




# St Stephen's - Meet the Governors

	<p><b>Joan Heaton (Co-opted Governor &amp; Chair of Governors)</b></p> <p>I have lived in the centre of Launceston since 2002 after returning from living overseas. I was elected into office for Launceston Town Council in August 2019 and I am also an elected Councillor for St Stephen by Launceston Rural Parish Council. I am a member of Launceston Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG), a lay member of the Citizens Advisory Panel (an independent voice in the work of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health and Care Partnership) and an Independent Custody Visitor working out of the Office of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner. I was a Parent Governor at my daughter's school in Reading in the 1980s and I have an on-going interest in education and equal opportunities for all our young people.</p>
	<p><b>Maura Furber (Head Teacher)</b></p>
	<p><b>Sue Tierney (Staff Governor)</b></p> <p>Sue Tierney (Co-opted Governor) Vice Chair I was born in Reading, Berkshire and grew up in a village a few miles away. I moved to Cornwall nearly 25 years ago after being a civil servant at the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. Ten years ago I received my second degree, a Bachelor of Education (Maths) and I taught in a number of schools for a few years. I retired early after being run over by a car. I am a member of St Mary's Church in Launceston where I sing in the choir. I also sing in the Choral Society. Church work includes being a member of the Church Committee, being treasurer, running Kids' Cafe, helping at Messy Church and, of course, Open the Book. I am a volunteer at Launceston Money Advice Centre where I help people with financial problems. I am a licensed Pastoral Minister and a Worship Leader. I have worked with children since I started Sunday School teaching at age 16. Being a School Governor for the first time is a great honour. Having been to the school some years every week with the Open the Book team, it seemed a natural progression to become a Governor. I believe that every child has the right to a positive education experience while at the same time developing their lives to become rounded and well-equipped caring people ready to take their place in the world. I can see that this is the ethos of this lovely school</p>
	<p><b>Paul Dickens (Co-opted Governor)</b></p> <p>I moved to the Launceston area, with my wife and family, some three years ago from Kent. I am a retired Police Officer having served thirty years, in uniform, in the Kent Police. Much of my service was in community policing and four years as a Schools Liaison Officer. I have been a School Governor on two previous occasions, once as a parent Governor at my children's primary school and then as a co-opted Governor at a large secondary school for boys, enjoying my involvement. As I am now fully retired and having completed my barn conversion, I have the time to commit fully to being a Governor once more and am fully committed to helping the children of Launceston be the best that they can be.</p>



**Kathy Walsh (Staff Governor)**

I have been at St Stephens Community Academy since February 2018. I work in the Area Resource Base, teaching pupils with complex needs. It is a real honour to be working with these young people who face incredible challenges daily. I feel so lucky to have spent over twenty years working in some amazing schools in Cornwall with wonderful staff dedicated to providing the very best education and exciting experiences for all our children. During my time as a teacher, I have held a range of roles including Co-ordinator for English, Maths, Science, Assessment, Assistant Headteacher and SENDICO- achieving the National Special Educational Needs Qualification alongside becoming a Thrive practitioner. In a previous life, before I became a teacher, I worked on The Western Morning News and Plymouth Evening Herald, based in Plymouth. I am mum to two boys, both of whom are at Launceston College. Until a few years ago, we lived in remote hamlets and small villages in the Launceston surrounding areas. We now live in Launceston and I have to confess, I do still appreciate being able to walk to a shop. We like to travel and my wish list of places to visit keeps growing! I am a terrible cook (I can burn pasta!) but I keep trying (much to my sons' dismay) and collect cook books in the hope that they can help me produce something edible! I feel privileged to be able to represent all of the dedicated staff at St Stephens Community Academy on the Governing Board.



**Sophie Hughes (Co-opted Governor)**

Hi I'm Sophie and I'm delighted to support Maura and her team at school by joining St Stephen's as a School Governor. I work in the social housing sector and have experience of project management, compliance, homelessness, stakeholder engagement and partnership working. I care passionately about children and young people feeling valued in society. They are our future, key to our global sustainability and creating worth and confidence in our communities. Prior to moving to Cornwall I was privileged to spend 17 years living on the Isles of Scilly where my 2 daughters Isla and Hannah were born. They are my world, and my greatest inspiration. My girls show me the beauty of life and the value of education every day. Finally, I look forward to being part of a fantastic school and the Trust and thank you for this opportunity.



**Martin Cornish (Parent Governor)**

I am a father of 2 young girls who are happily working their way through their time at St Stephens school. I have been married to Donna for 13 years and who owns a florist shop within the town. I have lived in Launceston all of my life (barring a 5 year hiatus to Bristol to further my career). My Primary School education was at St Catherine's school to which I then followed onto Launceston College for GCSE's and then the 6 th form to study a GNVQ in Business Management. I have had a varied career path but am currently the Estates & Properties manager for Launceston Town Council. This role provides me with a depth of knowledge in risk assessing, analysing figures and data as well as property maintenance. I am also a huge advocate in green spaces and the effects that these can have on our children and associated health benefits.