

Phoenix College IEB Membership

Mr Peter Cohen

Peter is the head teacher of Oakbank Special School. The school is an outstanding SEMH Special School in Leighton Buzzard with pupils exhibiting similar needs to those at Phoenix College. Peter is qualified as a National Lead in Education (NLE). He has been providing support for the leadership at Phoenix and has a reasonable working knowledge of the school and of the school's priorities. Peter is able to provide a specialist view on the quality of provision, and is able to challenge achievement and practice to maintain the challenge to leaders on provision and achievement.

Alison Manning

Alison has over 30 years of experience in education, leading on behaviour management and working with students with exceptionally challenging behaviour. Alison is currently a principal instructor in working with schools to develop effective techniques for Anger Management, Aggression Management and utilising Therapeutic and Communication Handling Strategies. Alison is a specialist in alternative provision and in supporting improvement in behaviour management with particular challenging students. She is able to support and challenge approaches to behaviour management, particularly in managing those students with exceptionally challenging needs.

Paul Wagstaff (Chair of the IEB)

Paul has a broad experience of school and institutional improvement and of effective safeguarding practice. He sits on the Local Safeguarding Children Board for West Berkshire and Reading (LSCB). Paul has been a senior HMI, and has significant experience in monitoring and challenging schools including special, primary and secondary schools. He has significant experience in leading inclusion projects internationally in post conflict zones in Yemen, The Palestinian Authorities and Lebanon, working with refugees and pupils with mental health issues arising from trauma. He has led work through the British Council and UNRWA. He leads on safeguarding practice across schools, both in leading training and monitoring practice, including training for safeguarding peer review projects and leading on school safeguarding investigations and private fostering. Paul has been the chair of an IEB of a school in special measures in Bradford and successfully led the school out of special measures within 7 months. He is currently the Head of Education which includes provision for SEND and CYPD.

Lorraine Doyle

Lorraine is a National Leader of Governance (NLG) and an experienced chair of governors in both primary and secondary schools. She has led Strategic Boards in place of IEBs and has a strong record in contributing towards improving schools. Lorraine is a chartered accountant and has worked for PWC as a corporate tax consultant. Lorraine has been commissioned to undertake safeguarding reviews in schools causing concern.

Clare Thomas

Clare is a senior educational psychologist with specialism in SEMH and in assessment of pupils with particular mental health issues. Clare works across special and mainstream schools, works with parents and high need pupils. She works with schools and SENDCo to ensure that provision and therapies are appropriately targeted to meet pupils' education and social needs. Clare contributes to tribunal meetings and reviews and supports governors through training.

Carol Flach – Clerk to the IEB

Carol is an experienced and expert Clerk to Governors and has full range of experience including clerking IEB and strategic boards. She has worked with schools in special measures, and has been commissioned by the LA to lead clerks training and to support weak governing bodies to improve. Carol is currently the Clerk to the Governors of Phoenix College.