

GLA Education Programme

London Schools Excellence Fund Advisory Group Member Biographies

Chair:

Munira Mirza

Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture

Munira is responsible for overseeing the Mayor's policies and programmes for education and young people in London.

Munira has a background in policy research and has worked for a range of organisations including the Royal Society of Arts, Tate, and the think tank, Policy Exchange. She has also taught and lectured at different universities, including the University of Kent and University of East London. She graduated from Oxford University in 1999 and completed her PhD in Sociology at the University of Kent in 2008.

She has published an edited collection of essays about arts policy called *Culture Vultures: Is UK Arts Policy Damaging the Arts* (2006) and managed a major research project about radicalisation in the UK called *Living Apart Together: British Muslims and the Paradox of Multiculturalism* (2007). Her latest book, *The Politics of Culture: The Case for Universalism*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2012.

Advisory Board Members:

Dr Tony Sewell

Education Consultant and CEO of Generating Genius

Tony is an education commentator and former teacher who is the CEO of Generating Genius, a charity that has successfully placed children from disadvantaged backgrounds into top universities.

Tony has published widely on issues related to race, social justice and emotional and behaviourally difficult children. He also has experience in the media, writing for Voice and The New Statesman and regularly speaking on radio and television on subjects linked to education and the arts. He has a strong interest in diversity and has conducted research and published several articles on race and education.

Tony was Chair of the Mayor's Education Inquiry, which ran from December 2011 until the end of September 2012 and explored the critical challenges facing London's primary and secondary schools.

Frankie Sulke

Director of Children's Services, London Borough of Lewisham, ALDCS

Frankie Sulke started her career teaching mathematics and went on to train new and serving teachers across the South of England. She worked nationally at senior levels for over a decade first at the School Examinations and Assessment Council and School Curriculum and Assessment Authority managing the review of the National Curriculum and leading on national assessment. From 1995, she was Head of Teacher Training at the Teacher Training Agency, developing and introducing the first ever national standards and professional qualifications for serving teachers and head teachers and reforming initial teacher training and induction.

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Frankie joined the London Borough of Lewisham in April 2001 as Executive Director for Education and Culture and in 2005, Frankie was appointed to be Lewisham's first Executive Director for Children and Young People.

Sir Dan Moynihan

Chief Executive, Harris Federation

Sir Dan Moynihan is CEO of the Harris Federation of Schools, a chain of nineteen primary and secondary Academies based in London. Of the eleven Harris Academies open for longer than a year, nine have been judged to be outstanding, a record unrivalled by any other educational operator. All of these schools are in challenging areas and most were previously struggling or failing.

Dan was previously headteacher of two highly successful London Schools. He serves on the DfE Ministerial Advisory Group for Education and is an author of school textbooks for Oxford University Press.

Patricia Sowter CBE

Principal, Cuckoo Hall Academy

Patricia Sowter has a successful track record of raising standards in Inner London including Camden, Islington and Hammersmith and Fulham. Patricia is currently the Executive Head Teacher of Cuckoo Hall Academy Trust in Edmonton, North London. Cuckoo Hall Primary Academy became one of the first Outstanding Primary Schools to become an Academy in September 2010. Patricia opened Woodpecker Hall Primary Academy in September 2011 and Kingfisher Hall Primary Academy in 2012 – both are two form of entry Free Schools that are led and managed by the Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust. The Trust will be opening its first Secondary Academy, Heron Hall, in 2013.

Patricia has a strong belief in developing educational leaders both in her own organisation and in the wider educational community. Patricia is a National Leader of Education – a role that has enabled her to work with a number of schools to promote successful leadership and school improvement. Patricia has also been a qualified Ofsted inspector and has undertaken inspection work in a number of Primary Schools in London and the South East. Patricia was awarded a CBE in 2011 for her services to both local and national education.

Shahed Ahmed

Headteacher, Elmhurst Primary School

Shahed Ahmed is Head teacher of Elmhurst Primary School in Newham. The school is a very large outstanding school with almost 1000 pupils. It is also a Teaching School, helping other schools to improve, running courses and recruiting teacher trainees. He was previously head teacher of another school which he led out of special measures.

Shahed is a National Leader of Education, supporting other headteachers. He serves on some DfE advisory groups.

Bernice McCabe

Headmistress, North London Collegiate School; Co-Director, The Prince's Teaching Institute

A Head for over 20 years, Bernice McCabe studied English at Bristol University and has an MBA. She taught for 16 years in mixed comprehensives in Bristol and London, including 5 years as Head of English and 4 years as Deputy Head of The Heathland School, London Borough of Hounslow. Since 1990 she

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has been a Headmistress: for 7 years of Chelmsford County High School, a maintained grammar school, and since 1997 of North London Collegiate School, a 4-18 independent school.

Bernice has served on national education committees in the maintained and independent sectors and since 2010 she has been a member of the National Curriculum Review Advisory Committee. In 2002 she directed the first Prince of Wales Education Summer School. In 2006 the annual Summer Schools grew into The Prince's Teaching Institute (PTI) which she now Co-Directs.

Professor Sir George Berwick PhD CBE Executive Principal, Ravens Wood School

George Berwick has been Head teacher of Ravens Wood School, a comprehensive school of 1,450 boys with a mixed Sixth Form, since 1993. The school is one of only a few secondary schools in England to be rated outstanding by Ofsted five times. George Berwick was appointed one of the first National Leaders in Education and Ravens Wood School was one of the first National Support Schools in the country.

He was a Director of the London Leadership Strategy 2003-2008, Chief executive of Teaching Schools, 2008-2011, Chief Executive of Challenge partners from 2011 onwards and Project Director for the Western Quebec School Board, 2002-2012. George received a CBE in 2007 for Services to Education, a Visiting Professorship at the Institute of Education from 2011 onwards, and a Knighthood for Services to Education in the 2013 New year's Honours list.

Sean Harford HMI Regional Director, Ofsted

Sean Harford is one of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) and since 1 January 2013 has been Ofsted's Regional Director for London and the Interim Regional Director for the East Midlands. Prior to joining Ofsted as HMI in 2003, he held teaching and senior management posts in maintained secondary schools. He has also been the associate adviser for science for a local authority. He has led section 5 inspections of schools in the primary and secondary phases, also specialising in the monitoring of schools in categories of concern. His particular area of subject expertise is in science.

Kevan Collins Chief Executive, Education Endowment Foundation

Kevan has worked in public service for over twenty-five years and became the first EEF Chief Executive in October 2011, having previously been Chief Executive in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Prior to this role he led a distinguished career in education – starting off as a primary school teacher, leading the Primary Literacy Strategy as National Director, and then serving as Director of Children's Services at Tower Hamlets.

Kevan also gained international experience working in Mozambique and supporting the development of a national literacy initiative in the USA. He completed his doctorate focusing on literacy development at Leeds University in 2005.

Dawn Taylor Deputy Director, Curriculum Policy, Department for Education

Dawn is the representative of the Department for Education for the Expert Advisory Group.