

EXETER DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The DBE Committee is the committee of the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) established under s.3(7) of the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 2021 (the 2021 Measure). The DBE Committee exercises the powers and duties conferred on the DBF in its capacity as Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) by or pursuant to the 2021 Measure, and which must be delegated to the DBE committee by the DBF (the DBE Functions) in accordance with the Scheme made by the Diocesan Synod on 1st January 2023. At the end of March 2023, the following members had been appointed, elected and co-opted:

The Venerable Douglas Dettmer, Archdeacon of Totnes (Chair)



I grew up in Kansas, in the Midwest of the USA.

Having read English at the University of Kansas and Divinity at Yale University, I came to England as curate in the Ilfracombe Team Ministry in North Devon.

I then moved to Exeter as domestic chaplain to Bishop Hewlett Thompson, after which I was for seventeen years a rural parish priest in the Exe Valley, looking after what became the eight Netherexe Parishes.

I have served as Archdeacon of Totnes since 2015, supporting the mission and ministry of the church across central and south Devon.

I am a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and associated commissions and committees.

In the diocese I chair the Exeter Diocesan Board of Education Committee and the Exeter Diocesan Education Network.

I live with Chloë in Bovey Tracey on the edge of Dartmoor.

Sharon Marshall, Vice Chair



I have 18 years of senior leadership in schools and prior to that was a Head of a History Department. I retired as a Headteacher of a church secondary school in August 2020. My headship began as Head of a community school, which undertook the journey to becoming a church school. A Christian vision and Christian values were transformational for the school community.

My leadership roles within schools, both community and church, have given me experience of both the OFSTED and SIAMS inspection frameworks and processes, with the school achieving Good with Outstanding leadership in SIAMS, and the school moving from RI to Good from OFSTED.

Headship of a large school gave me experience of managing a large budget in challenging financial times, staff recruitment, development and HR processes and extensive experience of managing significant changes, including the steering of the school from community to church school, and the rebuilding of the school under the government's Priority Schools Building Programme.

I am passionate about an education driven by Christian values, and following my retirement was asked to continue as a member of the Exeter Diocesan Board of Education and the Executive committee. It is a privilege to play a small part in serving the children of Devon and the Diocese in this way.

Beyond my career in education, I have a lifelong interest in sport, both as a participant and a spectator, and since my retirement have been able to follow my interest in art, both looking at and appreciating it by visiting exhibitions and galleries, and trying my hand at painting!

Alex Walmsley



I am a retired chartered accountant and was in my working life the managing partner of an accountancy practice with overall responsibility for ensuring clarity of vision and strategic direction and that the firm's business aims were achieved. This involved acting as an advisor or non-executive director to a wide range of client companies. I have experience of audit, business planning, mergers, acquisitions, and reconstructions.

I am a Foundation Trustee and chair of The First Federation Trust and have led on the growth of the Trust from 6 to currently 19 primary schools, developing organisational and governance structures and systems to manage that growth. We are a strongly committed church school trust with 5 Voluntary Aided and 6 Voluntary Controlled primary schools across two dioceses, and I see the maintenance of that strong diocesan connection as a key part of my role.

I am also a Foundation Trustee and Chair of Finance and Resources Committee at The Ted Wragg Trust. Ted Wragg is a large MAT comprising 9 secondary schools (including 2 church schools), 3 primary schools and one all through school. My role includes ensuring financial and operational systems develop to facilitate the successful growth of the Trust.

I am a director of Devon Association of Governance, vice chair of Devon Education Forum and a member of Devon Schools Finance Group and High Needs Group. I currently lead the Department for Education's South West Trust Chairs' Learning Set for Devon and Torbay.

Whilst my background is in financial management and my particular experience is with financial and budgetary management and governance structures in multi academy trusts, I have gained broad experience across the education sector including oversight of operations as well as school improvement and educational performance.

I joined the Diocesan Board of Education Committee because I wanted to use my governance experience in high performing trusts to support our Diocesan church school offer.

Lorna Legg



I have been a teacher since 1998, having completed a B'Ed (Hons). In twenty-five years in education so far, I have taught every year group in Primary, plus Nursery, and taught in large and small schools, through an astonishing range of government administrations and across three counties, including maintained, academy and church schools.

I moved into a leadership role for the last fifteen years of my career, completing a M'Ed (merit) and a National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH). I have been a SENDCO for ten years and a Headteacher now for five years, during which time I have experienced both SIAMS (2019) and OFSTED (2022), both with a Good outcome.

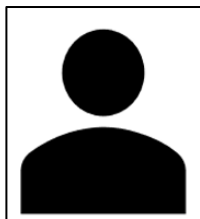
As a serving Head, I am very aware of the multitude of challenges we face as school leaders in the current social, political and economic climate. I am passionate about ensuring the best possible start to life for every child.

I have been working with the National Association of Headteachers (NAHT) since 2020, and am currently on the National Executive. Being a member of the NAHT Leaders for Race Equality group has led to the creation of a book about diverse experiences of education: 'You Are Not Alone' and a growing knowledge of the importance of ensuring inclusion and equality are embedded in education, now and for the future.

My personal experience and knowledge of stereotyping, bias and discrimination arises from my dual heritage, being both Black Caribbean and White British, with experience of living in various large and small communities in the Midlands and South West of England. From my perspective, it is vital that we provide all children with the emotional capacity, positive experiences and cultural capital, to be able not only to survive, but to thrive and flourish in the world we create together.

