



SECAT Trust Board

The Trustees have a four-year term of office and are responsible for:

- Ensuring the quality of educational provision
- Challenging and monitoring performance
- Managing finances and property
- Managing the Principals
- Ensuring compliance with charity and company law
- Ensuring operation in accordance with the Funding Agreement

Ruth Brock^{1,2,3} (SECAT CEO) – Ex-Officio

- **Appointed Trustee from 1st September 2018**
- Previously an HMI (Her Majesty's Inspector) for Ofsted, School Improvement Partner and Primary School Headteacher
- Previously Chair of Essex Heads' Association
- Bachelor of Education Degree & Masters in Education Management

Karen Dovaston (Chair)

- **Appointed 16th June 2020**
- Solicitor, admitted to Roll on 1 September 1995, specialising in Family Law
- Owner and founder of Dovaston Law, solicitor's practice, based in Southend on Sea
- Family Law arbitrator and member of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Vice Chair of Forum of Family Arbitrators, the national voice of arbitrators
- Member of Resolution, family solicitors' special interest group
- Contributor in focus groups to the Pension Advisory Group
- Law Society accredited specialist
- Mentor for Southend Borough Council 60 Minute Mentor Project
- Early Years Professional Status
- Member of Academy Committee of Shoeburyness High School
- Member and past president of BNI Coastal, Southend business networking group

Robin Knight^{2,3} (Vice Chair)

- **Appointed Trustee from 1st September 2016**
- Employed in the IT service sector
- Founding member of the Shoebury Educational Partnership
- Local Governor supporting the Southend Schools Governors Association

Simon Gush³ (Chair of Resources Committee)

- **Appointed 28th April 2020**
- Associate Director in public sector
- Experience in HR and finance
- Background includes working for organisations in professional services, technology and financial services

Stephen Chamberlain^{1,2} (Chair of the Personnel and Pay Committee)

- **Appointed 16th June 2020**
- MA, BA(Hons), NPQH, PGCE(Mus), MloD, FCMI, FCCT, FRSA, NLG
- CEO of the Active Learning Trust and a DfE designated National Leader of Governance
- Has extensive experience in education as a Headteacher, Executive Headteacher and as Director of Education for the East of England for a large Multi Academy Trust
- Worked as an advisor for Essex County Council, as a school inspector and as Chair of a Local Governing Body for a maintained primary school
- A Member for the Astrea Academies Trust
- Facilitator and Design Partner for Ambition School Leadership delivering sessions for the National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership (NPQEL) qualification and on the Executive Leaders/Leading Several Schools Programmes
- Also delivers programmes on human resource management in education for the UCL Institute of Education/Deloitte MAT Leaders Executive Programme
- Chair of the Expert Reference Group for NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs) on 'Every Leader a Leader of SEND' and is the author of their publication: 'Demonstrating Inclusion'
- Writes articles and blogs for a number of educational publications and forums including the Confederation of School Trusts
- A finalist in the Institute of Directors 'Director of the Year' Awards 2019 where he was 'highly commended'
- Classically trained musician and orchestral conductor and has travelled all over the world to perform and conduct.

Doreen Ellis^{1,2} (Chair of the Curriculum & Pupil Matters Committee)

- **Appointed 16th June 2020**
- Over 26 years experience in education
- Qualified teacher with experience in Secondary, Primary, Mainstream, Alternative Provision and Special Schools.
- Bachelor of Arts Degree & Masters in Education Degree

Caroline Skingle³ (Vice Chair of the Resources Committee)

- **Appointed 13th August 2020**
- Work background reflects a diversity of varied departments, including School Finance, P/A (Admin and Inclusion), Finance/Banking – which includes Collections, Debt Recovery Management and Fraud
- Has always worked around money and finance. Worked in a number of schools and businesses always around finance. Last role was in SECAT as a Finance Office for a limited period of time and is shortly due to begin a new role at The Brentwood School
- Enjoys education so as well as a new job, starting a new course for an accountancy qualification

- Has been married for 29 years and has 3 children aged 19,21 and 23.
- Enjoyed working at SECAT in the Finance Office and look forward to this next challenge.

Riz Malik¹

- **Appointed 28th September 2020**

¹ Personnel & Pay Committee member

² Curriculum & Pupil Matters Committee member

³ Resources Committee member

Previous Trust Board Members

Susan Rollason² (Chair of Curriculum & Pupil Matters Committee)

- **Appointed Trustee from 8th November 2018** (Resigned 31st December 2020)
- Business Manager Safeguarding Children's Board
- Previously a Headteacher/Acting Headteacher

Brian Sandford¹ (Chair of Pay & Personnel Committee)

- **Co-opted Trustee from 2/10/2017** (Resigned 3rd October 2020)
- Over 50 years' experience in education
- A qualified teacher and former secondary school Headteacher.
- Education Director for one of the Great Twelve City of London Livery Companies
- Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Skinners
- Freeman of the City of London
- Chair of Academy Committee of Bournes Green Junior School
- Interim Chair of Academy Committee of Bournes Green Infant School & Richmond Avenue Primary School & Nursery
- General Secretary and Trustee of the European Association of Teachers
- Experience of delivering management and governance training

