

# WE ARE CHANGING LIVES

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2023



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to our newsletter at the end of the Autumn Term and as we approach the end of 2023. I usually begin letters and introductions like this by acknowledging those of you who show your continual support. The positive messages we receive from many of you give us encouragement. Thank you.

Feedback about what is going on across our seven academies has never been more important and this newsletter used to be an internal publication for colleagues and governors but we missed the obvious opportunity to share that with you all. Responding to feedback, this newsletter will now be shared with all parents, children and young people alongside our colleagues.

While there are parents who have said they'd like to see more of what we are doing, we have also had feedback "I don't care about what's happening in other schools." It's disheartening to hear such feedback when the schools in our Trust are regularly sharing and celebrating each other's successes for the benefit of all. It is highly likely

that although we may highlight something successful at one school it's also going on in your child's school so I ask that you look at each article as showcasing the work that's going on across the Trust but exemplified by a particular school.

As a Christian I try to live my life by faith in God and Jesus Christ and it is my faithful prayer that you will all have a peaceful and restful Christmas and that while relaxing you are able to enjoy some stories of what your child's school and others have been up to this term.

Jonson

Jonathan Johnson OBE, CEO, Changing Lives Learning Trust

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\*Front cover artwork produced by Lucy, Year 12 student at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School

# SCHOOL NEWS

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, we are pleased to share with you the latest news and achievements from across our family of seven schools.















# ARLECDON SCHOOL



#### Library Revamp

We are delighted to share our library revamp that Mrs Finlay set up over the Summer Holidays. Thank you to all the parents who donated to the fundraiser and made this a special place for our children to spend time in.



We also held an art competition, where the children could create a piece of artwork based on their favourite book. Everyone that entered received a chocolate bar for their fabulous effort. Our runners up received a £10 book token. They were Elizabeth in EYFS and Scarlett in KS2. The winners received a book token and an art set with a sketch book. They were Indy in EYFS, Laney in KS1 and Paige in KS2. All of the runners up and winners' art work are on display in the library. To take a look at the winning artwork please visit our Facebook page.

#### Children in Need

For Children in Need this year the whole school took part in a sponsored Danceathon. All afternoon the children in each year group tagged another, danced around our school hall and made sure that there was always someone dancing. It was such a fun afternoon. The children really enjoyed it and they were hugely successful as they raised a total of £143.80 for this year's appeal.



#### **GEMS Awards**

Our school council recently held a meeting to develop the school GEMS awards. For each key stage they came up with a criteria for our school values in order to receive one of the awards.

Our school values are:

G - Growth Mindset

E - Effort

M - Manners

S - Success

The criteria they have set vary across the different age groups, with early years children receiving bronze awards, KS1 children will receive silver, and KS2 gold. You can see here an example of the criteria for our KS2 children. We have been delighted with how well these have been received already, and for our parents and families who have been able to



join in with celebrating the children's successes.

#### **Christmas Pantomime**

Last week we attended a wonderful production of 'Cinderella' at The Solway Hall in Whitehaven. The children attend a pantomime annually. They look forward to it for weeks in advance and this year's certainly did not disappoint.

The children all behaved brilliantly and a wonderful time was had by all.





## DEARHAM SCHOOL



# FLIMBY SCHOOL



#### **Cooking Topic**

The Year 3 children's DT topic this term has been 'Cooking and Nutrition: Eating Seasonally'. We have looked at where our food comes from and which foods grow in which season in the UK. We have practised chopping and peeling different fruit and vegetables and tasting different foods. The children were great at trying foods they hadn't tried before. The spinach went down very well, but the spring onion was not as popular!





#### Tullie House Visit

Year 5 recently enjoyed a visit from Tullie House Museum, who led a workshop on World War Two as part of our history topic. We learned all about the Home Front, and found out lots about a real family who lived in Carlisle during the war, including an evacuee who stayed with them. The children got to look at a range of authentic artefacts, such as identity cards and toys. I think their favourite part was getting to dress up in clothes from the era!







#### **Reception Trip**

Our children in reception enjoyed a lovely trip to Bassenfell Manor recently. The children dressed up and took part in a reading of the Nativity in the beautiful surroundings. They were all very well behaved and really enjoyed this different experience of the Christmas story.







#### Choir Performance

The Year 5 and 6 choir recently performed at St Mary's Church, Maryport at the annual Rotary Club Carol Service. The children sang alongside choirs from other local schools and they performed beautifully and put everyone in the Christmas spirit.





