

Diocesan Board of Education Members



Chair: **Anna Corbett** is Chief Executive for Tor Mark Ltd, a leading publishing and distribution company.

With an initial background in education, Anna has considerable experience in non-profit organisations. She is currently involved in significant grant-awarding for the Cornwall Community Foundation, where over £1million has been distributed in the last twelve months. Alongside this, Anna retains a portfolio on non-executive roles, where she specialises in leading and developing excellence in governance and

trusteeship. Anna is a Trustee for Aspire, Cornwall largest multi-academy trust, and for Plymouth College of Art, for both of whom she undertakes the responsibility of Safeguarding and Prevent trustee.

Both professionally and in her non-executive roles, Anna has extensive experience of initiating and leading acquisition and merger, with associated due diligence, team management, rationalisation and restructuring. Anna represents the Diocese of Truro on the Church of England's Clergy Discipline Measure and is a member of a number of diocesan boards in her role of Chair of the House of Laity. Anna represents the Church of England on Cornwall Council's Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education and is a member of Cornwall's Prevent board.

On a personal note, Anna writes cookery books in her spare time and is an enthusiastic, if somewhat amateur, gardener. She is a great supporter of children and young people and believes that education is the framework for changing people's lives. She cites Michelle Obama as an inspiration in advocating positivity and kindness in everyone, and believes smiling is a great way to be seen.

Revd Canon Elly Sheard is part of the chaplaincy team at Truro College and a member of the Diocesan Board of Education where she leads on our contribution towards Net Zero 2030.

"Caring for creation is increasingly important, especially post-lockdown. During September, many harvest festivals take place, making good starting-points for thinking about sustainable living. The Church of England has committed to achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2030, including in church schools, where encouraging children to be active stewards of God's creation is a vital part of their work. If you take photos of projects involving young people in creation care they would be very welcome so do send them in. Also, as your school engages more deeply, you may find the [eco-schools programme](#) helpful. As a member of the DBE and of the Bishop's Net Zero 2030 task group, Elly can be contacted if you would like to know more" at reverendelly@gmail.com



Carol Jerwood was appointed to the DBE in January 2019 having retired to Falmouth in September 2017 following 30 years in education working for the Diocese of Southwark as Assistant Director of Education. Carol's career was focused on school admissions and governance and latterly on helping to set up the Southwark DBE's Multi-Academy Trust. She organised the DBE's governor training programme, ran training courses and provided guidance for head teachers and governors on admissions, complaints and exclusions, among other matters. Carol enjoyed visiting schools regularly and was pastoral lead for 28 of the Diocese's 107 schools providing pastoral support for Diocesan head teachers alongside other members of the team.



Carol is a keen walker and is passionate about wildlife and the environment and is a member of Truro Diocese's Creation Care Group. She regularly attends Evensong at Truro Cathedral. In her spare time, she sails with her husband, attends a weekly botanical art class, volunteers for the Cornwall Wildlife Trust and is trying to turn her garden into a haven for wildlife.

Nicola Bray has been teaching in primary schools for eighteen years and has been in senior leadership for eleven years, including in her current position as head teacher of an outstanding church school in Cornwall. She is passionate about seeking out new, innovative and sustainable curriculum ideas to engage children and to help them become confident, inquisitive and happy learners who can successfully navigate the fast changing modern world. Nicola has developed a new curriculum for her school which has been designed with the children's interests at its heart.



Nicola has a proven track record of school improvement and through her work with the DBE is keen to work closely with schools to support the DBE's vision of being a significant partner for raising standards in schools in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, to the benefit of all the children in the diocese of Truro.

Nicola lives in North Cornwall with her husband and teenage son. While Nicola enjoys Cornwall's countryside she is also a keen traveller.

Robert Pearce OBE is a churchwarden at a low population rural church where there are jointly developed close ties with the local Church of England Primary School. Robert is a governor at both the local school and the other schools who draw from the Parish catchment area.

Robert was born and educated in Cornwall, and studied to become a Chartered Mining and Geotechnical Engineer, first at Camborne School of Mines and then at universities in the North and Midlands. He has lived and worked all over Britain as well as overseas for big and small companies including the Civil Service.

Robert has been involved in setting the standards, promoting, and assessing vocational training and awards.

Robert hopes that members of parish churches can better support our school communities of whatever faith.



Philip Rowe has been teaching in primary schools for 20 years and is currently at The Bishops' Church of England Learning Academy, just starting his 13th year at the school.

Philip's first teaching post was at a very multicultural school in Ilford in Essex where the children mainly consisted of Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. This is where Philip began his fascination with the beliefs and practices of people of other faiths. Philip has a passion for teaching Religious Education and believes it to be a vital part of children's personal development, enabling them to learn and respect people from all beliefs and cultures.

Part of Philip's role that he finds highly rewarding is helping to upskill colleagues in their delivery of high quality RE lessons. This in turn helps the children to receive a good knowledge and understanding of the people of the world and will help them grow into well rounded, respectful members of their community.

In his role as a member of the DBE Philip hopes to be a strong voice for Primary RE, ensuring that children in our diocese have every opportunity possible to engage in high quality learning in this vital part of their primary school journey.

Philip is also a leader and speaker in a local Independent Church which is also something he is extremely passionate about.

Jo Bell is the Safeguarding Governance Officer for The Diocese of Truro. She also works for the University of Marjon supporting the quality assurance of placements in schools for trainee teachers, as well as teaching for Cornwall Primary SCITT. Jo also engages with The University of Roehampton marking teacher NPQ qualifications for The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership. Jo has previously worked for over 20 years in education, teaching at a primary school in Helston for 10 years where she led science and focused on supporting trainee teachers, including writing the successful teaching school bid for the school. More recently she has led a teacher training programme for 10 years, training over 500 teachers and teaching on educational degree courses. During this time she was a Specialist Leader of Education and completed her NPQ in Leading Teacher Development. Jo has been a governor at a local primary school for the past 10 years, including Chair of Governors for over 4 years.



Jo has a particular interest in special educational needs and is currently completing a Master's degree in Inclusion with a focus on autistic children. She is passionate about ensuring all children are supported in school to access learning, progress and thrive in education.

Having studied a degree in environmental science, Jo has an interest in nature, animals and the outdoors. This has led to her creating a Cornish apple orchard on her small holding, as well as planting trees and creating a small lake. She keeps a range of animals such as miniature ouessant sheep, horses and a range of poultry. When not caring for her animals, she enjoys walking and camping with her family.