I hope to help all become more aware of the impact of bias and enable us to challenge it; the stigma experienced by those who carry one or more perceived deviations from the notional norm is profound, and the effects are well researched and documented. I believe our diversity will create a better future, and I believe in the power of education, in its broadest and best sense, to show us the way forward.

Paul Stock



I am a current, serving secondary school Music teacher, working as a Head of Department and School Timetabler.

I have also served as a Foundation Governor of my local CE (VA) Primary School, chairing the Curriculum and Learning Committee.

Over the last fifteen years of being a Governor I have been able to use my knowledge of the education sector to help the school develop by being a critical friend, supporting and challenging all aspects of the school's provision for the children, caring for the staff and building links between school and Church.

I am also a Churchwarden and Deanery Lay Chair.

I am the lay elected member of the Diocesan Board of Education Committee.

Dan Morrow



As a highly experienced headteacher and Chief Executive of Multi-Academy trusts, I have built up a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience within the sector.

I am strongly committed to the mission of the Diocesan Board of Education and to support and reveal human flourishing at all levels.

It is my privilege to serve.

The Right Reverend Jackie Searle, the Suffragan Bishop of Crediton



I am a member of the DBE appointed by Bishop Robert.

I have an educational background as a:

- qualified primary school teacher,
- school governor in different settings,
- and teacher in further education.

I am committed to improving outcomes for all children / pupils.

My Episcopal Ministry (as a Bishop) focuses on leadership, strategy and vision. I am called upon for my people skills and skills in handling complexity.

Christian faith is at the heart of my life and ministry – I am committed to the Christian activities of church schools and growing faith.

I am very proud of our church schools and of our heritage as providers of education and the way the Diocesan Board of Education Committee supports heads, teachers, staff and churches in providing education for all and opportunities that enable the living of life in all its fullness.

Nicky Dunford



I returned to education after 15 years of running my own highly successful manufacturing business to take up the headship of Hennock Community Primary School in 2006. I received the NCSL Regional Primary Head Teacher Award in 2009.

In 2010 I took up the headship at Bearnas Primary in Newton Abbot alongside Hennock; the school had been operating well below DfE Floor Standards for a long period of time and was in danger of closure. Requiring robust and rigorous leadership, including major building changes, alongside considerable development of staff and leadership, the school moved to a judgement of 'good' in 2012 which has been maintained. In September 2012 the two schools formed a Federation with me as the Executive Head Teacher.

In April 2016 the two schools of Newton and Teign Federation joined the four schools of the Totnes Federation of Village Schools to form The Link Academy Trust under a VA model with myself as the CEO. I have led the Trust since its inauguration and have developed steady growth of the Trust to 16 primary schools.

As CEO for more than 7 years, I have significant experience of extreme and rapid school improvement, leadership and management at Trust level, financial management of an increasing budget in small schools as Accounting Officer, staff management including a clear focus on wellbeing for all and property oversight and development. Outcomes of both Ofsted Inspections and SIAMS have been consistently good or better throughout the Trust.

The Reverend Laura Selman



I am a Team Vicar in the Sid Valley Mission Community with responsibility for 3 churches. I am passionate about the mutual benefits of good relationships between churches and schools have for their communities, particularly young people and their families. Supporting my local CofE Primary school is thought-provoking, fun and a huge privilege.

I have previously worked with schools in Southwark and Suffolk and have a background in youth work and community development in the UK and South Africa.

Prior to reading Theology I studied Politics and Development Studies at Sussex University and spent 7 years working in international advocacy for Tearfund. I worked in public policy and campaigned on climate change and hunger issues, chairing large, cross-sector, multi-faith coalition groups. I also co-led a change process which taught me much about the importance not only of what we do, but *how* we do it. I think courageous advocacy ought to be a natural outworking of Christian faith and a tool for positive change at every level.

Deborah Eveleigh



I have retired after over 30 years of practical experience in the education sector where I have held a range of roles including teacher, SENDCO, Headteacher, mentor, 14 years of Executive leadership and more recently a Director of Exeter Diocesan Education Network (EDEN).

Whilst I am originally from Manchester, I studied and trained in Worcester and later at Exeter University. I was the first person in my family to be in education post 16. I have spent most of my working life in the South West and never fail to appreciate how amazingly wonderful this part of the world is, even on the darkest winter night.

I am a person with lots of energy and enthusiasm, and really want to continue to inspire others to make a difference to our children. I believe that given the right aspirations, support and guidance, everyone can achieve, irrespective of their starting point in life, and can look forward to a flourishing future.

I still play netball and enjoy walking; my latest challenge, with my husband John, is training for the 3 Peaks Challenge raising money for Devon based Hospiscare. I also love music and help one of sons in his solo music career as a singer/songwriter and, whilst my other son is on tour in the RAF, look after his dog Oscar, the mischievous but loveable cockapoo!

I am very fortunate to have these amazing opportunities to 'live life in all its fullness', and I believe that my mission, and that of board, is to play an essential role in supporting children, families, schools and communities with the life chances to do so themselves.

The DBE sub-committees

The DBE has four sub-committees which also have new membership following the reconstitution of the DBE in January 2023. The committees are as follows:

- The Standards and Ethos Group (SEG), chaired by Sharon Marshall
- The School Organisation and Governance Group (SOGG) - a new Chair will be appointed shortly.
- The Growing Faith Opportunities Group (GFG), chaired by Dan Morrow
- The Resources and Assets Group (RAG), chaired by The Venerable Douglas Dettmer, Archdeacon of Totnes