#### **Christmas Fayre**

Our fantastic Friends of Flimby School (FOFS) recently organised a Christmas Fayre for our children and their families. A wonderful time was had by all and we raised an amazing  $\pounds 626.75!$  The money was used to fund festive Crafty Workshop visits for our children. Please take a look at some of the photographs from the afternoon.







#### **Maths Games**

Maths games make up a big part of our daily maths practice at Flimby, from Foundation stage all the way up to Year 6. Dice and card games are a fun way to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication and division at a range of different levels. Domino games support children with counting, subitising and to develop number fluency. Even games such as snap, matching pairs and elevens all support children to become more fluent mathematicians! Games are a great way to support your child with their maths at home! Here's some photos of our children taking part in some maths games this term.







#### **Crafty Workshop Trip**

Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a trip to the Crafty Workshop in Workington for their Christmas trip. They travelled in style by train and all made a Christmas bauble to hang on their trees at home. We then had an adventure on the way



home...our train was cancelled so we made our way back to Flimby on the top deck of a double decker bus!

#### Dove Cottage Visit

Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Dove Cottage this term to take part in a writing workshop. Pupils wrote their own poems inside William Wordsworth's house, taking inspiration from their surroundings and



the beautiful landscape outside. They then had chance to explore the museum and shared one of Wordsworth's poems.

#### School Council Visit

Our School Council recently travelled to Maryport on the train. We walked to St Mary's Church, where we decorated a white Christmas tree using decorations we had made at school. Our theme was red and white. Early Years created beautiful baubles, Years 1 and 2 made sparkly candy canes, Years 3 and 4 made dazzling snowflakes and Years 5 and 6 made jolly Santa Clauses. We think the tree looked magical. While we were waiting for



our train home, we popped into the library and enjoyed some Christmas stories.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR SCHOOL



# ST BEES VILLAGE SCHOOL



#### **Celebrating Success**

Our GCSE students from the summer recently received their certificates wonderful α celebration The evening was held at Penrith Methodist Church and included a number of special awards for sport, school productions and academic personal successes.



The guest of honour was former professional football player, Chris Lumsdon. Chris spoke about the challenges of playing elite sport and the highs and lows it can bring. His lessons for life and improving mental health were wonderful to listen to. Chris works with young people to develop good mental health through sport.

#### Charity

The whole school took part in our Sponsored Walk Penrith around Beacon back in September raising £8622, split 50:50 with our school charity this year, The Great North Ambulance



and for student led developments to the school. In addition, our students raised £650 for Children in Need where the grudge match of staff vs student Dodgeball left the valiant staff team humbled by the impressive student efforts.

#### Visits

In November, a large group of Year 9 students visited the World War 1 battlefields developing their understanding of the sacrifice made by soldiers during conflict over the last century. In addition to visiting the many war graves, they also attended the last post ceremony at the Menin gate.

Food students the Afternoon tea competition held Carlisle College the watchful eye of a Michelin starred chef! have also had visits to London for our Sixth Form Drama students and field studies for Geographers Environmental and Scientists.

In addition our Year 12 economics students have competed in Dragon's Den competition with Tebay Services. Students presented



business ideas and "pitched" to have them put on Tebay's shelves. The winning groups were: Blooming Bouquets a dried flower florist and Scenic Scents a producer of Lake District themed car air fresheners.

#### Extra Curricular

Our sports teams have been out in force, fielding teams in football, ruabu, netball, hockeu, eauestrian and manu more sports with six of our students being selected for the Cumbria U18 rugby team. In addition, our musicians have been busu at several concerts for the Christmas season. In all cases, our students have shown off their wide range of talents and dedication. However, none of this happens without our exceptional staff body who are committed to giving our young people these opportunities.

Well done to everyone involved!



#### P4C Dau

We had our latest P4C day in school on Monday 20th November (Philosophy for Children), which is the culmination of all the learning our children have done and the school's achievements since June 2022.

Staff and children have been working together over the past three years developing: critical thinking skills, creative thinking, collaborative thinking and caring thinking – social and moral understanding.

Our whole school theme was 'Change' and the children presented the work they had done during the day in our assembly. They all had a really great day and did themselves proud with their presentations. Our P4C facilitator was in school observing all day and was thrilled with how well the children were using the four Cs and the depth of their

We are well on the way to completing our Silver Award and will hopefully receive this before Christmas.

