**DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION (DBE) ELECTION 2025**

**SUPPORTING STATEMENTS**

1. **Mrs Alison Bateman**

I retired from primary school headship last year having spent my entire teaching career in church schools in the Southwark, Leeds and Guildford Dioceses. Nigel Genders, Chief Education Officer for the Church of England, inspired my vision for church schools with a commitment to serving the whole community, including people of all faiths and none. As Christians we are urged to love God and our neighbour, this can be expressed by offering the best education whilst providing an environment for all to flourish.

I have been an active, life-long member of the Church of England currently worship at Holy Trinity Claygate. In both my career and personal life, I have enjoyed positive relationships with members of the church, diocese and wider Christian communities that I have been part of. I was a headteacher in three distinctly different church schools and on the governing body of six so have extensive experience of school effectiveness and the SIAMs framework.

Retirement has enabled me to use my skills and experience to work in the Initial Teacher Training sector of education and to become a trustee of a charity that supports a school in rural Uganda.

Having the privilege of serving on the current Diocesan Board of Education and as an ex-headteacher, I recognise the need for the strategic oversight the DBE provides for schools facing the challenges of an ever-changing educational landscape whilst continuing to nurture the spiritual lives of those in their care in an increasingly secular world.

**2 Mr Mike Boddington**

I wish to stand for election to the Diocesan Board of Education as I believe I have the skills and expertise required to help steer the diocese through the challenges that lie ahead in education over the coming three years.

My background is in secondary education where I have taught in four schools, both CofE and maintained, in Guildford and London Diocese including serving successfully as Headteacher of Esher CofE High School for seven years. I am now CEO of Enlighten Learning Trust with nine schools within or joining across primary and secondary phases. I am a committed Christian actively involved in St Saviour’s, Guildford.

To supplement my professional experience, I have a master’s degree in educational leadership, am an experienced serving Ofsted inspector and have sat on the DBE Executive board for the past five years.

I will continue to bring to the DBE a wealth of knowledge of the education system, informing their strategic decisions with insight of legislative changes and their outworking in our schools. I understand the tension of being distinctively Christian while serving diverse communities often with varied theological interest or understanding, and the opportunity this gives to live out our faith in practical and transformative ways. I am decisive and considered, with an appreciation of the bigger picture of both the church, local and national education landscape as well as healthy connections within the diocese, local and regional educational bodies.

**3 Mrs Nicola Cole**

Nicola Cole is the Head of Schools at Guildford Cathedral and an active member of her local church, Emmanuel Stoughton. She has taught for 20 years in a variety of school settings, through all ages of primary and into secondary. She has experienced a number of OFSTED inspections, and been graded ‘outstanding’.

Over the past 18 months at the Cathedral, she has worked with over 30 schools from within the diocese, and is keen to help them deliver excellent RE and show their Christian distinctiveness through teaching as well as through whole school attitudes. She works closely with the Diocesan Education team and is also in contact with the SIAMS team, making sure that the Cathedral workshops and school visits work in tandem with the school and diocese. Nicola has made it her priority to make her workshops and visits accessible to all schools, and is currently working with the Cathedral development team to fundraise for transport for those schools with high pupil premium numbers.

She is a creative thinker, extrovert and good team player, currently working on a number of new projects across teams within and outside of the Cathedral. She is passionate about our churches and schools working together to deliver a truly Christian education which benefits those of all faiths and none.

**4 Mrs Sarah Dunning**

I would very much like to be considered to serve as a member of the Guildford DBE.  I have been a member since 2017 and feel that my fifteen years of Headship contributes well to many aspects of the DBE’s discussions and decision making. Within the last year, I have qualified as a SIAMS inspector and carried out two solo inspections. This has deepened my knowledge and passion to help colleagues lead a distinctly Christian school.  I am currently an active member of the Christian Distinctiveness Committee. I already have strong working relationships with members of the DBE and the Officers and this would hopefully ensure a smooth transition into the new Board should I remain a member.

Currently, I lead a large primary school which has gained Excellent in SIAMS. I run a balanced budget and have taken on many building projects which gives me the skills and knowledge to contribute to many areas of the DBE’s remit.  Our recent SATS results were excellent so I am committed to ensuring all children receive a high standard of education and through the challenge and support program that the DBE oversees, I feel I can contribute to these discussions and follow up work.

I am confident to ask questions, challenge and very passionate about being part of a team that is striving to ensure all our schools in the Guildford Diocese provide the very best education and spiritual development that we can.

