

Olive AP Academy – Suffolk: IPB members



Olive Academies

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SUFFOLK

Name	Background	Responsibility
Kevin McDonnell	After starting his career teaching Physics up to A level, Kevin has spent the last 30 years or so teaching and leading in a variety of inner-city settings with students who have experienced difficulties in mainstream education. Since 2000 he has been headteacher at Stormont House Special School, which became one of the first outstanding schools in the country in 2005. He has worked as a School Improvement Partner and served on the Board of the Learning Trust during an intense period of improvement in Hackney Schools. He currently chairs the Executive Board of the 16 member schools of the Hackney Teaching & Schools' Alliance (HTSA) and leads its Research & Development strand. As a National Leader of Education, Kevin currently directly supports leaders in a range of schools/settings that require improvement across the region.	Chair SEND Pupil Premium & Recovery Premium
Louise Clark B.Ed (Hons) NPQH	Louise is Chief Improvement Office, the Tilian Partnership Louise has been a teacher since the early 1990s and led an outstanding school in Cambridgeshire for 10 years. Over the past few years her work has been divided between her school improvement role within the Tilian Partnership (a Primary Multi-Academy Trust) and the strategic lead of a Teaching School Alliance. Louise also supports schools across the county through her LLE work	Teaching (implementation) & Learning (impact) Primary curriculum (intent)
Claire Elliott	After starting her career teaching English up to A Level, Claire spent the first twenty years teaching and leading in various schools in North Essex. Initially, Claire became an Advanced Skills Teacher in English and spent time working with other schools in her outreach role, but then decided to make the move into leadership and has been fortunate to lead in different areas, from pastoral to academic. She has been Deputy Headteacher at Stradbroke High School, responsible for all areas within the curriculum – including timetabling and quality assurance. In September 2022, Claire became Headteacher of Old Buckingham High School.	Teaching (implementation) & Learning (impact) Secondary curriculum (intent)

Vanessa Whitcombe	<p>Vanessa started her teaching career as a Biology teacher and continues to enjoy teaching in the classroom. She has been a school leader for over 14 years. With various roles in and around Haverhill she has worked with the full all through age range from 4-18.</p> <p>Since 2016 she has been Headteacher of Castle Manor Academy, part of the Unity School Partnership. She has recently opened a SEND Cognition and Learning Hub at the school and is passionate about meeting needs for children, whatever their backgrounds and needs.</p> <p>She is involved in school-to-school support work in her own trust, most recently focussed on safeguarding in a school where safeguarding was deemed ineffective, and is also a Governor at a Secondary School in Cambridge.</p>	Behaviour & Attitudes Personal Development
Karen Grimes	<p>Karen Grimes is CEO of the John Milton Academy Trust. After graduating from the University of Liverpool, Karen specialised in post-16 English and Communications at the University of Leicester. Karen then worked in a 14-19 Leicestershire College before moving to Suffolk, where she taught at a number of schools. She has held leadership posts since 1996 and has been headteacher of two high schools. A passionate supporter of inclusive education, Karen has pioneered partnership arrangements with another Trust to provide specialist SEN provision within mainstream settings. She has also developed a new post-16 centre in Mid Suffolk (funded through the community infrastructure levy) for sixth form delivery, community programmes and postgraduate study. Karen has mentored and supported a range of senior leaders during her career and she currently represents Suffolk's CEO network at meetings with the Local Authority and the Department for Education.</p>	Leadership & Management
Jeanette Lowe	<p>Jeanette has over thirty years' experience of working in schools and alternative provisions – with 22 of these years leading Pupil Referral Units and Behaviour Support Teams in London. Her last eight years were in Camden as Director of the community special school for children with social emotional and mental health needs and the secondary pupil referral units.</p> <p>Jeanette is currently working part time in Camden as a senior school inclusion adviser working with schools and the local authority to develop policy and practice to support some of their most vulnerable and at-risk students to enable them to achieve and succeed</p> <p>She is also an OA trustee and member of the Education Performance and Standards committee.</p>	Safeguarding