

## Preston Manor School Governors: 2017- 18



### **Donald Palmer (Chair) (Curriculum and Teaching Committee; Link Governor for Science)**

Donald lives in Brent and joined the governing body in 2005, and is currently Chair of Governors. Donald's background is in Higher Education having worked at various universities for almost 20 years. He is currently an Associate Professor in Immunology at the Royal Veterinary College, University of London and also an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Imperial College. He teaches on several undergraduate and postgraduate courses and conducts research in the area of immunology. Donald is passionate about education, in particular its role in social mobility. He is also a governor at the College of North West London. Donald is co-founder and co-Director of a social enterprise; 'Reach Society' with the purpose of inspiring young people to fulfil their potential and is a Professional Mentor at the Amos Bursary. Donald is highly active in the public understanding of science often giving talks at schools, colleges and to the media.

### **Everton Counsell (Vice Chair) (Resources Committee, Link Governor for English (Reading/Writing) lower school)**

Everton joined the governing body in 2010 and is currently Vice Chair of Governors. Everton has a social services and voluntary sector background and is currently Director of an Arts Charity, which works with and provides services for schools in London. A graduate in Economic and Social Policy from London University, Everton has also raised millions of pounds to establish community projects for and developed by children and young people for which he received an MBE.



### **Jonathan Bach (Chair of Learners Welfare Committee - upper school, Curriculum and Teaching Committee - upper school; Link Governor for Child Protection, SEND and Safeguarding - upper school)**

Jonathan Bach lives in Brent near to PMS and joined the governing body in October 2010. After studying biology at Kings College London he trained as a teacher at the Institute of Education and has always taught in London schools. After a post as Head of Science in Camden, he had seven happy years at Preston Manor as a Deputy Headteacher before being appointed Head of a large 11-18 comprehensive in Hounslow. He then became a Senior Director of the Government's National Strategies leading on Science, Maths, and initial teacher training. He returned to teaching as Head of a small 6-16 school before becoming Director of the Jewish teacher training partnership which trains graduate teachers locally. He also runs and teaches a BA course in education and works with many schools as a school improvement consultant. He is a keen skier, wildlife photographer and tennis player.



**Rachel Baxter**

Rachel always wanted to become a teacher. She first started teaching 13 years ago, her experience includes assignments at a special needs school and military schools in Brunei and Germany. For 4 years now, she has been a primary school teacher at Preston Manor Lower School and the lead for science in the lower school. Rachel became a staff governor to provide a link between staff and the governing body, to provide the governing body with an insight into the schools activities, an understanding of the school's ethos and culture as well as a close, professional knowledge of its strengths and weaknesses.



**Badrun Chowdhury (Curriculum and Learners Welfare Committees – lower school and upper school)**

Badrun joined Preston Manor All through school as a parent governor in 2012 and have children in both the upper and lower school. She is also treasurer of the Lower School's Parent Teacher Association. Badrun holds a diploma in computing, a BSc honours degree in Biochemistry from UCL and worked as a Biochemistry researcher. Her passion for education and young people has led her to train to become a Chemistry teacher. Previously Badrun was been involved with a number of organisations including Age Concern, Oxfam, Advocacy for disabled people, and Oxfam and more recently European Council for Mosque, Great Ormond Street Hospital and UNICEF.



**Sandra Eismann (Resources Committee)**

Sandra lives in Brent and joined the governing body in March 2017. Sandra's background is in developing strategy and policy for the health service. She has been working in the NHS for over 15 years, aiming to improve services for patients. Sandra is accredited as a coach, supporting colleagues in the NHS. She became a school governor to support Preston Manor in providing the best possible education for students. Sandra is also a member of the Social Care Research and Ethics Committee, and an active member of the alumni network for the London School of Economics.



**Louise Ishani (Learners Welfare – upper school, Curriculum and Learners Welfare – lower school)**

Louise is the Head of National Programmes at Ambition School Leadership, transforming disadvantaged areas by building networks of exceptional school leaders. Louise has been working in teaching and school improvement since undertaking her PGCE in Primary Education at the University of Greenwich. Her area of expertise is leadership development and raising the achievement of underperforming groups of pupils. Louise joined the Governing Body at Preston Manor in 2016 as a partnership governor Louise enjoys travel and the arts.