#### Social Enterprise Scheme 2023: Santa Paws

Bright Stars campaign in our school has been an incredible opportunity for the Year 6 students to develop their entrepreneurial skills while making a positive impact on the community.



Through this initiative, the children have successfully

raised £937 for Cumbria Animal Concern by organising a School Movie Day and a Christmas Fayre. The students took on various business roles, planned the events, and worked collaboratively with our business partners St Bees School, to gain financial knowledge and understand profit and loss

The children's dedication not only raised funds but also increased awareness of Animal Concern's work. They crafted beautiful wreathes, bird feeders, and mini Christmas trees, and also organised engaging games, baked goods, and coffee for sale. The entire proceeds from these activities were contributed to the charity, ultimately making their local community a better place. This hands-on experience has not only equipped the children with essential business skills but has also instilled a sense of social responsibility, empathy, and teamwork.

The Bright Stars campaign has indeed been a shining example of how our students can positively impact the world around

#### **Seasonal Eating Topic**

As part of our Year 3 Design Technology topic of seasonal eating, the children were very busy developing their cooking skills and learning about where our food comes from. They made fruit kebabs, individual fruit



crumbles and a seasonal tart. They designed their tart, choosing which ingredients to use and whether they wanted their tart to be created upside down or not.

#### Year 1 News

Year 1 have been extremely busy this term. They have settled into their new Key stage very well and are working very hard.

We have had lots of fun in our PE sessions. The children enjoyed practising their balance skills on the large apparatus and talking about how exercise makes us feel.

The children have been working very hard in their maths lessons. They are becoming increasingly confident with number bonds and related facts.

We have also taken part in lots of P4C sessions. The children have amazed us with the depth of their discussions and ability to communicate their ideas effectively. We have linked some of our P4C sessions to Science this half term.





# THORNHILL SCHOOL



# WEST LAKES ACADEMY



#### **Dream Big**

Years 5 and 6 had a "Dream Big" session delivered by Centre for Leadership Performance this term. The session involved finding out more about the wealth of career opportunities available in West Cumbria as well as further afield. children got opportunity to listen to the career paths of a Science Viking, an Operations

Manager and a Waste





Management Consultant and ask questions. The visitors were very impressed that the children had high aspirations and asked some very sensible questions about the skills needed for a variety of jobs.

Mrs Murray said: "I truly believe it is very important that all the children know the vast array of careers available. Only then can they understand how working hard at school links to achieving their dream job. My pupils all enjoyed the Dream Big session."

#### World Kindness Day

The children gathered in the hall recently to sing a song together in celebration of World Kindness day. We talked about how we can become happier by doing kind

things for others and that kindness can make a bad day good, and a good day better.

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#### **Indian Cooking**

Year 5 and 6 recently enjoyed trying their hand at some Indian cooking. They made a stir fry and a fruit salad in an Indian style. They practised their chopping skills and learned lots of new facts about the foods they were chopping and the culture of India.

This linked with their class book at the time, The Runaway Children of Chennai, which the children were hooked on from the very first chapter.



#### World Mental Health Day

For World Mental Health Day this term, Mrs Hawkrigg led a whole school mindfulness assembly where the children took part in various activities including breathing exercises. This focused our minds about how important it is to look after ourselves and to speak up if we need support. The children also came to school wearing yellow as part of the Young Minds charity's #HelloYellow 2023 campaign. We were delighted to raise £65.27 for the charity, which supports young people with their mental health.



#### **Christmas Craft Fayre**

On Saturday 18th of November, the academy building was buzzing with craft and local produce stalls for the very first academy Christmas fayre.

There were also wonderful musical performances from Egremont brass band and our very own pop choir. If you have not had a chance, please take a look at the videos from the event on our Facebook page.



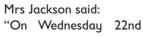
We have so many talented

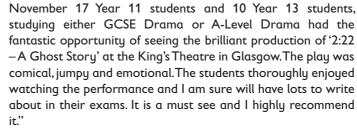
students singing in our pop choir and they have also performed at the Egremont light switch on this festive season.

Thank you to our music teacher Miss Chesher for her leadership of the event and to all of the students who helped on the day, performed or helped to set up. Due to its huge success the fayre will run again next year.

