



Diverse  
Academies



THE  
**HOLGATE**  
ACADEMY

## Governor pen portraits

### **Kate Turner, Chair of Governors**



Kate Turner. Kate is Chair of Governors and an ex secondary school teacher. She has three children who all previously attended The Holgate Academy. Kate works part time for a local marketing company. She is a volunteer for the local swimming club and her hobbies (when she isn't at Holgate!) are attending Rock Choir and the outdoor environment.

### **Paul Saint, Vice Chair of Governors**



Paul is Vice Chair of Governors and previously worked for 37 years within the police and criminal justice areas and has extensive experience in business change, development, project management and performance improvement. He is a firm believer in the not only providing the best academic education possible for our youngsters, but in providing them with the life skills and ambition to seek and make the best of the opportunities and challenges that life offers. He is a resident of Hucknall and a former pupil of Holgate. He has five children, two of whom previously attended Holgate and one who is still a pupil.

### **Sue Tongue**



Sue Tongue is H&S, GDPR Governor and the Complaints Governor. She recently retired from a long career with Nottingham City Council which included many years in senior positions in the City Treasurer's and Development departments and is a lifelong Hucknall resident. Sue is the treasurer and a trustee of Nottingham Women's Aid as well as Treasurer of the Hucknall Flower Arranging Group and the East Midlands Orchid Society. Her hobbies are flower arranging, visiting the theatre and reading. Sue is also enjoying the opportunity to travel since her retirement



### **Trevor Clay**

Trevor is an ex-pupil. Now retired from his post as Principal, Chesterfield College, Trevor lives in Hucknall and is also a Governor at New College Nottingham. He is the treasurer at Watnall Road Baptist Church and a trustee of Hucknall and District Voluntary Sector Partnership, helping with the food bank and furniture project based at Under One Roof on Vine Terrace. As well as these things he also finds time to play plenty of golf.



### **Sheila Clarke**

Sheila is a retired teacher and worked at The Holgate Academy as Head of Girls' PE from 1975-1981. She taught Humanities at Kimberley School and was Head of Year.

She has had the opportunity during her career to meet and share ideas with staff from other schools and has a particular interest in the Pastoral System which she feels underpins the framework which the school provides to enable children to reach their full potential.



### **Julia Dickens**

Julia's daughter is a student at Holgate and became a governor to become involved in the school and to use her experience to support the continuing improvements being made by the Leadership Team.

She has worked as a Primary Teacher within Nottingham City schools for 17 years and has spent the last two years as a Head of School in Bulwell. Her passion is innovative teaching and learning to engage students and she understands the potential social and economic barriers to achievement. In her free time she enjoys travelling and watching live music.



### **Heather Widdup, Senior Principal**

Heather Widdup joined The Holgate Academy as Senior Principal in September 2019. Her previous role was as Principal of Retford Oaks Academy, leading the Academy to GOOD in all areas following its previous RI judgement. Heather was brought up and went to school in Nottingham so knows the area well, and she still spends a lot of her spare time at various sporting venues in and around the city. Heather is looking forward to working with Academy leaders to ensure that, as a minimum, The Holgate Academy is returned to its GOOD status in the very near future.



### **Matt Pennington, Principal**

Matt Pennington is the Principal at Holgate Academy. His 20-year career in education has been firmly rooted in an empathetic and pastoral approach with a focus on academic progression for all abilities. Before moving to Nottinghamshire Matt was a Senior Leader in Merseyside predominantly focused on raising standards in Mathematics, a subject that he still believes can often be the key to raising aspiration and engagement. He moved to Nottinghamshire in 2016 with his wife and two young sons. He is an ex rugby player who hates to admit to supporting Everton Football Club but now enjoys running, tennis and the occasional round of golf.

### **Phil Bailey**

Phil as a member of the local community and a former pupil of The Holgate School has been involved with the school for many years in his role providing technical and marketing support. He has been a governor at Holgate for nine years and enjoys the opportunity to challenge, support and promote the school to help raise the standards of education of pupils within the Hucknall community. Phil is Link Governor for careers.