



Robert Arckless MBE

In October I was appointed Vice Chair of Governors at JCSC and wanted to share a brief introduction.

My links to South Avenue go back 50 years; I was a pupil at the Secondary Modern and the foundation I was given there allowed me to progress to Degree level and beyond.

I know how important it is to have such opportunities and the life-changing difference good teachers can make.

I was privileged to serve as a local Councillor for 34 years and was appointed to senior positions on Education and Children's Services Committees. I retired after four years as Cabinet Member for Children's Services which includes responsibility for schools and children's social care. I was a member of Northumberland's Adoption Panel and the Safeguarding Board.

I have been a governor at all of Amble's schools – and was a member of the Middle School governors for over 20 years. I am a past governor of Northumberland College – where I studied for my "A" levels.

I have a passion for education. I qualified as a secondary level teacher, began as an Adult Literacy volunteer and taught in the Prison Education service and in Community Education before my work as a Councillor took over!

I hope my experiences will prove useful to JCSC and am delighted to renew my formal links with a school that has played an important part in my life.

I have a particular interest in reading and my governor responsibilities include safeguarding.