#### Drama Trip to Glasgow

It has been another exciting term in drama. Mrs Jackson, our head of drama, has taken a number of our students up to King's Theatre in Glasgow.





Mrs Jackson said that all students were excellent ambassadors for the academy and were brilliant throughout the trip.

#### Year 7 Residential

Back in October we took our new Year 7 students on their very first residential.

residential.
Our Year 7
residential is
a huge part of
our induction
in to the 'WLA
Way'. Students
face a number



of challenges and activities to help them understand what it's like to be a student at West Lakes. Students take part in their residential in their tutor groups to form bonds and find new connections with peers in their tutor. We place a huge focus on activities which cover our academy's five values of resilience, respect, appreciation, freedom and achievement.

This year we have visited the beautiful Muncaster Castle in Ravenglass, and all students in Year 7 were invited to attend and stay overnight. Students took part in a walking challenge, created team flags for their tutor group, watched an owl show, toasted marshmallows around the campfire and survived the West Cumbrian weather at night in their tents. Students shared their wonderful memories of the experience back in the academy and the trip was incredible from start to finish.

#### Parental Engagement

Miss Relph, our Vice Principal has been working hard this term on building strong partnerships with parents and carers. The academy recently held a number of parental engagement events including; coffee mornings, parent surgeries in the local community and a SEND parent forum. A parent reference group focusing on bullying has also been created and a SHIP (School and Home Integrated Partnership) meeting was also held. We want to work with our parents to ensure the experience their child gets at the academy is exceptional and these events have been an opportunity to listen to parents directlu.

They have all been well attended and we plan to hold more in the future.

## MEET OUR TRUSTEES

David Davidson
Chair of Changing Lives Learning Trust

## When did you join the Changing Lives Learning Trust?

I became a Trustee on 1st Sept this year but was involved in local governance at a number of the Trust's primary schools for 3 years prior to becoming a Trustee.

### How do your skills, knowledge, and experience benefit the Trust?

I started my working life in banking, then moved into industry and for the last 18 years have been in nuclear. I have covered a wide range of roles: financial, logistical, analytical, production, project and programme management, stakeholder and reporting. All of these help with the multi-faceted role of a Trustee. I also have over 15 years' experience of primary and secondary school governance, Local Authority (single schools and federations), Church and MAT schools, most of this at chair level. I have seen and dealt with all manner of issues during this time and I bring all this experience to the Trust.

## If you were to recommend being a Trustee to someone, how would you describe the job?

Trustees play a very important role in making sure that the charity is run in the interests of the people it is there to support. They strategically oversee the management and administration of the organisation. Trustees don't do the day-to-day running of the charity. They delegate this to the staff, led by the Chief Executive. Instead, they play the role of a 'critical friend' to the Chief Executive by giving support and by challenging — in a supportive way — to help them manage effectively. Some of the words I would use to describe the role are: rewarding, fulfilling, challenging, inspiring.

#### What do you enjoy about being a Trustee?

Giving back to society!

# What do you think are the challenges facing the Trust?

At any point in time and within any organisation there are always going to be challenges, it's just par for the course! It's how we deal with these challenges that matters. We have a great team of people working



within the Trust and I see them address challenges every day, everyone has their part to play.

In the short term I see the main challenges as being: growth of the Trust versus consolidation, recruitment and retention, working through the issues that remain from the pandemic, and funding constraints. We are also in the window for a general election and whatever the outcome, we need to be ready for any educational changes that may occur.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I don't have much spare time, as apart from the CLLT Trustee role and working full time, I am also the Chair of a Local Authority Federation of two secondary schools and I help my wife with her business. There is usually a long list of things for me to do by the time the weekend comes. We do have two pet Nubian goats and after a long break from keeping tropical fish I have just started a tank again. I do enjoy a good crime drama on TV, especially those from Scandinavia.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Introducing Lara Robson
Headteacher of Arlecdon Primary School

## What is your current role and when did you join the Trust?

I am Headteacher of Arlecdon Primary School and I joined the trust in September 2023.

## What has been your career path to get here?

I started teaching 11 years ago in a large Primary School in Carlisle. In my time there I taught every year group from Nursery all the way to Year 6. After three years I progressed to be the Early Years Phase Leader and I loved working with staff to ensure that every child had the most exciting start to education possible. One of my passions in education is championing for those children that may need a little extra support. Due to this I took on the role of Pupil Premium Lead within the school ensuring that every child had access to the support they needed to achieve the very best results. During Covid I worked in the hub supporting children daily before I moved on to an Assistant Headship at the same school. In my second year of teaching, I also worked in a small village school in West Cumbria, I always wanted to come back to this community and when the opportunity arose to apply for Arlecdon Primary School I jumped at the opportunity.

