

Governor Pen Portraits

Julia Mead (Headteacher)

Julia has been a member of staff at Moulsham High School for 25 years, becoming Headteacher in 2017. She originally went to the University of Kent to study a joint honours degree in English and history before training to a secondary school English teacher. Julia was previously Head of English, Assistant Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher at Moulsham.

The school is larger and more successful than when Julia first joined it. She is committed to high achievement for all, knowing that this provides students with the best possible life chances at 16 years of age, 18 years of age and beyond. She also places great and equal importance on teaching all learners how to: keep themselves safe; acquire employability skills and develop character so that they are well-rounded and well-prepared for life in the modern world.

Away from school, Julia enjoys walking, cinema and theatre.

Tracey Price (Chair of Governors, Non-Elected Governor)

Tracey has been involved in education most of her life. She is a former primary school teacher, special educational needs teacher, and English and maths tutor for children in care. Tracey has been a governor at Moulsham High School (MHS) since 2010, initially elected as a parent governor. All four of her children have attended MHS.

In May 2024, Tracey was awarded a Doctor of Education by Anglia Ruskin University. Her doctoral thesis explored the connection between school governance and stakeholder voices, focusing on students' perspectives and experiences.

Tracey is passionate about supporting the school's high aspirations for all students, so they flourish academically, personally and socially.

Louise Pearce (Vice-Chair of Governors, Non-Elected Governor)

Louise attended a local high school. She went on to pursue a career as a Speech and Language Therapist; working in the NHS, within schools, and in the Youth Justice service. This has brought invaluable insight into the social and educational lives of young people and has given her the opportunity to work at an operational and strategic level in Health. Louise currently leads the NHS service managing Autism and ADHD assessments in South Essex and consults for independent services carrying out such assessments. With experience in Special Educational Needs, neurodivergence and safeguarding, she endeavours to bring her knowledge and inquisitiveness into her school governance role.

Laura Bell (Parent Governor)

Laura is keen to actively support the school's core values and high aspirations for all children. She is a successful senior barrister practising in London. She has specialised in employment, discrimination and whistleblowing for over 20 years. Laura has experience of advising and representing governing bodies, educational trusts and local authorities in employment disputes, along with clients from a multitude of other sectors. Laura hopes to

bring her professional expertise and also her skills of kindness, listening and strategic thinking to the Governor role. She has three children; her eldest is in Year 8 at MHS.

Away from work Laura enjoys music, walking, theatre and early nights.

Nicola Berkley (Parent Governor)

Nicola is originally from London, and initially studied English Literature at the University of Edinburgh, before completing a Master's in Social Policy at London School of Economics.

During her career Nicola has worked in a variety of policy and research roles, across a range of third sector organisations. In many of these roles she has concentrated on education-related policy. A previous role focused on science education in schools, and in her current position she focuses on universities and higher education policy.

Nicola lives in Chelmsford and has two daughters, who both attend Moulsham High School. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling, reading, theatre & cinema, and swimming.

Rhafi Ahmed (Non-Elected Governor)

Rhafi has been a secondary school teacher for seven years and is currently a Lead Practitioner, focusing on improving whole-school outcomes and supporting high-quality teaching and learning across departments. During their career, Rhafi has led subject areas and served as Head of Year, developing extensive experience in both academic and pastoral leadership.

As a former student of Moulsham High School, Rhafi is proud to now contribute to its continued success as a governor. Living locally in Chelmsford, Rhafi is passionate about ensuring that all students have access to an ambitious and supportive education that enables them to flourish both academically and personally.

Away from school, Rhafi enjoys reading history and visiting volcanoes.

Christina Down (Non-Elected Governor)

Christina studied nursing and then completed her Psychotherapy training. She has extensive experience working in Adult, Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Australia and UK, including the NHS and Children and Families Services, across schools, community, and specialist services, in clinical and strategic roles. This has enabled her to gain valuable insight into the emotional wellbeing of children, young people and their families and individual experiences of those with mental health difficulties.

Christina is Clinical Lead in South Essex Children and Family Services leading a team of mental health professionals, providing mental health assessments, clinical intervention and training, consultations, and clinical supervision for professionals.

Christina is committed to support the school in striving for the wellbeing of all those who are part of the school community.

Matthew Petts (Non-Elected Governor)

Matthew brings over 18 years of experience in the education sector to his role as a school governor. Currently serving as the Director of IT for another local Trust, he combines deep technical expertise with a passion for supporting pupil success. A proud alumnus of Moulsham High School (MHS), Matthew also began his IT career at the school and maintains strong ties to the community. In 2024, he returned to MHS as a governor, focusing on monitoring the Sixth Form. With his professional insight and personal connection to the school, Matthew is dedicated to helping ensure a high-quality education for all pupils.

Ramya Chellamuthu (Co-Opted Governor)

Ramya completed her bachelor's degree in history in India. She is a seasoned professional with over a decade of experience in the travel industry, specialising in business travel. Her background in the fast-paced travel sector has instilled in her a strong work ethic, adaptability, and a customer-centric approach.

Ramya works as a Business Support Administrator in the Adult Social Care team at Essex County Council. Ramya has one child, and he currently attends Moulsham High School. She had been an active member of the PTA at Meadgate Primary School. Having called the UK home for the past six years, Ramya is deeply invested in understanding and contributing to the local community.

Teresa Green (Staff Governor)

Teresa is originally from Kent and, having loved French and Latin at school, went on to study a Joint Honours degree in Modern Foreign Languages at the University of Westminster. Her year abroad took her to Toulouse and Mexico City, and once graduated, she spent several years living and working in the US and Mexico. On returning to the UK, after a stint as a TEFL teacher and a PA at the World Association of Girl Guides and Girls Scouts, she began working for the newly formed European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London as a bilingual PA in the office of the President. Teresa stayed at the EBRD, moving up through the ranks and ending her time there as a Business Development Manager for the US and Latin America. She also studied part-time for an MA in International Relations and European Studies at the University of Kent which she was awarded in 2000.

In 2003 Teresa stepped away from her career to be a full-time Mum. At that time, she carried out part-time consultancy work with small businesses in South East London and qualified as a Business Adviser. She returned to EBRD as a consultant in 2007. When her sons started school at Oaklands Infant School she became a Parent Governor, which sparked an interest in teaching. After completing her training with Mid-Essex, Teresa worked in Dunmow for four years before coming to MHS in 2017 to introduce Spanish to the school's language offering and was appointed Head of Faculty for MFL soon after that. Both Teresa's sons attended MHS, and she was elected Staff Governor in 2020. Teresa is a passionate linguist and educator and says that deciding to become a teacher was the best professional decision she ever made!

Outside of work Teresa loves cooking, running, swimming and spending time with family and friends.

Jordan Seymour (Staff Governor)

Jordan is a former student of Moulsham High School (MHS) and has always lived in the Chelmsford area. After completing sixth form, Jordan pursued a BSc in Psychology and Sociology at the University of Essex, followed by teacher training at Mid Essex initial teacher training. During this training, Jordan returned to MHS as a yearlong placement.

After completing her training, Jordan worked at schools in the Essex area, including another Bridge Academy Trust School, before returning to MHS once again in 2023 as Head of Psychology.

Jordan became a staff governor shortly after rejoining MHS and has enjoyed the insight it has provided into the strategic workings of a school and complicated roles of senior leadership.