



Our Members and Trustees

Members

Professor Pat Sikes

Pat is a professor in Qualitative Inquiry at the University of Sheffield. She has particular interest in sociological approaches to research, including life history and autoethnography. Pat was awarded the John Nisbet Fellowship by the British Educational Research Association for outstanding contribution to education research. Pat is a School Governor at Worksop College.

Alex Cisneros

Alex is a specialist public law and private client barrister. His practice covers a wide variety of contexts concerning mental capacity, healthcare and education. He acts in SEN Tribunals, school admission appeals and disciplinary appeals. Alex is on the committee of the Court of Protection Bar Association and is a Trustee of the Centre for Young Musicians, a division of the Guildhall School of Music. Alex is a Bar Council social mobility advocate.

David Cole

David is a social entrepreneur and experienced technologist with a passion for innovation in healthcare, and a personal interest in paediatrics. He has had a career with IBM spanning 21 years where he has held a plethora of roles including leadership, sales, marketing and operational positions. David has spent the last four years working within IBM's artificial intelligence (AI) arm, Watson.

Within IBM David leads a team focused on helping organisations embrace the latest digital technologies in order to make the most of their enterprises' data assets. IBM Watson Health's goal is to bring decision support technologies to healthcare management, clinicians and patients and it is David's team who help to make sure that these are ready for the markets that they serve. David is a regular public speaker and has a close working relationship with various parts of the University of Oxford where he is a digital health expert in residence. David is also a dedicated mentor inside and outside of IBM.

Lyn Dance OBE

Lyn retired from CEO of SANDS Multi Academy Trust in Gloucestershire, December 2022.. She has had extensive experience in working with a range of SEND settings, having been the Headteacher of Milestone School for many years. She founded the SAND MAT 3 years ago which is now responsible for the education of over 700 children with SEN.

Lyn was proposed as a Member at the AGM, July 2022.

Trustees

Laurence Nesbitt (Chair of Trustees)

Laurence has worked as director and IT director at several companies including Combined Insurance Limited and Millfield Group plc. He has significant Senior Management and Board level experience including serving on Risk and Business Transformation Committees.

Linda Wright

Linda has over 30 years' experience in senior leadership and advisory roles in the inclusive education sector, including international projects and teacher training. She has delivered transformation of services for young people with SEND, notably the expansion of SEN school places through major capital programmes and establishing the award winning South London SEN commissioning Partnership of 15 South London boroughs.

Nadia Abdullah

Nadia has worked in the design of school buildings for over 17 years. She has been an architect for Cazenove Architects, an associate for Curl la Tourelle Head Architecture, and associate again for Baxter Studio. Additionally, she has been involved in the design of special school buildings for 10 years.

Robin Bishop

Robin is a retired Architect having worked in educational design for the last 30 years. He worked for the Department for Education and Skills, Effective Learning Environments, and more recently for Curl la Tourelle. He has contributed to raising design standards for different educational environments such as premises for nurseries, schools, colleges, and alternative provisions.

Stuart Roden

Until January 2019 Stuart was Chairman of Lansdowne Partners and Chairman of the Management Committee having previously co-managed the Developed Markets funds since their inception in 2001. Stuart started his career in the City in 1984, joining SG Warburg & Co. He worked at McKinsey and prior to joining Lansdowne in 2001, was a Managing Director of Merrill Lynch Investment Managers. Stuart is non-Executive Chairman of Tresidor Investment Management, Chairman of the 1-Up Foundation and a Trustee of various third sector organisations including The Centre for Social Justice and Jewish Care. He is also the non-executive Chairman of the Investment Committee of Marylebone Partners LLP and Chairman of the Jewish Care and Oxford Centre for Jewish and Hebrew Studies Investment Committees. Stuart received a first-class honours degree in Economics (BSc) from the London School of Economics, he is married with four children and lives in London.

Graham Johnson

Graham Johnson is an Executive Leader who has managed international operations with budgets of £50M and 500+ staff. He has successfully delivered numerous multi million- pound change programmes, handling the complexities of working across differing time zones and cultures, managing staff in Europe, the United States, China and Australia.

Graham's experience covers all operations including IT, HR, facilities, and business support functions as well as business process re-engineering and change programmes. He is an effective strategist but with a *hands-on* approach to business, thereby acquiring an in- depth understanding of the business processes and promoting effective communication at all levels. A key strength being the ability to find and deliver solutions to complex issues, such as delivering a global revenue generating web system, which had failed in the past due to political issues; finding a mechanism and approach to create a new successful business, with a handful of staff.

Graham has worked extensively in insurance, banking, distribution and retail sectors. Having successfully transformed and modernised the operations of several long-established businesses, Graham has repeatedly demonstrated the benefits of a people focused approach to the *transformation process* and has co-authored a book on managing change. He was also profiled in the book "How To Build A Successful Career in IT"

Will Smith

Will Smith is the Chief Executive Officer of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

Will is judged by Ofsted to be an outstanding and inspirational school leader. He has worked as a senior school leader for over 15 years and was leader of the PiXL network for a number of years. More recently, he is the inspiration behind the growing collaborative, *By Leaders for Leaders*. Will regularly speaks at educational events and, as well as being an established executive coach, is a father to three children who are a constant source of inspiration.

Andrew Greenwell

Andrew is an accountant, working for Insights Accounting. Andrew's father Richard Greenwell was a Governor at Beckmead School and our new school in Essex is named after him. Andrew brings a wealth of experience in accountancy to our Trust and holds a lifelong interest in supporting the needs of young people. He joined our Trust Board in 2022

Sandra Carrington

Sandra will be joining our Trustee Board in September 2022 – she has observed several meetings and has had a child at Beckmead School.

Frances Macdonald

Frances has over 30 yrs experience within the pharmaceutical industry, in a range of functions. She has held global managements and leadership roles in clinical development and health economics within Roche, based in both the UK and Switzerland, and later, as MD, set up and ran the UK affiliate of Actelion, a Swiss biotech company. Across these roles she has gained broad experience working within multinational and multicultural organisations, balancing local vs central needs and defining and supporting changes required within these organisations, to meet future needs.