**5 Mrs Hannah Inglis**

As a highly regarded and experienced school leader, with a passion for Church School leadership, I believe I can make a strong contribution as a member of the Guildford Diocesan Board of Education. My experience of leading two Church Schools, across two Dioceses, has grown my enthusiasm and expertise for all aspects of Church School leadership. During my time as a school leader, I have learnt so much about the complex craft of Headship, including the many joys and challenges which come with the job. My training, experience and knowledge of the central place of RE and collective worship within Church Schools has fuelled my passion for these aspects of Church School leadership; leading collective worship in my school is one of the joys which keeps me genuinely excited about my day to day work. I have recently completed my training as a SIAMS inspector. As a result, I have a deep and up to date knowledge of Church School leadership, which I would hope to apply effectively as a member of the DBE. I have also completed a wide range of additional Church School leadership training, including spirituality, collective worship and RE leadership, as well as attendance at the annual National Conference (Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership). I would welcome the opportunity to draw upon my training, experience and enthusiasm through serving on the DBE. It would be a privilege to be selected for membership.

**6 Mr Graham Hudson**

I am a dedicated education professional with an extensive background in teaching and governance. My career began as a secondary school teacher in Hampshire, and I have since served as Chair of Governors at two schools: an Infant School in Aldershot for eleven years and St Peter’s Junior School in Farnborough for five years. St Peter’s achieved a 'Good' Ofsted rating two years ago and an excellent SIAMS outcome recently, reflecting our commitment to creating an environment where all children, regardless of their backgrounds, can flourish.

Throughout my career, I have led in educational assessment, delivering both national and international assessments, and working with the regulator of examinations for England. As a former Director of a company providing assessment services to ministries and professional bodies globally, I now work independently on assessment projects in the UK and internationally. My extensive network includes numerous educational organisations and international companies supporting educational assessment. I also chair the e-Assessment Association, a not-for-profit organisation promoting digital assessment worldwide, support the Institute of Directors on its Assessment Committee and serve on the board of Qualifications Wales, the regulator for qualifications up to HE level in Wales.

A long-standing member of St Peter’s Church in Farnborough for over 40 years and a past Churchwarden, I am passionate about supporting children's education to ensure they have the best life chances possible. I am eager to bring my experience and vision for education to the role of Diocesan Board Member.

**7 Mrs Julia Lamaison**

I am experienced, enthusiastic and forward thinking and have a good understanding of the work of the DDE/DBE/GDET. I welcome this opportunity to use these skills in support of future church school education in the Diocese.

I have over 16 years experience in school governance and academy trust leadership from being a governor at Pyrford CofE Primary School and also St Mary’s CofE Primary School, Byfleet as well as Chair of Trustees for Learning Partners Church Academy Trust. I am a pragmatic leader, good at building relationships and ensuring that evidence-based and wise decision making is delivered effectively. I am a committed Christian and involved in a variety of church activities including being a member of Wisley with Pyrford PCC. I am passionate about developing relationships between church schools and their parish communities, which I see as essential both to flourishing schools and the future of church mission and evangelism.

I spent over 40 years working in research, planning, strategy and organisational efficiency in visual media in both private and public sectors. I am a creative thinker and have broad experience of planning organisational change prompted by new technology, cultural and societal change and environmental challenges. These skills will be vital to planning for church school sustainability when falling birth rates, pressure on budgets, recruitment challenges and growing numbers of vulnerable children will force Guildford Diocese creatively to consider adaptive and structural change.

**8 Canon Keith Malcouronne**

I am a member of St John’s Egham where I chair our PCC during our current vacancy.

I serve as Lay Chairman of Guildford Diocesan Synod, a member of Bishop’s Council, Chairman of the outgoing Board of Education and on its Buildings & Estates Committee.

I also serve as a director of Guildford Diocese Educational Trust and as a Member of Learning Partners Church Academy Trust, which includes Pyrford CofE Primary School. I chair our Guildford-Nigeria Link Committee and have visited church schools in several Nigerian dioceses and hosted Nigerian visitors to some of ours from 2005 onwards. I also serve on our Cathedral's Finance and Risk Committee.

My relevant previous experience includes twelve years as Treasurer and Trustee of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, a post-graduate research institution training Christian ministers around the world for doctoral degrees and post-graduate diplomas. For ten years I was a director of World Vision, the largest Christian International Non-Governmental Organisation, and chaired its Board Finance, Audit & Risk Committee.

I served as a Non-Executive Director of Ashford & St Peter’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, for six years and chaired its Audit Committee.

I gained ten years’ experience in audit and corporate finance as a Chartered Accountant with KMPG, in both its London and Hong Kong offices. I was then Managing Partner of a smaller firm for fourteen years. I am now a Non-Executive Director or Partner within four other businesses, spanning information technology, business consulting, international trade and manufacturing.

1. **Mr John Michael (Mike) Pocock MICE MCIOB**

After over 30 years in the construction industry, with responsibility for a wide range of building projects, rising to a senior level, I moved to the London Borough of Lambeth for 12 years at director level until retirement at the end of December 2017.

In that time I was responsible for major capital programmes in the borough, particularly education, including school building, expansion and refurbishment projects, totalling over £500m in value, from pre-feasibility through to completion. I was also responsible at different times for matters such as Pupil Place Planning, School Admissions, Regeneration, and the council’s Town Planning team. I had extensive dealings with DfE while handling education programmes and was frequently involved in the planning of the school estate, including optimisation of land usage for financial efficiency.

