Diane Mulley – Chair of Governors

I am currently Headteacher at a local Primary School having moved to Spalding in 2003, from the North East of England where I began my teaching career with KS2 children. A teacher for over 20 years, I have taught in a number of schools in Middlesbrough, Darlington and more recently Spalding, and have held a number of leadership posts during this time.
I became a Parent Governor at the High School in 2014, having been a Governor at the school where I work for a number of years. More recently, I have been co-opted to the Governing Board. I am passionate about education and want the best for every child – their time at school is crucial if they are to realise their potential and develop key social and life skills. Being a Governor allows me to play a further part in this beyond my own school.

Miles Dunnett – Vice-chair of Governors

I have lived in Spalding for 20 years and have three girls; two in year 9 at Spalding High School and one who started at University in 2026 after successful results achieved at the High School. I stepped out of a London based Executive Director role to balance my time between work and family, and now work for myself from home. I am an Independent Director working on large shopping centres; for example in Birmingham, Cardiff, Paris and Peterborough, often to assist when they find themselves under financial and operational distress. I have previously been a Governor at an inner London Secondary School, where I was Chair of the Finance and Property sub-committee during a large build project. I am used to a school environment and the incredible pressures on staff, and eager to help Spalding High School staff and students wherever possible.

Michele Anderson – Headteacher

Teaching is both a privilege and an inspiring, deeply rewarding career. It is a profession that I have thoroughly enjoyed since qualifying in the late 1980s. Throughout my career, I have taught in five very different schools: an inner-London comprehensive school, non-selective and boys' grammar schools in Kent, and, more recently, girls' and boys' grammar schools in Lincolnshire. I was appointed Headteacher of Spalding High School in April 2014 and, since September 2024, have also served as Executive Headteacher of Spalding Grammar School. I relocated to Lincolnshire with my husband and daughter, who attended the High School. While I still see myself first and foremost as a classroom teacher, I also firmly believe that headship is the best job in the world. Our students are positive, vibrant, and fully engaged in all aspects of school life, supported by a committed and supportive parent community. Our Governors are dedicated advocates for the School, and our staff are experienced, enthusiastic professionals who are passionate about our students' success and wellbeing. Together, we share a strong belief in supporting, challenging, and inspiring every young person to achieve their full potential.

Jon Blackbourn – Associate Member

I started as Assistant Headteacher in September 2015 but have been in teaching for fifteen years. During that time, I was Head of two departments at another local school (MFL & ICT) and my background is modern languages. My specialism is German and I used to work as a translator. I grew up in Spalding where I now live with my wife and two children.

Caroline Cunnington – Co-opted Governor

A Community Governor originally at Spalding High School since 2002, I am a partner in Mossop & Bowser Solicitors. I specialise in making wills and powers of attorney, the administration of estates, trusts and tax planning and advising the elderly on their affairs. I am an “old girl” of the school and enjoy giving

something back to the school where I spent many happy years. I live in Gedney Dyke with my husband and have a son who is now an adult and has left home.

Jill Ellis – Parent Governor

I am a Senior Lecturer and Programme Lead at the National Centre for Food Manufacturing (NCFM), Holbeach, part of the University of Lincoln. Before moving into higher education, I spent 20 years working in the food manufacturing industry.
Student engagement, wellbeing and achievement are central to my work, and I am passionate about supporting learners to reach their full potential. My daughter is currently in the Sixth Form at the High School, and I have seen first-hand the positive impact the school has on its students. She is thriving and has been well supported throughout her time at the school.
As a Governor, I am committed to supporting both the Governing Body and the school, drawing on my experience in education, leadership and industry to contribute to the continued success and development of the school community.

Russell Gregory – Co-opted Governor

I am a recently appointed Co-opted Governor at Spalding High School and look forward to contributing to such a highly regarded and reputable school. My daughter has now left the sixth form and moved onto an apprenticeship. During her time at Spalding High School she received fantastic support from every member of the teaching and support staff along with other pupils within the school, I have an in-depth property and business background, and was a partner within a local property company for the majority of my career. Part of my role was as a Domestic Energy Assessor specialising in residential properties of all ages.

