

Meet Our Governors

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS – Candace Steel



also link governor for safeguarding and wellbeing

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Candace Steele serves as a school governor for Esteem North. Drawing on her extensive executive and board experience, Ms. Steele provides strategic guidance and oversight to help advance the school's mission. Outside her professional roles, Ms. Steele actively gives back to her community, motivated by a passion for empowering tomorrow's leaders with quality education. As a governor, she

hopes to champion continuous improvement initiatives, promote inclusive cultures that celebrate diversity, and collaborate with stakeholders to unlock the potential of every student.

VICE CHAIR – David Symons Link for health and Safety david.symons@nedsc.derbyshire.sch.uk

Isabela Tatu



Link Governor for SEND, Equality and Diversity

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Isabela has 25+ years of shipping and trading expertise, specializing in metals, fuels and renewables. With a strong focus on the shipping industry, she has held various leadership and managerial positions during her career with several blue-chip organizations; one of her greatest

accomplishments was managing a team of equal gender. For the past seven years, she has collaborated closely with ship owners to support their decarbonisation efforts. During this journey, she discovered her deep passion for hydrogen fuel technology, which ultimately led to her cofounding Clean Marine Shipping. This innovative company specializes in stateof-the-art hydrogen fuel cell technology designed specifically for marine applications with the long view in empowering communities around the world to use the technology.

I volunteer as a school governor out of a real passion of making a positive impact on the education and future of our youth. Being part of Esteem North Academy educational landscape is particularly meaningful to me. The opportunity to collaborate with the headteacher and her remarkable team, who are tirelessly dedicated to excellence and innovation in education, is truly inspiring. I am honoured to contribute to an environment that not only upholds high educational standards but also genuinely cares for the growth and well-being of every student. It's a privilege to be involved alongside such dedicated professionals.

Elizabeth Hess Link Governor for Careers Elizabeth.hess@nedsc.derbyshire.sch.uk

Janine Dix – Head Teacher at Esteem North Academy



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I qualified as a teacher over 20 years ago and came from mainstream to work in the AP Academies in 2010. I initially worked on a part time basis at Esteem valley Academy whilst I had my own 3 children. As Assistant Headteacher I strived to provide alternative education to our pupils at their time of need and see pupils re-engaged, hopeful and happy. I thoroughly enjoyed developing the quality and Commissioning process for offsite Alternative Provisions and took great

pride in this. In 2022, after 12 years at Esteem Valley, I moved over to lead Esteem North Academy as Headteacher. AP is where my passion lies and I am extremely proud of our ethos, dedication and ability to provide education to a wide variety of pupils.

The Governing Board was newly created in 2022 and have been part of my journey as Headteacher so far. Our governors provide a diverse expertise, but what we all have in common is our desire to improve education, outcomes and aspirations for our pupils.

Andrew Brooks – Staff Governor

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Emma Kealey – Clerk to the LGB ekealey@esteemmat.co.uk