-academy trusts, local authorities, central government, and global industry stakeholders.

Originally from Hertfordshire and now firmly rooted in Derby, Kieran pursued studies in Electronic Engineering, and Business Psychology and Management at The University of Derby. This academic foundation sparked his interest in the practical application of technology. He is passionate about technology that seamlessly integrates and addresses real-world problems. He further enhanced his expertise with postgraduate studies in Senior Leadership and Business Administration, which resulted in his being made a Fellow of The Chartered Management Institute in 2024.



**Mina Munns** 

Mina is a former Primary school teacher with BA degrees in both English Literature and Theology, as well as a PGCE. She currently leads 2 churches in Derby, is the Assistant Area Dean of Derby City Deanery in the diocese of Derby and chairs the diocese's Healing and Wholeness group. Mina is an experienced coach and facilitator, working with churches to develop vision and strategy and to utilise Asset Based Community Development.

Mina has been involved in school governance for nearly 15 years both as a community governor and as a trustee of a multi academy trust. She is passionate about helping those from more deprived areas access higher education and has been a tutor with The Access Project, a charity that works in this arena. In her spare time, Mina is a runner and is also studying for a Masters in Public Administration.



John has worked in manufacturing and construction industry for over 30 years with an expertise in Procurement and Commercial management. Originally from Manchester he now lives in Ashbourne.

During his career John has always been involved in supporting the development of young people as they move from school to

## John Boyle

the world of work and then working with them to develop appropriate skills needed in their careers. John worked closely with E4E in Derby supporting training sessions and workshops for young people designed to help them find a job.



**Gary Brockway** 

Gary Brockway is a highly experienced chartered certified accountant with over 30 years of expertise in the field. He is a Fellow of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), signifying his extensive knowledge and commitment to the profession.

Throughout his career, Gary has worked with a range of accountancy firms, from prestigious Top 10 firms to respected regional practices. His diverse background has equipped him with a broad spectrum of skills and insights, enabling him to deliver exceptional service to his clients.

Gary specialises in the agriculture and charity sectors, providing tailored financial advice and support to organizations within these fields. Additionally, he manages a varied general portfolio, showcasing his versatility and comprehensive understanding of different industries.

Currently, Gary serves as the Business Services Director at Cedar + Co., where he plays a pivotal role in driving business growth and ensuring the highest standards of client satisfaction. His strategic vision and leadership have been instrumental in the firm's success.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Gary is also involved in his community. He has been a dedicated Director of Greasley Rovers Football Club for over 15 years, demonstrating his passion for local sports and community development. He has also served as Chair and Finance director of several local local Charities.

Gary Brockway's blend of professional excellence, sectorspecific expertise, and community engagement makes him a distinguished figure in the accounting world and a valuable asset to any organisation he is part of.