

Want to

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

to the lives of children and teenagers?

BECOME A

HARRIS GOVERNOR

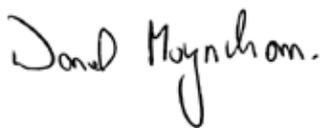


# 37,000 REASONS TO BECOME A HARRIS GOVERNOR

Our academies educate over  
37,000 children and teenagers  
in and around London.

As well as opening brand new academies, we have transformed standards in schools that had, in some cases, failed for generations before joining the Harris Federation. Social mobility is the Holy Grail for the pupils we serve. The key to their futures is a high quality education. Our governors shape and guide our schools and are vital to their success.

If you want to become a governor and if you share our aspirations for our children and teenagers, we would be delighted to hear from you.



**Sir Dan Moynihan**  
CEO



**Lord Harris of Peckham**  
Chairman



# HARRIS FEDERATION

With 50 primary and secondary schools in and around London, the Harris Federation is one of the most established and successful academy trusts.

We are deliberately a 'federation' rather than a 'chain' and every Harris academy is different. But, as a group, our academies are characterised by their drive, ambition and success.

Despite many having been found to be failing by Ofsted before they joined Harris, the majority of our schools are now rated 'outstanding'.

The success of our schools has been recognised by Prime Ministers and politicians from all parties as well as think tank researchers, business leaders and newspaper editors.

But most importantly, with our academies oversubscribed by four applications for every place, parents and children we serve know that Harris academies stand for happy and successful education.

**1 in 3**  
**'disadvantaged'**  
**pupils at Harris**  
**achieve the Ebacc**

When it comes to achieving the suite of academic GCSEs that make up the Ebacc qualification, disadvantaged pupils at Harris are now outperforming non-disadvantaged pupils nationally.

**3.8x**  
**more likely to be**  
**'Outstanding'**

72% of inspected Harris academies are rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted, compared to just 19% of schools across the country.

**4** applications  
**for**  
**every place**

Despite in many cases replacing failing, unpopular schools, Harris academies are now heavily oversubscribed.

**80%**  
**going to university**

80% of Harris pupils go to university, compared to just a third of 18 year olds in England. A quarter of all Harris pupils attend elite Russell Group universities, which is more than twice the national average.

**100**  
**now at Oxford**  
**and Cambridge**

Since 2018, we have doubled the number of our pupils going to Oxbridge with well over 100 Harris alumni currently completing their degrees there!

# OUR ACADEMIES

## Primary

- 1 Harris Primary Academy Beckenham
- 2 Harris Primary Academy Beckenham Green
- 3 Harris Primary Academy Benson
- 4 Harris Junior Academy Carshalton
- 5 Harris Primary Academy Chafford Hundred
- 6 Harris Primary Academy Coleraine Park
- 7 Harris Primary Academy Croydon
- 8 Harris Primary Academy Crystal Palace
- 9 Harris Primary Academy East Dulwich
- 10 Harris Primary Academy Haling Park
- 11 Harris Primary Academy Kenley
- 12 Harris Primary Academy Kent House
- 13 Harris Primary Academy Mayflower
- 14 Harris Primary Academy Merton
- 15 Harris Primary Academy Orpington
- 16 Harris Primary Free School Peckham
- 17 Harris Primary Academy Peckham Park
- 18 Harris Primary Academy Philip Lane
- 19 Harris Primary Academy Purley Way
- 20 Harris Primary Academy Shortlands

## All-Through

- 45 Harris Academy Chobham
- 46 Harris Academy Tottenham
- 47 Harris Garrard Academy

## Sixth Form

- 48 Harris Professional Skills Sixth Form
- 49 Harris Westminster Sixth Form

## Alternative Provision

- 50 Harris Aspire Academy

## Secondary

- 21 Harris Academy Battersea
- 22 Harris Academy Beckenham
- 23 Harris Academy Bermondsey
- 24 Harris Girls' Academy Bromley
- 25 Harris Academy Chafford Hundred
- 26 Harris Academy Clapham
- 27 Harris City Academy Crystal Palace
- 28 Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich
- 29 Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich
- 30 Harris Academy Falconwood
- 31 Harris Academy Greenwich
- 32 Harris Invictus Academy Croydon
- 33 Harris Academy Merton
- 34 Harris Academy Morden
- 35 Harris Academy Ockendon
- 36 Harris Academy Orpington
- 37 Harris Academy Peckham
- 38 Harris Academy Purley
- 39 Harris Academy Rainham
- 40 Harris Academy Riverside
- 41 Harris Academy South Norwood
- 42 Harris Academy St. John's Wood
- 43 Harris Academy Sutton
- 44 Harris Academy Wimbledon



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STAND ALONE  
SIXTH FORMS

3

ALL-THROUGH  
ACADEMIES

20

PRIMARY  
ACADEMIES

25

SECONDARY  
ACADEMIES

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

## What kind of people are you looking for as governors?

While they share our high expectations, our governors come from all walks of life and all backgrounds.

