

Amar Shah

I have been lucky enough to be on the governing board for just over 5 years ago (as of Sept 24); I've been co-Chair for the last couple of years and sole chair for this last academic year as we've moved into being part of a Multi academy trust.

My two girls are students at the two Henleaze schools with one at the Juniors and one in her final year at the Infant school; it's been a great privilege to help behind the scenes on the school's strategy and direction as they've progressed through their years here.

My background is in healthcare and business, putting this to use in an education and a public sector setting has certainly been a steep learning curve but one I'd encourage anyone to get involved with!

Louise Walton

Since my childhood days of taking the register to see if all of my teddies and dolls were present, I have always had a real love for and interest in the world of education. I have been a Modern Languages secondary school teacher for nineteen years and have been head of department for sixteen years. I have enjoyed nurturing and improving outcomes for a wide range of young people in comprehensive, grammar and independent schools. I have seen first-hand how a supportive yet appropriately challenging relationship with the governing body can help to enhance the professionals within a school and therefore the day-to-day lives of the children. I run the Learning and Teaching group in my current school, showing my commitment to lifelong learning and self-reflection.

Jude Bramton

I am currently a Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Bristol. I have a background in engineering management in industrial as well as outreach education. My husband and I moved to Henleaze in 2020, just around the corner for HIS, and I was really keen to get involved in the local community. For this reason, I volunteered to be a governor. Ultimately, I'm passionate about education, and setting up our children for the best start in life. I am especially interested in getting young people interested and inspired in STEM subjects, as well as initiatives around sustainability and inclusivity.

Emilie Poletto-Lawson

Born and raised in the South West of France, I have been lucky to find a welcoming community in Bristol. I started my professional life as a French language assistant at university and in schools to try to get my head around the educative system (I am still working on it and its numerous acronyms!). I am interested in everything teaching and learning and while my day job focuses on higher education at the Institute for Learning and Teaching at the University of Bristol, it is inspiring to hear of the fantastic work taking place at HIS. When not at work or volunteering you will find me sewing, at the allotment and/or trying to keep up with my 21 months old!

Ania Kopel-Hanna

Ania is a co-opted governor, a member of the Curriculum Committee, link governor for attendance, PE, PSHE, RWV, wellbeing, mental health and SEND. Both of Ania's children attended HIS. She strongly believes that inclusion and outstanding education for all children during their infant school years give them the best start in life. Ania is keen to contribute her time and experience to participate in the strategic management of the school and making the school a safe and enjoyable environment for all HIS children