



Honiton Community College Governor Profiles

Working as an ICT and Computing teacher since 2010 and arriving at to work at HCC since 2014, I have experienced many changes and challenges in education. I see much reward in working with young people to equip them with the skills needed for their futures. Every day is different and there is never a chance to get bored.

I was born in Devon and have always strived to stay here. However, my drive to become a teacher led me to pastures a bit further afield in 2010-14. This included Castle Cary and Bath.

My family are local to Devon and since working at Honiton Community College I have settled in Uffculme, with my fiancée and cocker spaniel, Odie.

I have recently (October 2018) became a staff governor on the teaching and learning committee and I am looking forward to working with everyone over the next four years, where I am sure we will see many changes and challenges to help the college achieve 'success for all'.

Amy Dytor



I worked in the Banking Industry for several years before achieving a Bachelor of Education (Hons) degree which qualified me as a Junior School teacher. Soon after, I married and had my son. I joined the staff of Honiton Community College over 15 years ago as a Learning Support Assistant and later trained to become a Maths HLTA at which point I became a member of the Mathematics Department. Six years ago, I embarked on a part-time course at Plymouth University which qualified me as a teacher of Mathematics in Secondary Education.

I believe that my experiences both within and outside of education have given me skills and knowledge that enable me to make a valuable contribution to the future development of the college. I am an enthusiastic person and care very much about our college and its students. I relish the opportunity to make a positive difference to the college and its community.

Philippa Gurney

I am a member Appointed Governor, taking up my role in March 2017. I am on the Resources Committee (Vice Chair).

I have worked for the Met Office all my working life and have been very fortunate to progress to a senior role within the organisation without a degree. In 2003 our family, wife and 3 children relocated to Honiton, along with many other Met Office families

I have been very fortunate in my various roles in the Met Office to work in several dynamic, varied and interesting roles. I hope that I can transfer the experience and insight I have gained in these roles to the benefit of Honiton Community College.

I believe in ensuring that education meets the needs of all pupils regardless of their individual abilities in any area. Everyone has something important to offer, sometimes we just need to look a little harder to find it.

Mark Gibbs



Born and bred in London, I have worked in various hospitality roles before graduating from The London College of Fashion. I met and married my husband whilst working on board cruise ships and we settled in Honiton 18 years ago. We have twin girls at Honiton Community College, and I have two nephews and two nieces that have also attended the College.

I have been a Civil Servant for the last 15 years, working in Honiton Job centre as a service delivery coach. I am a member of the Teaching & Learning Committee and the Link Governor for Safeguarding, SEN and Children in Care.

Siobhan Kent



My career began in banking, where I remained for 15 years, leaving permanently to have my first child. Whilst being a full time mum to 2 girls, I decided to volunteer at their local primary school and was fortunate enough to be asked if I wanted to apply for a position at the school. I have now been a Teaching Assistant at Littletown Primary Academy for the last 9 years.

Working in a school has given me a different perspective of Education and the challenges it presents, than I would have had just in the role of parent. I enjoy working with the children and helping them to reach their potential.

It is a very rewarding job. I believe that for a child to be successful in achieving their ambitions, there needs to be a good partnership between the parent/carer and the school and most importantly the child needs to be happy. When a child is happy and in a growth mindset, that's when effective learning takes place.

I am very much looking forward to my role as a Governor at Honiton College. I am the Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee.

Claire Nuttall



I joined as Parent Governor in April 2019. I have two children, one who has now left Honiton Community College and the other who has just completed their first year. I also attended Honiton Community College many years ago.

During my years of employment, I worked in Governor Services at Devon County Council which gave me an insight into School Governing Bodies and Governors' Training. At present I work at Littletown Primary Academy and have done so for the past 14 years, this has given me a vast knowledge of educational policies and procedures.

I have lived in Honiton, on and off, all my life and therefore have a sound knowledge of the Honiton Community.

I am hoping that by being on the Governing Body at Honiton Community College I will gain more insight into how the College is run and assist in doing so, with the ultimate goal of helping young people in their educational journey through the College. I am the Vice Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee and a member of the Performance and Pay Committee.

Jenny Rawlins



“Originally from the Midlands, I spent many years living in Dorset prior to moving to Devon just over two years ago to join the farming community.