This diversity is a crucial component of the success of Harris, as our governors bring a wide range of perspectives into our academies.

To be a Harris governor, you need to be willing and able to dedicate some time to the role and you need to be a good team player.

## How much of my time will being a governor take up?

There is certainly a time commitment involved, but our governors are volunteers. We use their time carefully and respectfully.

You can expect four to five governing body meetings per year – often, but not always, these are in the evenings. Governors also visit their academy three times a year so they can see first-hand how they operate and have the opportunity to speak to pupils and staff.

From time to time, individual governors are also asked to offer their support and challenge as part of a panel – for example, if the school is interviewing candidates for a key leadership role or if it is hearing an appeal about a pupil exclusion.

## What training do governors get with Harris?

The Harris Teaching School provides a successful and well-established Governor Training Programme. This ensures you are trained and equipped to perform your role as a governor.

We have expert trainers to help you with topics including understanding school budgets, curriculum, safeguarding, Ofsted, codes of practice, special educational needs and using data to pinpoint priorities.

This means you can be sure you're up to date with national changes in education and know what is required to support the success of the academy you are a governor of.

# IN OUR GOVERNORS' WORDS...



## Tim Moore

### Chair of Governors at Harris Riverside

Just before my 40th birthday, I became a school governor. When friends asked why, I'd roll out the usual cliché that

"it was time to give something back".

I couldn't have been more wrong about the nature of the 'transaction'. Over a decade later, I have a very different perspective. I view my involvement in local schools, and those across the Federation, as a real personal privilege.

I had completely underestimated the intrinsic satisfaction of working with a highly talented and motivated group of educators that squeeze every last drop of potential from the young people they work with on a daily basis.

The next generation will have to tackle huge global challenges and our schools must engender a love of learning and develop the creative, technical and entrepreneurial skills required to solve big problems.

Governors can help establish that culture. Part administrator, strategist, communicator, confidant, cheerleader, politician, critic and friend, it is far from being the virtuous endeavour I originally thought. We are, in fact, beneficiaries. I have discovered a source of mid-life fulfilment that's hard to explain, and I look forward to working with governors across the Harris Federation to explore what's next.



## Marvin

### Saverymuthapulle

### Chair of Governors at Harris Junior Academy Carshalton

I have been working with the academy as a governor since it was placed under the care

of the Harris Federation. Thanks to the efforts of the central (Federation) team, the Principal and his staff, the school has been turned around into an academy that Ofsted calls 'good'.

It has been a privilege to be a part of this transformation and I am proud of the overwhelmingly positive impact our organisation is having on young people.

As a Management Consultant at a 'Big Four' accountancy firm, I have worked on performance improvement programmes at several FTSE 100 companies helping them do more with less. This has given me financial and programme management experience that has been invaluable in my role as a governor. Combining this with the education, legal and HR experience of the other governors has allowed us to become effective as a Governing Body.

I believe that quality education is the best way to address the challenges we face today. There is a lot more to do and the existing system is not configured to deliver this. Organisations like the Harris Federation are effecting the change that is needed.

# IN OUR GOVERNORS' WORDS...



## Geoff Payne

**Chair of Governors at  
Harris Primary Academy  
Purley Way**

"Well, what do I do to keep the brain cells active and make a repayment to society for the

privileges I've enjoyed?" I asked myself as I retired after 40 odd years at senior level in BT. The answer... "Hello, my name is Dan Moynihan... I wonder if you'd be interested in being a governor of one of our schools?"

So here I am, the very proud Chair of the newly formed board of governors of Harris Primary Academy Purley Way, helping to create a new school from scratch, watching it grow literally from its foundations to serve its local community and provide an outstanding primary education in Croydon.