#### What does a typical day look like for you?

I am very lucky that the first part of my day is teaching the KS1 class at Arlecdon. I still get to take part in my favourite part of the job which is working with children. In the afternoons I work with staff to support the school to be the very best we can be. It may be lunch duty, or it could be play rehearsals, it just depends on what needs to be done. I also meet with school council regularly in the afternoons to see how the children feel we could improve Arlecdon Primary School.

### What is your favourite thing about your role?

The children! The children at Arlecdon Primary school are incredible, they always make me smile with their positive attitudes to learning and brilliant sense of humour.

## What career would you choose if weren't teaching/ being a headteacher?

A chef - although I might not be very good at it, I really enjoy it.

#### What has been your career highlight?

My career highlight would have to be securing a large amount of funding to support children with speech and language needs. The difference the funding made to the children was significant and seeing the progress of these children will always be something I never forget.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy being outside on the fells with my dog Toby. I bake cakes, paddleboard, listen to music and enjoy time with my family and friends.



# GOVERNOR Q&A

# Jon Stewart Chair of Governors at Dearham School

### Please tell us a bit about yourself and your career background.

In 2003, I embarked on my journey in education by earning a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). The initial years of my career were spent in dynamic urban primary schools, where I honed my teaching skills and gained valuable experience. During this period, I worked in both Newcastle and Birmingham, contributing to the education of pupils in diverse and vibrant settings.

In 2007, I made the decision to return to Cumbria, marking the beginning of a new chapter in my career. Joining a local school, I took on the role of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Lead. My dedication and commitment to early childhood education were recognised when the EYFS at my school achieved an Outstanding rating from Ofsted, a testament to the effectiveness of the educational practices implemented under my leadership.

From 2012 to 2023, I dedicated a significant portion of my career to Houghton CE School. Over the years, I assumed various roles and responsibilities, culminating in my appointment as Deputy Headteacher from 2021 to 2023. This position allowed me to contribute to the overall strategic direction of the school and further develop my leadership skills.

In a notable development, I am currently seconded to Cumwhinton School as Headteacher for a year. This temporary assignment provides an opportunity to bring my leadership expertise to a different educational setting, broadening my impact and experience within the field.

Parallel to my school-based roles, I actively engaged with educational initiatives beyond the classroom. For four years, I served as the Mastery Readiness Lead for Cumbria within the NNW MathsHub. In this capacity, I played a crucial role in advancing mathematical education and promoting mastery approaches in the region.

Moreover, I spent two years working for One Cumbria Teaching School Hub (TSH) as the Lead Facilitator on the National Professional Qualification (NPQ) programs and the Early Career Framework (ECF). This involvement allowed me to contribute to the professional development of educators, sharing my knowledge and experience to empower the next generation of teaching professionals.

In summary, my career in education spans nearly two decades, characterised by a continuous commitment to

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excellence, leadership, and educational innovation. From classroom teaching to strategic leadership roles, I have embraced diverse opportunities to make a positive impact on the educational landscape, both within my school and the broader educational community in Cumbria.

## What is your current role within the Dearham School Governing Body and what does this entail?

Assuming the role of Chair of the Academy Improvement Board (AIB) represents a pivotal point in my career, allowing me to contribute significantly to the enhancement and progress of the educational institution under my stewardship. My responsibilities extend beyond routine governance, encompassing a proactive engagement in the strategic planning and overall improvement of the academy.

In this capacity, I will lead the AIB in formulating and executing strategies that align with the school's vision and goals. Collaborating closely with fellow board members, school leadership, and stakeholders, I will play a key role in fostering a culture of continuous improvement. This involves conducting regular assessments of the academy's performance, identifying areas for enhancement, and devising targeted interventions to drive positive change.

As Chair, I am committed to maintaining effective communication channels between the AIB, school leadership, and the wider community. Transparency and accountability are paramount, and I will strive to ensure that all stakeholders are informed about the academy's progress, challenges, and future plans. This open dialogue fosters a sense of shared responsibility and collective commitment to the institution's success.

