



The Oak Academy Trust

Members and Trustee Details – Barnham Primary School 2025-26

The Oak Academy Trust has 5 members as set out below. Members will abide by the Academy Articles of Association. They will hold an Annual General Meeting during each Academy Financial Year.

Members	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richard Wallace (Chair) Richard was chair of Barnham Primary School Trustees for 5 years leading the school through conversion to an Academy and through a successful Ofsted inspection in May 2018. ACIB and IFS qualified Richard is Business Consultant, specialising in negotiation training for international corporate clients. A retired Banker he has extensive financial and strategic planning experience through his career with Barclays Bank, latterly at Director level Pat Dingemans Pat is an experienced retired Chair of Governors and formed part of the Additional Governors Committee established to work with the Chair of Governors of two local schools deemed Unsatisfactory by Ofsted. This work included supporting them through the Academy conversion process. She has also acted as a learning mentor on the National College Chairs' Leadership Programme Alison Fitzsimons Alison has worked as a Nurse for over 25 years, with experience gained in both the NHS and Private sectors of healthcare. Alison's specialist skills and experience are in the areas of performance management, governance and risk management and coaching for various professional staff groups. Outside of her current role within the NHS Alison provides consultancy services which include Myers Briggs 360 degree feedback facilitation and coaching and mentorship. Andy Jenner Andy is Managing Director of £8m Transport business. A former business consultant, with expertise in executive coaching and development he has experience on the boards of multiple charities. Andy's key areas of experience include Strategic planning, financial planning, HR, Health and Safety and facilities management. Tony Occleshaw Tony is the Chair of Trustees and acts as the link between the Members and Trustees of the school. He has extensive people management and HR experience and is a skilled management coach, his business experience includes data governance, acquisitions together with managing large budgets. 	

The Oak Academy Trust can have up to 10 Trustees appointed by ordinary resolution and 2 elected Parent Trustees. Trustees have a 4 year term. Trustees will abide by the information and guidance provided in the Academy Articles of Association. Trustees shall meet 3 times a term and a programme of meetings is set annually. Current Trustees





are detailed below. In line with the guidance provided there must be a quorum for each meeting of 1/3 rounded up to the nearest whole. Every question to be answered at a meeting will be determined by a majority of the votes of the trustees present and voting. The Chair holds the casting vote.

Board of Directors			
Name	Role and Responsibilities	Name	Role and Responsibilities
Tony Occleshaw	Chair of Trustees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extensive people management/HR experience including performance management and coaching skills several years working in data governance for global software business – high awareness of governance issues acquisitions experience familiar with TUPE requirements currently manages \$14m budget sales and marketing experience 	Denise Allen	SEND and Pupil Wellbeing Lead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before recent retirement experience of working in Higher Education and the NHS. Worked in the primary education sector as special needs and classroom teaching assistant Knowledge and understanding of Special Educational Needs through role as Residential Social Worker at Boarding Special School
Tricia Farrelly	School Improvement Committee (SIC) Chair Tricia is a recently retired headteacher who has been working in the boroughs of Crawley and Croydon. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extensive career in education with particular success in the areas of school improvement, SEND and inclusion. Following her retirement, Tricia has moved to the West Sussex coast but continues to work with schools on senior leadership development and will also be supporting early careers teachers. Passionate for reading and believes that learning to read as early as possible is the key to successful learning. 	Melanie Hersey	Staff Wellbeing Lead Mel is the mother of two at BPS and a Parent Trustee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> worked for nearly 23 years in central government, spending ten of those overseas representing the U.K. at British Embassies/High Commissions key skills include being a dedicated mum and therefore the voice of the children brings people management, communication skills and business change experience to the Trustee team.
Ian Myhill	Finance, Audit and Compliance (FACC) Chair Ian is a Parent Trustee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSSC Project Manager working with schools, highways infrastructure and active travel Commercial management experience within sales and marketing, auditing/compliance and HR Mini coach and safeguarding lead at Bognor rugby club 2 children at BPS 	Ian Patrick	Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Premises Lead Trustee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Manager with West Sussex County Council (WSSC) with budget and people management responsibility experienced in community working as part of current role with WSSC