For over 30 years I have been worshipping at my local church in Burpham, Guildford, where in the last 20 years I have twice been churchwarden and am currently assistant churchwarden, particularly helping with buildings matters including overseeing extension/refurbishment projects.

From 2020-24, and previously for three years, I was Trustee of a charity based in London granting typically in excess of £100k per annum to a variety of good causes, particularly in the education sector.

Since 2018 I have been on the Building and Estates Committee for the DBE, chairing it for the last four years, and served on the DBE Executive before becoming a member of the DBE itself at the end of 2022.

**10 Mrs Anna Shaw**

I have just completed my first term on Guildford DBE. I brought insights that benefited this role through:

·       My national role with CPAS training church and school leaders to create strong partnerships. This gives insights into the NCIs as well as learning from other Dioceses which I bring back to benefit Guildford DBE.

·      Teaching part-time in a local CE school so am familiar with current challenges and concerns as experienced by educationalists.

·       Being well-connected with both senior school and church leaders (my husband is Rector of St Saviours Guildford).

·       Via three children (14, 11 and 9) I see pupil perspectives.

·       Writing RE resources, having been a Diocesan RE Advisor, school governor and recently having authored a Grove Book: *‘Growing Faith’ in Schools?*

·       MA in Educational Leadership, with a research focus on ‘Christian Distinctiveness in CE schools’.

The education landscape remains in flux, not least with a constantly shifting MAT landscape. The DBE would benefit from retaining some of the knowledge base by existing members standing for re-election. I am an elected member of Bishop’s Council where I see my role as advocating for children and young people. Sitting on DBE hugely benefits this task.

**11 Mrs Rebecca Stacey**

Rebecca has worked in education for 25 years. She has worked in a variety of teaching and leadership roles during her career.

Since 2015, Rebecca has been Headteacher at Boxgrove Primary School, Guildford, a large school with 650 pupils. She has led the school through three successful Ofsted inspections and implemented strategic plans. She has completed both the National Qualifications for Headship and Executive Leadership. She also holds the National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination.

Rebecca works with colleagues across her multi academy trust. She is Chair of the Guildford and Godalming Headteacher network, working with many Heads across the Diocese.

Within her current role she is also Designated Teacher for looked after children and Designated Safeguarding Leader. She is particularly passionate about supporting vulnerable pupils to thrive.

She is an advocate for flexible working, having worked with the DfE to produce resources for schools. She continues to advise leaders around the country.

Rebecca has worshipped at St John’s Church, Woking for sixteen years. She regularly leads children’s worship.

Rebecca has served on the DBE for one term and would relish the opportunity to continue this important work. Rebecca understands the importance of the Christian mission for education and is committed to supporting others to share the good news of Jesus.

Rebecca hopes that you will recognise that she has the skills, faith, passion and commitment to serve the diocese in this way and will elect her to the DBE to champion Christian education and mission.

1. **Mrs Naomi Stack**

I have been deeply involved in children’s ministry from a young age, dedicating my time and passion to nurturing faith in the next generation. My commitment to Christian education and discipleship has led me to serve extensively within the church, fostering a love for learning and spiritual growth among children. As a stay at home mother to young children, I am blessed with first-hand experience of the joys and challenges faced by families in this season of life. This perspective fuels my desire to support and equip both children and those who guide them. Additionally, my role as a governor on the board of a local state school has given me valuable insight into the broader educational landscape, reinforcing my commitment to ensuring young people receive both academic and spiritual enrichment. I am eager to steward this calling well, championing the next generation with wisdom, care, and a deep-rooted faith.

**13 Ms Celia Wand**

I became headteacher of Horsell C of E (VA) Junior School in 2019, never having worked in a church school before. What I had not expected when I took up the post was the difference that the church would make to the life of the pupils and the ethos of our school. I am, therefore, a passionate advocate for the benefits of a church education.

With support from the diocese, I have led my school through a successful SIAMS inspection. I have recently joined the Guildford Cathedral Advisory Board, where I hope that my educational expertise will be of value. I am a member of the Surrey-wide Headteachers’ wellbeing group, where I have produced a governance guide for new headteachers, and I work on the steering group for Woking Schools Learning Partnership, made up of church and community schools. Our school is currently in the process of joining the Learning Partners’ Church Academy Trust, giving me valuable experience of the academisation process – pertinent in light of the DBE’s current strategy. I have been entrusted with the role of Christian Distinctiveness Lead across this growing Trust, and will be working with colleagues to support them to develop Christian distinctiveness in their schools.

All of these roles require a level of forward thinking and strategic planning, working with colleagues for the betterment of children and staff across Surrey and the diocese. I believe that these skills would enable me to effectively serve the Diocese of Guildford as a member of the DBE.