Furthermore, my role involves overseeing the implementation of policies and initiatives aimed at raising educational standards. Whether it's monitoring curriculum developments, assessing teaching methodologies, or evaluating student outcomes, I will work diligently to uphold and promote excellence in all aspects of the academy's operations. This includes actively engaging with educational research, best practices, and innovative approaches to ensure the academy remains at the forefront of educational advancement.

In addition to my internal responsibilities, I will act as a liaison between the AIB and external educational bodies, regulatory authorities, and relevant stakeholders. This involves navigating the complex landscape of educational policy, staying abreast of legislative changes, and advocating for the academy's interests at a broader level.

In essence, my role as Chair of the Academy Improvement Board is characterised by leadership, strategic vision, and a deep commitment to fostering positive change within the educational institution. Through effective governance, collaboration, and a focus on continuous improvement, I will strive to contribute to the realisation of the academy's mission and the holistic development of its students.

### Why do you feel it is important to get involved in school governance?

Becoming a Governor of Dearham School was a decision driven by a profound commitment to contributing meaningfully to the local community's educational landscape. As an active participant in the education community, I recognised the pivotal role that schools play in shaping the future of our children and the wider community at large. Motivated by a deep-seated belief in the transformative power of education, I sought an avenue to directly influence and support the educational journey of pupils in my local area. Joining the governance team of Dearham School provided an opportunity to bring my skills, experiences, and passion for education to the table. Serving as a Governor allows me to play a strategic role in the school's development, contributing to decision-making processes, policy formulation, and the overall improvement of educational outcomes. The desire to actively engage in the betterment of educational opportunities for the pupils of Dearham School aligns seamlessly with my values, making my role as a Governor a fulfilling and purpose-driven commitment to the growth and success of both individual students and the broader community.

### Please describe your first impressions and how you were welcomed.

My first visit to Dearham School was a warm and welcoming experience that left a lasting impression. From the moment I stepped through the school's entrance, the friendly atmosphere was palpable. The staff, teachers, and pupils alike extended genuine hospitality, making me feel like a valued member of the school community from the outset. The Headteacher and administrative staff took the time to introduce me to the school's ethos, values, and daily operations, ensuring that I felt comfortable and informed. I was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm and openness of the teaching staff, who eagerly shared insights into their innovative teaching methods and the unique aspects of the school's curriculum. The warm reception extended beyond formal introductions, with colleagues expressing genuine interest in my background, experiences, and aspirations for contributing to the school's success. Overall, my initial visit to Dearham School not only provided valuable insights into the school's culture but also instilled a sense of belonging and excitement about the prospect of becoming an integral part of this vibrant educational community.

## What are you most looking forward to within this role?

As the Chairperson of the Academy Improvement Board for the upcoming year, I am eagerly anticipating a dynamic and impactful journey. I look forward to leading the Board in its commitment to fostering positive change and continuous improvement within the academy. The prospect of collaborating with dedicated board members, school leadership, and stakeholders to develop and implement strategic initiatives is particularly exciting. I am keen to play a pivotal role in shaping the direction of the academy, ensuring that it aligns with its vision and mission. Over the next year, I am committed to overseeing the effective implementation of policies, assessing academic progress, and championing an environment of excellence. Additionally, I anticipate building strong relationships with the school community, promoting open communication, and engaging with external educational bodies to stay abreast of best practices and innovations. Ultimately, I look forward to contributing to the holistic development of the academy and witnessing the positive impact of our collective efforts on the educational journey of

## What do you hope to achieve in this governance role?

My role as Chairperson of the Academy Improvement Board promises both personal and professional outcomes that I am eager to realise over the coming year. On a personal level, this experience presents an opportunity for growth and development as a leader and contributor to the community. Engaging with diverse perspectives within the board and collaborating with school leadership will deepen my understanding of educational governance and strategic planning. Professionally, the role offers a platform to apply my skills in leadership, decision-making, and strategic thinking. Contributing to the improvement and development of the academy aligns with my commitment to educational excellence, providing a sense of fulfilment as I witness the positive impact of our collective efforts on the school community. The experience gained through this role will undoubtedly enhance my leadership capabilities and broaden my professional network, setting the stage for continued contributions to the field of education. Overall, I anticipate a fulfilling and rewarding journey as part of the Academy Improvement Board, with both personal and professional outcomes that align with my commitment to educational advancement and community engagement.



