

Trustees of Corvus Education Trust



David Jessup - Chair of Trustees

David is an experienced operational and people manager responsible for a multi-disciplinary teams, his specialisms include: developing teams, change management, and business development. He believes that an organisation's strength lies in its' people and a culture of learning and he wants Corvus to be a place that staff want to work. David passionately believes in the Corvus ethos of sharing resources and expertise across the Trust's schools and that this has led to a flourishing environment of collaborative working. He is always encouraged when he walks around our schools because not only do we have staff committed to, and delivering, high quality teaching; we also have children who are happy and engaged with their learning. He has been involved with the governing body in a number of capacities and has helped support Corvus Trust through the transition to its current Multi-Academy status. David lives in the local area and I wishes to see the MAT develop further as a central part of the community.



Chris Nichols - Vice Chair of Trustees

Christine is MCIPD qualified and recently retired from NORSE a limited company and fast-growing Facilities Management services provider. Before this Christine worked as a Learning and organisational development manager for a local authority. She brings a variety of skills to her role as a governor including project management, budget management and people skills such as coaching and mentoring. In the past Christine has procured and managed the corporate portfolio of development for all employees from induction and where necessary supporting them to moving on. She has both private and public sector experience working in the health sector in a management and leadership development role before moving into local government working alongside the HR team supporting people development and associated projects. Her motivation for being involved in the school is, she believes, in education and lifelong learning and wherever she can be of help and support in this area she will make herself available.



Alison Randall (Finance Director)

Alison is Head of School Finance, Leadership & Governance Services for Norfolk County Council: Educator Solutions. She is a member of the following professional bodies:

Member of Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA)

Fellow Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians (FMAAT)

Chartered Manager (ChM)

Member of the Chartered Management Institute (MCMI)

Her experience as an Academy Trustee include:

Diversa Education Trust

Diversa Trading Ltd

Evolution Academy Trust

The Engage Trust

Her other Trustee roles include:

Trustee & Hon Treasurer: The Yorke Trust (Music Education Charity)

Trustee & Hon Treasurer; SAW Trust

(Science/Art/Writing Educational Charity)

Chair & Trustee: Poringland Fuel Allotment Charity

Hon. Treasurer & Member: PCC of St Andrew's Church, Framingham Earl

Her experiences as a governor have included:

Framingham Earl High School (Community Governor)

Brooke VC Primary School (Co-opted Governor)

Seething & Mundham Primary School (LA Governor)

Old Catton & White Woman Lane Federation

(Foundation Governor)

Nebula Partnership of 6 schools (LA Governor)



Jim Adams

Jim has successfully worked in education for 23 years, 16 of those in senior leadership. He began his career in a large secondary school in North London where he eventually became Head of Sixth Form. He has experience of working in schools and Trusts in a variety of contexts, rural and urban, from early years to post 16. His first position as Headteacher was with Litcham School, a rural all-through (EYFS-16) school. Following that, Jim was appointed as Headteacher of Hobart High School in South Norfolk. He is currently CEO of Clarion Academy Trust, a family of one primary and two secondary schools. Jim is also Chair of Educate Norfolk, the professional association for Norfolk Headteachers.



Paul Waller

Paul is currently an active retiree, retired 3 years ago, with interests revolving around walking, the great outdoors and using wood to create useful objects. His professional career spans almost 30 years in learning and development.

Beginning in 1986 as an 'Education and Training Officer' in the RAF and continuing in the learning and development field through various roles and projects, employed and self employed, UK and global, until retirement in 2016/17. He has a great deal of experience working with different cultures and nationalities in many different countries.

The latter stages of his career covered 'Organisational Development' which encompassed learning and development and change as holistic and strategic tools to enable organisations to clearly identify, manage and achieve realistic strategic and operational goals.

Although his previous roles centred on organisation and adult development, he is passionate about the need to ensure that everyone is given the opportunity to develop to their full potential, especially children. He is also committed to helping make education and learning relevant, challenging and above all, enjoyable for all.



Barry Edney

Barry is an experienced Commercial Director with experience in Sales, Marketing and Commercial Excellence programmes. Previously working for ICI, PPG Industries and AkzoNobel, Barry has worked with major brands in the automotive repair industry and held senior postings in Australia, Asia and Europe.

In 2014 Barry founded a consulting practice in The Netherlands focussed on business performance improvement and process development before returning to Norwich in early 2019.



Alex Lightbown- Trust Lead

Alex is CEO/Trust Lead for Corvus Education Trust. She has been Headteacher at Manor Field Infant School since 2001 and Headteacher of Aslacton Primary school since 2010. Watton Westfield Infant and Nursery came under the Corvus umbrella on 1st March 2017 as a sponsored school and has made significant improvements. Watton Junior School joined Corvus on 1st April 2020 as a sponsored school. Before this Alex worked in the independent sector, was a Reception class teacher in a maintained school and Headteacher at Saxlingham Nethergate Primary School for 5 years. Alex has for many years been a Consultant Headteacher supporting other schools and was a Change Leader for VNET. She is also a Headteacher mentor for Educate Norfolk. Alex has successfully developed the existing strong links between our trust schools and has the ability and drive to develop the Multi-Academy Trust further.