Robert Hempsall – Staff Governor

Although only appointed as Staff Governor in June 2024, I have worked at the High School since I started here in September 2014 as a Newly Qualified Teacher! In more recent years, I have also been appointed as both Head of PSHE and Head of History at the High School. I have experience working as an examiner for both GCSE and A-Level History. As Staff Governor, I am involved in the Standards Committee and the Full Governing Board Meetings. I live in Spalding with my wife and our two pet rabbits.

Ben Love – Associate Member

I joined Spalding High School in September 2018 as Assistant Headteacher. Prior to this, I taught for sixteen years at Spalding Grammar School, during which time I held various positions of responsibility at pastoral, departmental and senior leadership levels, including Head of Law and Director of Sixth Form Studies.
In my current role, my responsibilities encompass the development of teaching and learning, performance appraisal, CPD and staff training, the support and mentoring of ECTs and ITT students and main school pastoral care. I also continue to teach A Level Law, which keeps me closely connected to the classroom and to the day-to-day experience of our students.
I am passionate about education as a transformative force, believing firmly that it provides individuals with the autonomy and flexibility to shape their own lives and make meaningful choices about their futures. This conviction is also deeply personal - my step-daughter attended Spalding High School and benefitted greatly from its exceptional pastoral care and high-quality teaching, giving me a first-hand appreciation of what makes this school a truly special place to learn.
As Associate Member of the Governing Body, I bring both professional expertise and genuine personal investment to my role, with a particular focus on teaching and learning, staff development and the wellbeing of students.

Pauline Makepeace – Co-opted Governor

Although born and educated in South Lincolnshire I have only lived here again since 2020. I studied law in Newcastle upon Tyne but then having had enough of working with my head I spent a year working with my hands, making furniture. I never wanted to enter the legal profession, so my next move was to spend 4 years using my legal knowledge working in project management/contract administration for a structural engineering firm. In one of the many downturns in the construction industry I moved on to train as a teacher in further education. Once qualified, I spent the next 34 years lecturing construction and property law first at Reading College of Technology and then at the College of Estate Management based at the University of Reading. In moving back to South Lincolnshire the plan was to enjoy my retirement, but in practice I find myself just as busy as I ever was with work for educational institutions, professional bodies and commercial undertakings. In October 2021 I became a governor at Spalding Grammar School and then in June 2026 I also became a governor at Spalding High School. I was happy to take up these roles being one of three sisters who attended SHS with 2 brothers who attended SGS.

Lara Ray – Associate Member

I joined Spalding High School in 1995 as a PE teacher and then started the Head of PE role in 1997. I am currently an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for safeguarding and student and community oversight. I feel it is a privilege to work with such wonderful colleagues and pupils and that is probably why I have spent my whole teaching career at the School! I thoroughly enjoy being part of the School Governing Body as well.

Julian Smith – Co-opted Governor

I began in September 2003 as a Staff Governor and became a Co-opted Governor in 2015. Prior to being employed at the School, I worked in industry dealing with large high street retailers in both a sales and procurement role. Following this, I was offered the chance of a newly created position in a rapidly developing IT department. During this time I project managed a number of large IT infrastructure installations, gained experience of managing budgets and Health & Safety within the workplace. In addition to my role as IT Manager at the School, I have become actively involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, supporting both Bronze and Gold level expeditions.

Tanya Waldron – Associate Member

I joined Spalding High School in September 2000 as Head of Biology. Prior to this, I taught for six years at The Robert Manning School (Bourne Academy). During my time at SHS I have held positions of responsibility at pastoral, departmental and senior leadership level. I was appointed to the post of Deputy Headteacher in September 2015 and my current responsibilities include whole school pastoral oversight, data analysis, examinations and timetable development. I am an Associate Member of the Governing Body and attend all Committee Meetings.