

**St Marylebone CE Bridge School Governing Body**  
**Governors' biographies**

**Clare Alexander** (*Foundation Governor*)

I am a foundation governor for St Marylebone CE School and the Bridge School and a worshipping member of St Marylebone Parish Church where I am a member of the Deanery Synod. I also have two daughters at St Marylebone CE School where they are thriving.

Professionally I am a teacher. I am the SENCO and Head of Learning Support in a London secondary school and have a special interest in pupils with special needs. I am also a qualified specialist dyslexia teacher and assessor.

**Elizabeth Carey** (*Chairman of Finance and Premises Committee – Co-opted Representative*)

I am a governor of SMBS because I am a member of the St. Marylebone parish and a parent of two children in secondary school, one with special educational needs. I have first-hand knowledge of the extra commitment that is required to nurture a child with speech, language and communication needs and the care that goes into selecting a secondary school. In addition to SMBS, I am a parent governor of Maria Fidelis Catholic School in Camden.

Despite living in London since 1996, I remain an American citizen. My professional life has been spent in banking (both in the US and London) and asset management. Besides focusing on my family, SMBS and MFCS, I advise local authorities on their pension funds. I have a BA from Yale University and am a CFA Charterholder.

**Harriet Capon** (*Foundation Governor*)

I am a foundation governor for both the St Marylebone CE School and the Bridge School and I have two daughters at the St Marylebone CE School. I strongly believe that every child should have the opportunity to fulfil their potential and to feel safe, happy and fulfilled during their time at school. I am the School Business Manager and Assistant Head of a maintained nursery and PVI in Brent.

**Islam Chowdhury** (*Parent Governor*)

I am a full time father and work part time as a caretaker. My son Arshad Chowdhury started at the Bridge School in September 2015 and settled in very well.

During the last couple of years. I have witnessed the wonderful environment the Bridge School provides for children in many ways. The School has encouraged the learning and development of my child whilst providing a safe, caring environment which has been a joy to observe.

I always am keen to know and find out about all that is happening at the School, the different activities and ways of teaching, really interest me. I am always comparing how different things were during my childhood and my time at School. I very much enjoy participating in the school parent workshops, these have given me the opportunity to socialise and meet with other parents.

As I have been elected, I will listen to parent views, liaise with the other parent governor and voice parents opinions at Governing Body Meetings

**Liz Corbyn (Staff Governor)**

After completing an English degree at the University of York, I qualified as a trained teacher at Canterbury Christ Church in 2013. My first teaching role was at a Specialist Resourced provision for pupils with Language Disorder in Kent. On moving to London in 2014, I worked in the Inclusion Department of a large mainstream school in West London. Desiring a more specialist environment, I moved to St Marylebone CE Bridge School in 2016, mainly teaching English. My current role is Deputy SENCo with responsibility for transition. In the last two years, I have completed my Masters in Special Educational Needs with Distinction and am currently completing The National Professional Qualification for Middle Leadership (NPQML) and the National Award for SEN Co-ordination. Being staff governor gives me a wider perspective to bring to the various roles which I fulfil in the school

**The Reverend Stephen Evans (Vice Chairman - Foundation Governor)**

I have been a School Governor, Chair of Governors, Trustee and Appointing Trustee since 1986 in both the maintained and independent school sectors, across primary and secondary, church and non-church schools. In 2011, I became a Fellow of the Woodard Corporation, an extended 'family' of 46 independent, maintained, and Academy Schools. I have been Rector of Marylebone since 2010. Prior to ordination, I served as a Seaman Officer in the Royal Navy. I have degrees from Oxford and Aberdeen Universities and have always maintained a strong interest in education and continuing professional development.

**Steven Larcombe (Foundation Governor)**

I have been on the St Marylebone Bridge School Governing Body since March 2014. I spent my working life in the oil and gas industry working on exploration and development projects around the world, mainly in commercial negotiations and general management. I am now chairman of a software start-up company and treasurer of a small local charity. I am also a governor of the St Marylebone School where I chair the Finance and Premises Committee and the Audit Committee.

**Siri Lewis (Parent Governor)**

I was born and raised in Norway but have lived in the UK last 30 years. I have a BSc in Business Administration from Bath University. Most of my professional life I have worked for PepsiCo in various commercial, new business and product development roles, both in the UK and internationally.

I am passionate about education and believe that every child should have the opportunity to encounter a stimulating, nurturing and enjoyable school environment to maximise their potential.

I am married to Chris and have 3 children, all in secondary education, one of whom attends the school. I am delighted to be a parent governor and want to help set the school's agenda, liaise with the governing body and the Head to ensure parents views are heard and incorporated in the school plan and actions. It is important to me to create an environment whereby each child is valued and develops their self-esteem and confidence, so that they can excel academically and become independent young people. I am proud to be part of the school community.

**Eliza Low** (*Foundation Governor*)

I work as a music consultant, mostly producing scores for film and theatre, and as a composer and opera producer. I previously worked as a print journalist. I am a trustee of The Classical Road Show, which commissions and produces orchestral works for participatory concerts for primary schools and runs a 'Front Row Project' for Secondary Schools to encourage music appreciation and concert going. I am the Kensington Deanery representative on the LDBS (London Diocesan Board for Schools) and have a keen interest in education and in the arts. As a governor I want to ensure that the Bridge school continues to enrich its students' lives, delivering the best possible offer and broad education.

**Kate Miller** (*Head of School*)

I am a trained drama teacher and specialist Dyslexia teacher. I have been working at Marylebone Girls school since 2008 and joined the Bridge school in its first year of opening. I am passionate about education and ensuring that all pupils reach their full potential. Being part of the Governing body allows me to understand all aspects of the school as a teacher, a governor and Head of School.

**Margaret Mountford** (*Chairman of Governors – Co-opted representative*)

I was partner in a major City law firm specialising in corporate, corporate finance and commercial work until I went back to university to study Classics. I have been a non-executive director on a number of public company boards and am now Chairman of Argent Foods Limited, a major UK food group in private ownership. I am also Chairman of governors at Marylebone Boys School and a trustee of two charities in the Classics field.

**Kat Pugh** (*Executive Headteacher*)

I trained as a teacher of English and Drama at Cambridge University, following my degree studies there in English Literature. I then worked in business, communications and international development, spending a year working in Malawi running a community health and education project using theatre and story-telling. On return to the UK and the charity sector, I began working in schools and chose to begin my teaching career in a large comprehensive school in Croydon. I came to St Marylebone two years later as a teacher of English and Head of Year. In 2009 I joined the Senior Leadership Team, during which time I collaborated in the bid for St Marylebone to open The St Marylebone CE Bridge School, a Special Free School. When appointed Headteacher at St Marylebone in January 2014, I also became the Executive Headteacher of The St Marylebone CE Bridge School. In this capacity, I give strategic direction and support to the Head of School and team, am the most immediately on-hand educational resource and link to the St Marylebone Teaching School Alliance and am very pleased to serve on the Governing Body.

**Alistair Watson** (*Foundation Governor*)

State educated, I trained as a teacher after graduation but feeling I lacked a sense of vocation the profession demanded took a different direction, first in government service, mainly with the Royal Navy and then in the legal industry as partnership secretary in a leading City law firm. On retirement at the end of 2017, I wanted to try to repay in some way what I owed for the opportunities provided to me through education. I am a Foundation Governor of The St Marylebone CE School. I am also a member of an Academy Trust with schools in Poplar and Ipswich as well as a Trustee of the Royal British Legion Industries and a Pilotlighter.