



The Castle Rock School – Nominated Parent Governor Statements

Graham Cross

I believe a good education is the fundamental foundation for wellbeing. I have worked and lived in the local community all of my life. I have practical experience coaching children in sports activities for around Eight years.

Dr Karim Idrees

A respected member of the community, a GP and an advocate for mental and physical health. A personal interest in the school and the Lionheart trust with 1 child already a pupil of The Castle Rock School, and 2 more due to attend in the next few years. Has experience in safeguarding issues, and also has had experience (1 year) as a GCSE biology teacher at Alexandria International School, Egypt. Whilst at this school he was the co-Ordinator for extracurricular activities.

Rich Woods

I work as a 6 Sigma Black Belt, this is a role that requires me to undertake data analysis and work with businesses on process improvements, efficiency savings, behavioural and cultural improvements, cost saving and overall operational improvements all driven by data and analysis. I have been a local youth football coach, I have good relationships with a number of the parents of other children that attend Castle Rock. I currently support Leicestershire Cares and helping young adults prepare for leaving secondary school with cv, interview prep and mock interviews. I believe this would all help me be a productive and capable addition to the governing board.

Michael Chirwa-Goacher

Since retiring from the Police Service in 2008 (32yrs in service) I have been heavily involved in education. Firstly, as a college lecturer then as a private trainer and latterly supporting young people and adults with learning needs. I am passionate about people and the fact that everyone has a right to a good education in a safe and respectful learning environment. I possess excellent communication skills along with experience in planning and executing very precise and time-bound projects.

Matthew Groves

I have over 20 years' experience as an IT Consultant, providing consultancy services into Local/Regional Government, Financial Services, and other commercial sectors, assisting clients with solutions to their business process, governance, and compliance requirements. During my time as Head of Information Worker Solutions at Trinity Expert Systems Ltd I was part of the leadership and management team with responsibility for over 120 staff. I have run my own IT consultancy business (Big Sixty Professional Services Ltd) now for over 6 years. In 2020 I started a new venture (Action Apps Ltd) delivering an Athlete Management System for elite sports, we now have customers in the Premier League, EFL Championship, WNBA, MLS and Australian A-League. I am a qualified Referee and referee community Rugby as a way of keeping fit and giving something back to the Sport that has given me so much over the years. I volunteer at Coalville Rugby Club (I am a Level 2 qualified coach working with the U16 team, and a level 3 qualified first aider). I am also involved with a local Charity (The Campbell Burns Metabolic Trust) looking after their IT systems and

website on a voluntary basis (my wife is a Trustee and Secretary of the charity). I have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Dora Pratley

I have been working in youth and education sector including teaching in secondary schools and higher education setting for over 15 years before I came back to the UK from Hong Kong. I also worked in the Education Department on Curriculum Development, Training Teachers and Managing and supporting School Improvements. My last job was to leading 8 community youth mental health hubs and positive education schools in primary and secondary school settings. These overseas youth and educational professional and management experiences together with my present working experience at Castle Rock School will bring in added values to the school team to strive for excellence for both the staff and students. Having seen my two children experiencing their education and switching from the Hong Kong system to UK system is also a valuable and reflective journey for me as a parent and an educator. I am trained as a Mental Health First Aider for youth. Youth and education matters are always my passion and life- long project. I look forward to having the opportunity to join the concerted effort with the school to empower the students in the area regardless of their SES or ethnicity so that they can lead flourishing successful lives.