

Biographies of Members and Trustees

Updated October 2019



**Leading
Learning Trust**



Selwyn PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS
PRIMARY SCHOOL 



Steve Loganathan – Trustee, Chair and Company Member

Steve Loganathan was appointed to the governing body of Selwyn primary school in 2007 and he has been Chair of Governors since 2014. Steve retired as the Director of Business Planning at British Telecommunications PLC in 2013. Prior to that he was a Programme Director managing major projects. He also played a key role in managing major start-up telecommunication businesses in Australia, Germany and France. He is a Chartered Engineer and has BSc in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, MSc in Information Systems Engineering and MBA in Technology Management. He has strong leadership, financial and data analysis skills and a clear understanding of governance processes.



Emma Nicholls – Trustee and Chief Executive Officer

Emma Nicholls has 26 years teaching experience and she has been Head teacher of Selwyn Primary School since 2007. Under Emma's leadership, the school's Ofsted assessment has improved from 'satisfactory' in 2007 to 'outstanding' in 2014. She is a Local Leader of Education and trained Ofsted inspector. In February 2015 she was commissioned by Newham Council to support Portway Primary School, which led to the formation of the Leading Learning Trust in May 2016. As of July 2018, Emma has taken on a new strategic role as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Leading Learning Trust.



Alex Saunders – Trustee and Vice Chair

Alex Saunders has served as a parent governor at Selwyn primary school since 2012. He is a self-employed IT consultant with considerable experience in managing high value projects. He has strong performance and financial management skills in ensuring that tasks are delivered to schedule and strong analytical skills in assessing project outcomes against aims and objectives.



Christine Alexander – Trustee and Company Member

Christine Alexander is a retired primary school head teacher. She was head teacher of Upton Cross primary school from 1991 to 2006 and Colegrave primary school from 2007 to 2013. Both schools are in Newham. In 2012, Colegrave was inspected and assessed by Ofsted as 'good' overall, with leadership and management assessed as 'outstanding'. While at Colegrave, Christine was also head of an initial teacher-training centre, which was assessed as 'outstanding'. She was an Ofsted inspector up to 2015 and she has served on two Interim Executive Boards. She is currently a consultant supporting head teachers and initial teacher training.



Mohammed Mansoor Siddique - Trustee

Mohammed Mansoor Siddique has served as a co-opted governor at Selwyn primary school since February 2015. He is an Aerospace Engineer working as an Enterprise Architect for the Ministry of Defence, Formula 1 and Airbus and is a Lead Project Manager on range of international Aerospace and Engineering projects that span several countries. He has strong leadership and financial management skills as well as high-end data analysis skills. Mansoor has a PhD in Active Control of Turbulent Boundary Layers in Low Reynolds Flow and he is completing a MBA.



Maduka Ogbuonye – Company Member

Maduka Ogbuonye is a parent governor at Selwyn primary school and he has served on the governing body since May 2013. He is a Probation Officer with master's degrees in the Clinical Science of Drug Addiction and Criminology and Criminal Justice Policy. He is currently carrying out research on the Prevent strategy and radicalisation for a PhD. Maduka's skills include high order negotiation and conflict resolution, as well as risk assessment and risk management skills.



Suzanne Hsu - Trustee

Suzanne Hsu has a background in finance (MBA in Finance, Wharton School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. She has 15+ years' experience at Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers, HSBC, etc.) and in law (JD law degree), in which she specialised in Company Law at Stanford Law School, California, USA. After completing her studies, she worked at Cleary Gottlieb (a law firm based in New York). She has 4 years' experience reviewing contracts and complying with financial law and regulation at HSBC in London. Her last three jobs (~10 years) have involved analysing data and strategic planning. She has supervised a number of organisational change projects and delivered them on time and on budget.

Suzanne is currently working as a counsellor / psychotherapist (registered member of the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy) and brings soft skills / an awareness of the human element to running meetings and to organisational change.

She has been a governor at Portway for eight years and Vice Chair for three years. She has been on the Resources Committee for eight years and Chair of the committee for five years.



Helen Lam – Company Member

Helen became a Company Member of the Leading Learning Trust in December 2018. She is a business professional, with experience in both the public and private sectors. She brings strong communication, project management and teamworking skills to the role of Company Member, as well as a commitment to serving her community. Helen was previously a governor at Rokeby School. Professionally, she works as a Corporate Social Responsibility Manager for Marsh Ltd (insurance and risk management sector).



Janette Ballard – Trustee

With twenty years' experience as a BBC journalist and television director, Janette has developed many transferable skills that she brings to our Trust Board; good communication, planning and logistics, researching, assessing and analysing information, relationship building, budgeting, problem solving, listening and patience, collective problem solving and team work. Recently she has become Senior Project Manager for the BBC's media literacy programme for 11 to 18 year olds. This role required her to work with multiple stakeholders to establish a 200-strong staff volunteer base to deliver content in schools. The success of this project demonstrates her ability to navigate legal and editorial compliance, the importance of child safeguarding, and her commitment to BBC values, and puts her in a strong position to support the Trust.



Sergey Sidorov – Trustee

Sergey has a daughter who just joined Reception (not at a Leading Learning Trust school) and has recently volunteered at her school. Whilst finding this experience very rewarding, coming from a family of teachers, he also understands many challenges faced in education. Sergey's interest in the role as Trust Governor comes from his strong commitment to the community, with an ability to influence one of the most important aspects of young people's lives – their education. Throughout his career as a General Insurance Actuary with significant experience both in London and in international markets, he has developed many valuable skills, the deployment of which will add strength to our Trust Board. In particular, his business experience and training will be support budgeting and strategic decision making for the Trust.