My career has spanned many years as PA to Chief Executives and Chairmen across a variety of industries – Blue Chip, Automotive and Local Government. I have also worked as a Business Manager in the Drug & Alcohol/Adult Mental Health Services for the NHS and latterly for the National Probation Service. I was Chair of the PTA at my son’s junior school for 4 years. At one point in my career I owned a restaurant and outside catering company.

I’m a qualified Counsellor and have volunteered for charities such as Step4ward and Mind supporting young adults over several years as they weave their way through the trials of adolescence in an ever changing and challenging world.

I am passionate about food, nutrition and exercise and the importance that they play in the balance, growth and well-being of our children as well as the impact that these key areas have on mental health.

I have one son at Honiton Community College and I look forward, as a Parent Governor, to making a positive difference to the education of local children and how the college progresses and grows for the future in a very challenging economic environment.”

I am a member of the Resources and the Performance and Pay Committees.

Jackie Rock



Richmal Shorter

I have worked at the Community College for 13 years in the Science Department, and am now the Senior Science Technician and I am also on the School joint consultative (JCC) committee. I have been a committee member of DETA (Devon Technicians Association) for many years and until recently held the role of Chair.

I live locally in Honiton and have many contacts including Littletown Primary School. I grew up nearby, and went to University in Brighton to study Biological Sciences. After graduation I worked at a local scientific publishing firm for many years until starting work at the College. I enjoy cycling, walking, cooking and going to the theatre.

At school I help in Science lessons, in the past I have co-run the Radio Control Car Club, taken part in the Staff/Student Choir, staying over at the 6th form 24 hour events, and helped run many trips. I find volunteering with the students activities a great way to further understand their needs in college, and nurture staff/student relationships which all contributes to a better experience for them. I have enjoyed being part of HCC's many changes over the years, and find it a positive place to work, where the students are well behaved, and talented in so many different areas.

I have served a previous term on the Governing Body where I have been part of the Curriculum and Campus Sub-Committees and more recently the Resources Committee. In the past I have helped with staff interviews, the Student College Executive Team (CET), and set up a staff feedback system. I find it very rewarding being part of the Governing Body, and helping to ensure the best for our students, staff and wider community, and for these reasons I find the commitment that comes with governance more than worthwhile.

Glenn Smith

I joined Honiton Community College in September 2009. I love my job and I believe there is no more rewarding a career than one in education. I have been a governor for over 17 years; previously as a governor and then Chair of Governors of a local primary school, the Chair of the Governing Body of the Schools Company South and West Devon Academy and of course, currently, a member of the HCC Governing Body and recently appointed a member for Kingsteignton Primary School.

I have always lived, studied and worked in Devon – after all, it is a wonderful part of the world! My wife, Susan, and I (married 27 years) have two children: Georgia & Jack who we are extremely proud of and love very much. Both achieved first class honours degrees and are still learning.

After work and family commitments I have little time for pastimes but my favourites include: playing racket ball, mountain biking, reading, watching movies, following my local football team (Kingsteignton Athletic) - as well as Liverpool F.C. and travelling (though a Devon lad I am passionate about travelling and experiencing different countries and cultures).



I first joined the Honiton College Governor team in 2006 and was very pleased to be involved for nine years. I then resigned in 2016 due to my husband's illness, but was delighted to be invited back in 2017.

I am the Chair of the Resources Committee and on both the Strategic and Marketing Working Groups. I am the Link Governor for Careers, PSHE, and for Associate Staff and Sixth Form.

My background is in a range of businesses including the Merchant Navy, building materials, business consultancy and the Civil Service. I moved to Devon with the Met Office in 2003 and am now retired. My qualifications include a degree in Engineering, a Masters in Business and a postgraduate Diploma in Marketing. I have three grown up children and four grand children – so far.

I have been so impressed by the improvements that have been achieved by Honiton Community College over the last several years and look forward to helping the College achieve further successes for all.

Kate Smith



On leaving University with a degree in Law I joined industry and eventually became Managing Director of a Utility Company. My family and I moved to Devon in 1999 and although I continued to work as a consultant, I also became the Chair of the Devon and Cornwall Probation Board for six years. Also, in my time in Devon I restored an historic house and farm.

I joined the Governing Body in May 2016 as a Member Appointed Governor. I became Chair of Governors in October 2019. I am currently on the Resources Committee. I am the Link Governor for Mathematics and a Member of the Performance and Pay Committee.

Anthony Smith

