



# Rowan Gate Primary School



## Governor Pen Portraits

My name is Mrs Samantha Baker and I am a Parent Governor, the current Chair of Governors and a Local Leader of Governance.

I live in Thrapston with my husband and we have adopted 3 children all with complex additional needs.

My daughter attends Rowan Gate and my 2 boys also attended before moving onto secondary school. I have been involved with children with special needs for over 20 years in various roles from Mum, respite carer, foster carer and as a teaching assistant in a special school.

In my professional career I spent several years as part of the senior management team for a National commercial security company as an Area Manager and Quality Manager.

In more recent years I have volunteered on the national helpline for IPSEA (Independent Provider of Special Education Advice) and I also help local parents navigate the SEND and tribunal system.

My ethos is one of continual improvement, and I am very passionate about excellence in education and maximising the life chances of children with SEND.

Hello, I'm Andrew Scarborough, I am a Local Authority Governor and I am the current chair of Finance, Premises, Personnel & Health and Safety.

I have lived in Wellingborough since 1987. I have been married to Sarah for over 40 years and we have two grown up daughters.

I work as a Mental Health Act manager to protect the rights of mentally ill patients in local hospitals and as an occasional lecturer at Warwick University. I also serve as a Magistrate on the Northamptonshire Bench, where I am currently Chairman, and on the Youth Panel.

I am active in local politics and am one of the three Councillors for the Swanspool Ward and Leader of the Labour Group on Wellingborough Town Council. On the Council I serve as a member of the Planning Committee.

As well as my voluntary work as a Governor of Rowan Gate School I am a Director of the Peterborough Diocesan Education Trust and believe passionately that a good education should be available for all, whatever their age or abilities. Outside work and public service, I'm a committed supporter of Northampton Saints, following them through thick and thin, and enjoy walking and bird-watching.

<p>Hi, my name is Mike Santoro. I am a co-opted governor and the current chair of the Teaching &amp; Learning Sub-Committee.</p> <p>I've lived in Rushden all my life however; my roots originate in Sicily.</p> <p>I attended Kingsley School, Kettering as a child. Most of my working life has involved young people and/or young people with disabilities.</p> <p>My current occupation is Neurodiverse Lead Therapist for the Northamptonshire charity, Service Six.</p>	<p>My Name is Tony Aslam and I am the current Vice Chair of Governors and a co-opted governor.</p> <p>I lived in Wellingborough since 2009 and I actively volunteer in the community as well as a Councillor.</p> <p>I enjoy working and helping those who need help and support. I am a football referee and National League Futsal referee as well as a mentor and an observer.</p> <p>I am also involved as a Community Street Watch Coordinator to ensure the wellbeing of the communities in town.</p>
<p>My name is Allison WalkerBray, I am the Staff Governor at Rowan Gate Primary School, a role I enjoy and have done for many years.</p> <p>I have lived in Wellingborough all of my life. I have been a qualified Nursery Nurse for 34 years, working at Rowan Gate for the last 24 years.</p> <p>Outside of work, I am a Volunteer and Co-Leader of the Wellingborough Gateway club, a social club for Adults with learning difficulties which is affiliated to Mencap.</p>	<p>My name is Nigel Redden and I am a co-opted Governor. I have lived and worked in the vicinity of Wellingborough all my life and I am the third generation of a local family business, working alongside my father and brothers. I have been married for over thirty years to Marilyn and we have a son and daughter. Our son has autism and learning difficulties and started off his education at Eastfield Park School, the renamed Rowan Gate site. Our daughter graduated last year and is now working. In the past I played county badminton and was active in the organisational structure of the county in the position, for many years, of match secretary. In my not too distant past I was an active member of Wellingborough Round Table, raising lots of money for various charities. At present I am a member of the Wellingborough 41 club. Outside my working and voluntary work, I enjoy playing tennis and golf. I am a supporter of Northampton Saints and enjoy walking, especially with our pet Jack Russell. I am very committed to working hard towards the best outcome for Rowan Gate School, and all its pupils, and to supporting the school in any way that I can.</p>