I also serve on the joint Board of Harris Primary Academies Kent House and Crystal Palace, and previously sat on the boards of Harris Academy Greenwich and Harris Academy Falconwood. I've been privileged to see excellence at work at both secondary and primary school level.

Without doubt, the most important thing that we do as a society is to educate our children. What a privilege it is therefore to help the Harris Federation, one of the most successful educational institutions in the country, achieve that task.

And what a buzz it is to rock up to the reception/year one nativity play or the senior end-of-year production. The pleasure you get when you do a governor visit, watch our talented teachers at work and talk to the kids (is it only in Harris schools that the students can talk the hind legs off a donkey?). Then there's the adrenaline rush when they ring to tell you that there's an Ofsted inspection tomorrow, and the bigger rush when you hear that it's 'outstanding'!

The biggest high of all is when you talk to a Year 11 student, in this case a recipient of Free School Meals, and they confidently tell you how they will be getting several A\*s at GCSE, will be taking maths, chemistry, biology and physics in the sixth form and be going onto university to study medicine...wow!

So that's why I do it, that's why I spend time pouring over finance spread sheets, commenting on version three of the academy safeguarding policy and attending the fourth board meeting so far this year...

That's why.



## Ros Wilton

**Chair of Governors at  
Harris Girls' Academy  
Bromley**

As someone with a background in finance and business I was delighted to join

Harris Academy Bromley as Chairman of Governors and subsequently, Vice Chair of the Harris Federation Board.

The Bromley Governor team comprise people from different walks of life and each one oversees a particular subject area taking into account their own background and experiences. They meet regularly with the staff in those areas, sit in on lessons and provide support as well as challenge in order to help them to meet the targets we set for them.

I regularly give talks to the pupils, which I thoroughly enjoy, particularly when they ask lots of questions! I try to emphasise the importance of their education and how proud they will all feel when they open their envelopes on results day knowing that they did their absolute best which will give them a huge sense of pride and improve their self-esteem.

It gave me a huge sense of pride when this year, one of our pupils who never thought she could ever pass her math GCSE, thanked me for believing in her and for the help Harris Bromley had given her. When she opened her envelope and saw she had passed, I think we both had a tear in our eyes.

Nothing in business has ever made me feel so personally proud.



## Anna Marie O'Donnell

**Governor at Harris Academy Bromley and Harris Aspire, and Clerk to the Governing Body at Harris Academy Beckenham**

Nearing completion of a Masters' degree whilst working full-time, I was keen to undertake a new challenge that was separate from my existing role in HR at a London NHS Foundation Trust. I wanted to offer my services in a voluntary capacity within my local community, so registered via the School Governors One Stop Shop (SGOSS).

I was shortly invited in for an interview with Sir Dan Moynihan, the CEO of the Harris Federation, at their Head Office. Sir Dan informed me that they had recently taken on two secondary schools in my local area, both of which I was very familiar with by reputation. I was excited at being given the opportunity to join a Governing Body that was starting the process of turning a school around and making it a real success.

I became a governor at Harris Academy Bromley in 2011. The enthusiasm and determination to make the academy a highly successful school of choice in the local area was tangible. Being witness to the overwhelming positive changes the Harris Federation had made in terms of results, behaviour and overall reputation was fantastic. I was very proud to be part of it.

After each meeting, I was finding that I was thinking more and more about my career and place of work. I enjoyed the buzz and energy within a school, and began to consider a change of setting. A vacancy for the role of Resources Director came up in Harris Academy Beckenham and I got the job. An important element of my role at Beckenham is Clerk to the Governors. Having already had that unique insight in being a governor at another academy,

I benefited from having a full and rounded understanding of the importance of a committed, supportive and effective governing body.

Since then, I have also had the opportunity to become a governor at Harris Aspire, an 'alternative provision' founded by the Federation to provide an outstanding education to students overcoming barriers that have prevented them from engaging fully in mainstream education.

Working at the Federation both in my current role, and as a governor, has given me a unique insight into the relentless focus on ensuring that all of our students achieve their full potential. This is wholeheartedly shared by all our governing bodies.

“Being witness to the overwhelming positive changes the Harris Federation had made in terms of results, behaviour and overall reputation was fantastic. I was very proud to be part of it.”

Anna Marie O'Donnell



# NEXT STEPS

If you are interested in becoming a Harris governor – whether you are ready to apply or if you just want more information – contact Koyeli Solanki:

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**Tel: 0208 253 7777**