Peter Melville^{1,3} (Vice-Chair of Trust Board and Chair of Resources Committee)

Co-opted Trustee from 1/9/2016 (End of Term 31st August 2020)

- Chief Operating Officer for the South West Essex Community Education Trust
- Business & finance Director for William Edwards School, Essex.
- Background in community and project development work before moving into school business and financial management
- Expertise in academy conversions, business and finance, marketing and governance
- Specialist Leader of education and an Associate Practitioner for the National Association of School Business Management
- Founded Incensu, designed to support schools with procurement decisions
- Governor of two primary schools

Maurice Sweeting

- Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016 (Resigned 22nd May 2020)
- Currently retired, taking on volunteer roles within the Education sector
- Chair of the Southend Education Board
- 34-year career within the Ministry of Defence posted to 37 Countries.
- Secondment to the Council of Civil Service Unions ending as Secretary. Delivered the negotiation of all issues relating to employment and employees within the Civil Service.
- Joined the MOD Defence Academy to deliver a MA programme to senior UK and overseas students.
- Experienced school governor in infant, primary and secondary phases

Michelle Palles-Clark²

- **Appointed Trustee from 8/11/2018** (Resigned 15th May 2020)
- Lived in community for over 35 years.
- Two sons, both attended MAT schools.
- Medically retired from Insurance sector in London.
- Past Local Governor at Shoeburyness High School. Chair of Pupil Welfare and Curriculum as well as lead on Safeguarding.
- Currently Local Governor at another primary school in borough.
- Passionate about pastoral care as well as high levels of education.

Angela Savill^{1,2}

- **Appointed Trustee from 4/6/19** (Resigned 4th March 2020)
- An experienced serving Primary Headteacher
- Local Leader in Education
- Ofsted Inspector
- Previously School Improvement Partner/Advisor
- Bachelor of Education Degree (Hons)

Simon Goodall^{2,3}

- **Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 1st December 2019)
- Retired teacher
- Chair of Governors at Shoeburyness High School
- Worked for Leicestershire Education authority as IT consultant
- Church warden at South Shoebury Church of England Parish

Elizabeth Farrell¹

- **Co-opted Trustee from 27/03/2019** (Resigned 29th August 2019)
- Over 20 years' experience in Human Resources across a number of sectors
- 15 years' experience supporting educational establishments including MATs, colleges etc. on a range of people related matters and change management

Pam Dewey¹

- **Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 5th June 2019)
- Teacher of MfL for over 30 years
- Previously hospital governor
- Oversaw the amalgamation of a local Infants and primary school and the purchase of the private pre-school
- Sits on the Independent Appeals Panel for admissions and exclusions in Southend, Thurrock and Essex
- Vice Chair of the Southend School Governors Association for nine years
- Founding member of the Shoebury Educational Partnership
- On the committee of Southend Children's University having set it up three years ago

Graham Lane^{1,3}

- **Co-opted Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 5th June 2019)
- Prior to retirement in 2008 was a partner in a top thirty London firm of Chartered Accountants handling a portfolio of clients and managing 150 staff
- Governor for 18 years
- Instrumental in the merger of Thorpedene junior school with the adjacent infant school

- Involved in the setting up of a Nurture Base with Southend Local Authority and a member of the steering group until 2015

Graham Reeder² (Primary Education)

- **Co-opted Trustee from 2nd October 2017** (Resigned 18th March 2019)
- A qualified teacher and former primary school Deputy Headteacher
- 10 years in private business
- Previously School Inspector for Independent Schools Association
- Local Governor
- Secretary of Westcliff-on-Sea Rotary Club
- Experience of industry, education and working in the community

Mark House¹ (Business, Finance & Marketing)

- **Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 6th December 2018)
- Over 25 years in professional and financial services firms in senior and operational roles
- Previously Executive Director at Coutts Bank
- Provides advice and expertise with leaders of global professional and financial services firm
- Range of experience from digital, to client, to operational design and delivery
- Local governor
- Trustee and director of a national young person's association

Mark Schofield¹ Chief Executive Officer (Education and Leadership)

- **Ex-officio from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 31st August 2018)
- Head Teacher of Shoeburyness High School since 2009 during which time there have been two letters of commendation from the Secretary of State for being one of the 'Most Improved Schools' in the country.
- Last two Ofsted inspections have been graded Good with Outstanding
- Executive Head Teacher at Cecil Jones College from January 2014 to February 2015
- Led the bid team that made Shoeburyness High School the first specialist school in Southend Borough

Christine Gosling² (Safeguarding & Community) (Chair of Audit Committee)

- **Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 4th December 2017)
- 36 years' secondary school teaching
- Advanced Skills Teacher status
- 10 years Deputy Headteacher
- 8 years as Head of school which she set up for a National Foster Care Group
- Voluntary work with local charity with special needs children and adults (20 years)
- Setting up projects within the community - current project involved in the community hub being set up in West Road/ Little Free Library project to encourage literacy and reading in more deprived areas
- School Governor at Shoeburyness High School with responsibility for training, Governor Observations, Special Educational Needs

David Parker² (Leadership)

- **Appointed Trustee from 1/9/2016** (Resigned 8th December 2017)
- 22 years' military service as senior member of Special Investigation Branch

