Trustee Pen Portraits - Educate Together Academy Trust

Kate Aldworth, Trustee

Kate Aldworth is a marketing professional with twenty years' experience in client management, customer insight, marketing research and marketing operations. Kate has worked for BBC Worldwide, De Agostini and, for more than a decade prior to her move to the southwest, for Transport for London. At TfL, Kate worked on a range of high profile environmental, public safety and customer information campaigns, including Safer Travel at Night, Congestion Charging, Low Emission Zone, Source London (Electric Vehicle charge points) and Cycle Hire 'Boris Bikes'. On moving back to the southwest (Kate grew up in Bath), she founded 'SoundProof Audio' – a spoken-word post-production agency - working with publishers such as Penguin Random House, Audible and Hachette. Kate lives in Keynsham, near Bristol, with her husband and two children, both of whom are at an Educate Together school. In her spare time, she plays the flute in a local amateur orchestra, in a Quintet and in a funk band.

Kathy Brown, Trustee

Kathy Brown is a freelance mediator who specialises in SEND mediation (working remotely with parents and local authorities in the Midlands, the North-West and the North-East of England). Prior to this she worked as a law lecturer at local universities. Her research area was Special Educational Needs and Disability in schools. Kathy has been a trustee for ETAT for eight years during which time she has been co-Chair, Vice Chair, Chair of the Education and Standards Committee and been the SEND lead trustee. Kathy has worked in various voluntary roles in the past and continues to work as a teacher and mentor for a UK charity supporting legal prison education in East Africa and the USA.

Vicky Counsell, Trustee

Vicky has worked in education for over twenty years. Following the completion of a Business Management degree, she completed a SCITT course to gain a PGCE in Primary Education in Somerset. After spending over a decade working in education in Somerset, Vicky moved into Bristol and has since held three Principal roles in schools within Bristol. In her spare time, Vicky enjoys sailing, running and spending time with her family.

Fiona Lynch, Trustee

Fiona Lynch has extensive experience of professional fundraising and charity communications, having worked for over 20 years across both the commercial and charity sector, with a particular focus on developing income and services in the not-for-profit sector. She has a solid track record in strategic planning, service development, and project management.

Fiona's career has spanned time in media and broadcast working in the Channel 4 Press Office, followed by a move into professional fundraising and charity communications, raising millions of

pounds for various causes, including The Holburne Museum; Penny Brohn Cancer Care; Alive Activities specialising in wellbeing and dementia care for older people in care; and Play Resource the centre for arts, play and education for Northern Ireland. Fiona now enjoys the flexibility of running her own consultancy and coaching business.

She graduated from Leeds University with a BA Hons in Economic & Social History, and has a Barefoot Coaching Post Graduate qualification and is a registered member of the International Coaching Federation.

Fiona joined ETAT as a Trustee in 2022, following two years as Chair of Governors at Redfield Educate Together giving her a strong understanding of local governance for schools. Both her children have attended an Educate Together school, with one leaving in 2021 as the first Y6 cohort to transition to secondary school.

Both her children joined Redfield 'in year' in 2018 from an Educate Together School in Northern Ireland. Fiona is a passionate advocate of the Educate Together ethos and values the Learn Together Curriculum's positive impact for children.

Fiona lives in Bristol with her family, two children of school age and two lazy cats, and enjoys the seasonal rewards of time on her allotment.

Holly Ralph, Trustee

'Holly lives in Bristol with her husband and their two young sons, aged one and three. They value the energy and diversity of city life, while regularly escaping to North Devon, where their wider family is based and where they enjoy spending time outdoors running, hiking and surfing together.

Holly has been teaching for eight years and currently works as a primary school teacher in an inner-city Bristol school. She is the Science Curriculum Lead and has experience mentoring Early Career Teachers. Holly has extensive experience of developing and implementing evidence-based curriculums and policies in educational settings. She is nearing completion of an 18-month School Leaders Apprenticeship Programme, which has been both eye-opening and instrumental in developing her leadership, strategic thinking and school improvement skills. Alongside this, Holly is currently undertaking the NPQ for SENCOs, reflecting her strong commitment to improving inclusive practice and outcomes for all pupils.

Before moving into teaching, Holly worked in healthcare as a Physiologist in disease prevention, following completion of an MSc in Public Health. This background has given her a strong understanding of wellbeing, prevention and evidence-based practice.

Holly chose to become a trustee because she is passionate about education and wants to play an active role in supporting school improvement and ensuring high-quality, inclusive education for every child.'

Cameron Shaw, Trustee

Cameron has spent over twenty years working in education within Bristol. Cameron has over a decade of experience in school leadership and has spent the last eight years as a serving secondary school headteacher. As a qualified maths teacher, Cameron has held many positions within secondary and post-16 education both in the classroom and within senior leadership teams.

Born in Scotland, spending his teenage years in the Midlands and then travelling to the South West for study, Cameron graduated with a degree in Aerospace and Avionics engineering before training as a teacher.

Cameron lives just outside Keynsham with his wife (also a teacher) and their two children who attend their local primary and secondary schools.

In his spare time Cameron enjoys DIY, running and keeping bees!

Annabel Thomas MacGregor, Trustee

Annabel is an experienced senior leader in the social enterprise, education and third sectors, with a strong track record of driving strategic growth, organisational transformation, and sustainable impact. She's currently CEO of Raised In CIC, a Bristol-based social enterprise delivering day nurseries in community spaces for the benefit of local working families. Annabel has worked for leading arts organisations The National Theatre and Rambert and worked on national bookgifting programme BookTime at BookTrust. She's also held senior leadership positions in international education charities, heading up business development across the UK for international performing arts and communication exam board Trinity College London, and running national and international oracy education programmes for an oracy education charity. In addition to being a Trustee of ETAT, she is on the Bristol One City Children & Young People's Board, and is also a Trustee of Bath Preservation Trust, a heritage and conservation charity.