**Edward Kafka (Learners Welfare Committee – upper school and lower school, Joint Governors and Staff Committee)**

Edward joined the governing body in 2005, having retired from the Civil Service at the end of 2004. Having studied economics and statistics at the London School of Economics, he spent his working life as a professional statistician mostly in the field of transport statistics, but with spells dealing with planning, local government expenditure and housing statistics. He spent three years on secondment in Luxemburg working on transport statistics for the Statistical Office of the European Commission. Since retirement Edward has served on the board of various voluntary bodies. He has always taken a keen interest in education, initially as a parent living in Brent, and latterly as a grandparent.



**Susan Lawrence (Resources Committee)**

Susan joined Preston Manor's Governing Body in 2003, initially as a Parent Governor and later became a Community Governor. She is currently Chair of Resources. Susan has worked in Brent for over 30 years having started her teaching career in a 4 form entry primary school. She has been a Head teacher for over 16 years and sits on the Strategic Management Board of The Brent Schools Partnership. She has a passion for the role education has to play in shaping outcomes for children and young people. She is committed to the notion of excellence; encouraging young people to strive to be the best they can whilst ensuring equality of outcomes. "Being part of the Preston Manor Governing Body is both exciting and rewarding. All the staff are incredibly hard working and constantly look for ways to inspire the pupils with their learning and ambitions. The Governing Body act as the school's 'critical friend' and because of our wide skill set and experience, it is possible to view issues from various perspectives. With everyone from every part of the school sharing the same vision, we are a cohesive and successful team!"

**Vivek Luthra (Chair of Resources Committee) (Link Governor for Maths - upper school)**

Vivek is a former pupil of Preston Manor. After reconnecting with the school at its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, he decided to become a governor. Vivek's memories of school are one of a fun and varied education, where his work ethic and love for sport were fostered. The latter developed into an interest in managing and training a local boys' football team. He believes his time at school gave him the life skills which enabled him to thrive in many organisations, from his time as a student at Cambridge University, to his twenty years in the financial markets working in some of the world's leading institutions. Vivek brings his vast experience outside of education to bear on his role as governor. He is passionate about giving children the tools to fulfil their potential in an ever more competitive world, and wants to ensure Preston Manor continues to be a school where academic success flows naturally from its excellent pastoral care.



**Kinna Patel (Curriculum and Learners Welfare – lower school; Link Governor for Teaching and Learning/ Most Able/ Pupil Premium)**

Kinna has been a Partnership Governor at Preston Manor for just under a year. As a former student, the school is close to her heart and she wanted to ensure that each pupil had as fulfilling an experience as she did. Kinna believes school years can be some of the toughest for any child and so it takes a strong network of Teachers, Governors and Support Staff to encourage pupils to believe they can do anything they put their minds to. She studied Economics at the University of Manchester and is currently working for a Private Bank. She has experience in both Corporate and Private Banking and her role involves managing debt products as well as project delivery. She hopes to use all her experience to 'give back to a wonderful school that truly cares about the success and well-being of all its pupils'.



**Kamar Rahman**



**Deborah Sloan (Learners Welfare – upper school, Curriculum and Teaching – upper school) (Link governor for Sixth Form)**

Deborah joined the governing body in November 2016. Deborah is a qualified language teacher and is passionate about ensuring all pupils get the best education to allow them to make informed choices about life after school. Since leaving the classroom, she has been working at an education charity supporting and developing PGCE and NQT teachers and now programme manages a teacher training programme. Deborah is an accredited coach and loves developing people.



**Suleyman Wellings-Longmore (Learners Welfare Committee – upper school)**

Suleyman lives in Harlesden and was a student at Preston Manor between 2002 and 2009 before reading Philosophy at the University of Leeds, graduating with First Class Honours in 2013. He then went on to take his law conversion and Legal Practice Course at BPP Law School. He has recently started work as a trainee solicitor at Allen and Overy LLP. Suleyman joined the governing body in July 2017 with a view to ensuring as many students at Preston Manor receive the best quality education, career support and key skill development. Suleyman is also a member of the council of St Paul's Cathedral.