

24th September 2025

Dear Families

Trustee update

Following the annual business meeting I am sharing an update on changes to the Trust Board. Our Chair of Trustees Ms Jules Fry MBE is stepping down to Vice Chair following several very successful years in the role of Chair. Ms Fry remains fully committed to the Academy and will continue in her role of safeguarding Trustee and lead of the Behaviour and Attitudes committee. I would like to personally thank Ms Fry for her support and time over the past couple of years supporting myself and the Academy. She has overseen a time of significant school improvement both in academic success and financial investment.

Our new chair of Trustees is Mr Andrew Chapple. Below is his pen portrait.



Mr Chapple is a highly experienced finance and business professional with a strong academic and professional background; he is currently employed part time as a Senior Consultant for Gregory Distribution Group.

Mr Chapple was brought up locally on the family farm at Marwood, attended Braunton School and Community College followed by A levels at Petroc and then attained a Degree in Mathematics at University of Southampton where he gained a first class-honours degree.

After graduation Mr Chapple trained and qualified as a Chartered Accountant with KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock. Following a spell in practice Mr Chapple moved into industry and spent

BRAUNTON SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMY TRUST

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE, REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES, NUMBER 7989226 (AN EXEMPT CHARITY)

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over 20 years at Mole Valley Farmers Group as Company Secretary and Head of Finance. More recently he had been working full time for Gregory Distribution latterly as Group Fleet Director.

Mr Chapple has passion that young people should be given every opportunity to widen and nurture their skills through education to achieve their full potential. To this end he spent several years as a Governor at Petroc with spells as Chairman and Vice Chairman of Governors and Chair of the Audit Committee.

Away from work Mr Chapple enjoys travel, gardening and plays the organ regularly at local churches. He is also a member of the local North Devon branch of Good News for Everyone (formally GideonsUK).

On taking up the role Mr Chapple said "I am passionate that young people should have every opportunity to achieve great things following their education. I would like to pay back in some way the benefits I received and share my skills and experiences. Having been brought up in Marwood and attended Braunton School, I have a natural affinity to the school, similarly to when I was involved for many years at Petroc."

Ms Jules Fry replaces Mr Barrie Eason as Vice Chair as Mr Eason prepares to leave the Trust Board after 30 years as a school governor and Trustee for Braunton Academy. Mr Eason will be taking a new role on the Trust Members Board. 30 years of service to the school and community is an incredible achievement and we would all like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr Eason for his dedication to the Academy in these roles. There have been further changes in personnel to the Trust Directors in the past few months. If you would like further information about the Trustees, you can find all their pen portraits of the Trustees section of the school website [Trustees - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#).

With recent changes in the Board personnel, we are about to go back out to advert for three more community Trustees, if you know of anyone in the local community that would have an interest in supporting the Academy please contact the Clerk of Trustees.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs F. Bowler
Principal