



PURPLE OAKS ACADEMY

Academy Advisory Council Members



Jacquie Leonard (Chair)

My hobbies include reading, antiques and gardening. I'm looking forward to being part of the Advisory Council at Purple Oaks Academy.

I am very excited to be one of the elected parent representatives at Purple Oaks Academy Advisory Council.

I am committed to supporting the teachers, parents and children to help Purple Oaks be the outstanding school I believe it can be.

I believe I can bring a lot of enthusiasm and positivity to my role of chair of the Academy Advisory Council.

I have worked in the Optical industry for over 32 years, the majority as a manager at a busy practice in Northampton town centre.

I have many skills such as organisation, planning, health and safety, mediation and forecasting.

I will use the knowledge I have built up to enhance my role within the Academy Advisory Council.

After all these years, I still feel passionately in the things I do and achieve.

I have been married to David for 21 years and we are blessed to have our wonderful boy, Ethan.

When I do get any spare time, I enjoy going to aerobics, I love music, watching bands (any chance to dance) and reading.



Baljit Dev (Parent Member)

I'm Bal and I'm married to Jaspal (Jas) and our son, Amar attends Purple Oaks Academy, currently in Year 2. I've lived in Northampton since June 2010, after we married. Prior to that I lived in London for just over 3 years and worked for Associated Newspapers (Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday) marketing the reader offers in paper. Before that I worked as an Office Manager for the regional arm of the group, Northcliffe Newspapers based in Derby, marketing the travel reader offers in all the titles from Aberdeen to Cornwall.

I was born and grew up in Derby to Punjabi born Sikh parents. I've been brought up enjoying the best of both British and Indian cultures.

I am an active member of the 'Little Acorns' Parent group and regularly attend the meetings. At the last meeting, parents asked for a Facebook parental support group which I created called "Purple Oaks Academy - Parents'. It's a great way for parents to keep in touch, especially if their children are transported in taxis. It's a closed group so only parents/carers of students at POA can join.

I am enjoying the challenge of seeing the workings of an academy from a different perspective, and hope to be able to make a positive contribution to the life of the academy. I am also enjoying volunteering at the new academy building, when needed.

I love going to the cinema, travelling, going to music concerts and the theatre, spending time with my family and home cooking.

Shannon Howe (Community Member)

Hello everyone, my name is Shannon Howe and I run a local business in Northampton called I Cook You Serve. As a business, we deliver wholesome and nutritious evening meals and buffets. Personally, and as a business, it is really important for us to be involved within our local community and with Purple Oaks just around the corner, it feels like the perfect opportunity. I look forward to supporting the staff and students.

After coming along to a networking event at Purple Oaks Academy, I felt the school really aligned with my values. I am really grateful for the opportunity to get involved. It is great to sit alongside many other passionate individuals on the Academy Advisory Council. Through I Cook You Serve, my business partner and I will also be teaching cookery lessons to the upper phase students. We can't wait to get started.

My other passions include travelling, I truly love old architecture and learning about different cultures, especially the food. I am also really interested in all things personal development, from books to courses, to being on the Purple Oaks Academy Advisory Council.

