

# Shirebrook Academy

Principal: Lindsey Burgin BA (Hons) PGCE, MA  
Chair of Governors: Mike McDermott  
Executive Principal: Rebecca Hibberd BEd (Hons), MA  
CEO: Rebecca Scutt BSc (Hons) PGCE



Vice Principals  
Lindsay Ward BA (Hons) PGCE  
Damian O'Reilly BA (Hons) NPQSL

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29 February 2024

## PARENT/CARER GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE ELECTION

Upon reaching the closing date for nominations for a Parent/Carer Governor Representative, the academy had received two nominations, therefore, an election needs to take place, and the purpose of this letter is to inform parents/carers of their right to vote and the procedures we will follow.

Attached to this letter you will find a copy of a personal statement which has been supplied by each nominee to help you decide for whom you will vote. The voting method will be by Microsoft form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/xXm1aeJ6Aa?origin=lprLink>

Each parent/carers is allowed one vote. Should any parent/carers not be able to access this way of voting please contact Belinda Henson at [BHenson@shirebrookacademy.org](mailto:BHenson@shirebrookacademy.org)



**The voting process will close at 3pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

The counting of the votes cast will take place on the afternoon of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at Shirebrook Academy and all candidates will be informed of the result prior to all parents/carers being informed of the result by 10am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Should parents/carers wish to view the ACET Governor Role description then please visit:

<https://www.astonctrust.org/attachments/download.asp?file=8&type=pdf> This is the role description that was available to candidates prior to nominating themselves; this description has very recently been updated in order to provide further clarity to the different Local Governing Body roles. The revised version is also available on the ACET website: <https://www.astonctrust.org/attachments/download.asp?file=165&type=pdf>

Please be advised that there is currently one parent/carers governor representative vacancies on the Shirebrook Academy Local Governing Body.

Yours sincerely,

**Mike McDermott**  
Chair of Governors



**All adults in school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.**

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## PARENT / CARER GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE ELECTION

March 2024

*(Personal Statement One) Kate Sheppard*

*(Personal Statement Two) Kelly Flinn*

### PERSONAL STATEMENT ONE – Kate Sheppard

#### Why would you like to become a governor?

I have two children at Shirebrook Academy, in Years 7 and 8, and I am eager to contribute to the school to ensure positive outcomes for them, and all pupils, through the role of parent governor. I am currently a co-opted governor at Anthony Bek Primary School, having started as a parent governor 7 years ago and being the Safeguarding lead for the last 4 years and I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the governing body there.

I am aware of the importance of acting as a 'critical friend' to the school, supporting policies to ensure the school is best equipped to provide the education and development of pupils, making certain there is accountability and representing the school in a positive manner.

I am currently self-employed and although I happily do this single-handedly, I relish the opportunity to work as part of a team and gain a better understanding of Shirebrook Academy as well as voicing my considered opinion on relevant matters.

#### What skills can you bring to the role?

Before I started my own business, I worked for a major communications company for 14 years. I have very good communication and organizational skills. I have successfully managed people for many years, in small teams and entire call centres both in the UK and abroad. I have worked in roles such as Client Relationship Management, Business Improvement, Project Management, Data Analysis, Customer Services Management, Process & Procedure development, Training Design and Delivery.

I have volunteered in my local community in Childrens Centres running playgroups and running Sunday Club sessions at church. I am currently on St Michael's (Pleasley) Parochial Church Council. I take an active role in organizing fundraising and social events for St Michael's.

As I am self-employed, I do all my own marketing, accounting, scheduling, and customer relations work, managing my time effectively around many family commitments.



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## PERSONAL STATEMENT TWO – Kelly Flinn

### Why would you like to become a governor?

I have previously considered applying to be a governor but have not been in a position until now to be able to fully commit to the role. My personal circumstances have changed, which means I would now be able to commit to the role and be able to put in the time and effort to support the academy to achieve its vision, mission and values.

I have experience in accessing higher education and have worked in both the public and private sector, with the last 20+ years working in the charity sector (mental health). Working in mental health has highlighted to me how important it is for children and young people to get the best start that they possible can in life and have access to education and positive social environments, so that as adults they have the skills and personal resilience to thrive and positively contribute to their communities.

Although we are now all operate in a post Covid world the impact of the pandemic is still evident in those that were hardest hit, including children and young people and I am keen to see attendance and engagement levels increase and look something like they did pre-pandemic, if not even better.

I was born and raised in Shirebrook and after living and working in other places during my 20's and 30's and I chose to come back to Shirebrook in my 40's to settle as I have a genuine love for the community and local area. I am happy to offer my skills and experience to the academy and to help drive improvement so that both staff and students can thrive in a safe, diverse and positive environment to achieve their full potential.

### What skills can you bring to the role?

I am an organised and methodical person that is used to reading and processing complex information, managing facilities and budgets and reporting on outcomes. I have direct experience in governance functioning as an Integrated Governance Officer for 5 years for a large, national mental health charity. I have also worked as a Quality and Compliance Officer for 6 years, which means I have extensive auditing, contract monitoring, health and safety and service improvement experience.

As part of my current role (Development Officer) safeguarding adults and children training is a mandatory minimum requirement and I was recently involved in the review and development of our safeguarding policies and e-learning offer (for staff) so am up to date on current regulatory requirements. My current role also includes developing and implementing resources to support staff and managers to procure new business, retaining existing contracts and to access funding opportunities.

I am a friendly, open-minded and approachable person that is able to communicate well both verbally and in written form and have received ACAS accredited negotiation skills training. I am experienced in working with partners, stakeholders and experts by experience on both small and large projects and recognise the value in collaborative working to achieve positive outcomes.



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