Chris Francis – Co-opted Governor

Hello! I’m a co-opted Governor at Woodlawn, joining the Governing Body in September 2021. I’m looking forward to being able to bring my (hopefully complementary) skills and experience to the experienced Governing Body, and to give something back into the community near to where I live. I first formed a connection with Woodlawn back in 2014, when my youngest daughter’s swimming lessons took place in the pool, and so it made it an obvious choice to dedicate my time and energy to, to help to give as many young people as possible the best start they can in life.

Outside of the school, my day job is Head of Enterprise Architecture at NS&I (and no, I can’t fiddle the Premium Bond numbers unfortunately!). One of the key challenges we’ve got is to try and design the new technology and products in a cost effective way (as we’re funded by Treasury), so problem solving, compromise and pragmatism are the main order of the day, and I’m hoping those skills will help me out at Woodlawn. When I’m not head-down on the laptop, my two daughters keep me busy in the evenings and weekends, running Dad’s Taxi to their busy social lives and classes – not sure I’ve got any time to spend on myself anymore!

As I say, I’m really looking forward to working with a strong team (both within the Governing Body and the school itself), who are so clearly dedicated to putting the children first and seeing where the next few years can take us and them.

October 2021