



**CHRISTOPHER
NIEPER**
Education Trust

Developing Leaders &
Achievers of the *Future*

Newsletter

For Mickley's Staff, Carers and Families

Special Issue: Summer 2025



A Message from our Chair of Governors

I'd like to express our thanks to Lynn Beeson for her unwavering commitment in her tenure as Chair of Governors. We are delighted that Lynn continues to support us on the Board in her role as co-opted Governor and are grateful for the deep knowledge of the school and its community that she brings to the team.

A Warm Welcome from Your New Academy Governing Board!

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, and Children,

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors for our wonderful primary school, and to present our newly formed Academy Governing Board (AGB). As you know, our school recently joined the Christopher Nieper Education Trust, and with this exciting development comes a dedicated team of governors committed to guiding our school forward.



As your AGB, we're here to ensure that Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School continues to thrive and provide the very best education for every child. Our primary focus is, and always will be, representing the best interests of the school community. We're passionate about maintaining our school's unique character while also embracing the opportunities that being part of the Christopher Nieper Education Trust brings.

We strongly believe in the power of community and actively welcome all opportunities to get involved. Whether it's through school events, parent forums, or simply saying hello in the playground, your input and engagement are invaluable to us. We also can't wait to celebrate the continuous learning, achievements, and successes of all our pupils – big and small!

We look forward to working closely with Miss Street and all of you to ensure our school remains a vibrant and nurturing environment, working together to nurture our children to be caring, independent and successful learners.

With warm regards,

Victoria Merrick
Chair of Governors

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Victoria Merrick– Chair of Governors:

I'm honored to be serving as the new Chair of the Academy Governing Board at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School. I'm also a Trustee for Christopher Nieper Education Trust, I sit on the Standards Committee and am the link Safeguarding Trustee and sit on the Board of a maintained Primary school in Nottingham City.

I'm a proud teacher, school and multi-academy trust leader myself and after 20 years working within the education sector in the East Midlands, started my own education consultancy company in 2022, working to support education professionals make good decisions for their pupils. As the CEO and Founder of Merrick-Ed Limited, I've dedicated my career to improving education, with a particular focus on curriculum development, assessment strategies, and using data effectively to help pupils succeed.

I understand how important our children's education is and that they only get one chance at their Primary school years, and I'm really looking forward to working alongside our Governors, Headteacher, staff and parents to support our school and help every child thrive.

Sara Street– Headteacher:

My name is Sara Street and I have been Headteacher at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School for 19 years. I have been a teacher for 33 years and trained in Lancashire before moving to a very large first school in Kent where I taught infant and junior children.

I moved back to Derbyshire 23 years ago to become Deputy Head at Wirksworth Federation of Infant Schools before taking up Headship at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School. I enjoy working with children, parents and the wider community, helping children to aspire to being the best that they can be.

Lynn Beeson– Co-opted Governor:

My name is Lynn Beeson and I retired as Headteacher of Croft Infant School in Alfreton in July 2021 after spending 7 years there. Before that I spent 14 years as a teacher in an infant school in Matlock, joining the school as a newly qualified teacher, progressing to senior teacher and leaving as acting Headteacher. When my son was younger I enjoyed going into his infant and junior school as a volunteer and it was this that spurred me on to achieve my dream of being a teacher. I trained at the University of Derby and achieved my goal in 2000. After I retired I felt I still had lots to give and was invited to become a governor here at Mickley. I was Chair of Governors for two years and I am proud to be part of the school community.

Isabel Petch– Parent Governor:

After completing my PGCE with an Early Years specialism, I worked as a teacher in both primary mainstream and SEND schools before having my five children. Four are now at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School.

I now run an outdoor learning provision near Ashover on our smallholding and am a qualified Forest School Leader. I enjoy the outdoors, learning about nature, and spending time with my family.



We welcome input from members of our local community, as their perspectives are invaluable to our Governing Bodies. If you would like to help us or know of an ideal candidate interested in serving as a Governor at one of our schools, we would love to hear from them! Please email: contactus@christopherniepereducation.org



Victoria Fawcett– Co-opted Governor:



After several years of industry experience across a range of roles, I began my teaching career in 2011 at Ruskin Sports College in Cheshire. During my time there, I served as a Business and ICT Teacher and took on responsibilities in the absence of my Head of Department. My duties included leading curriculum reviews, tracking student progress in ICT across the school, and ensuring the effective operation of computer systems.

In 2012, I joined The Garibaldi School in Nottinghamshire, where I was promoted to Head of Business.

In 2018, I joined David Nieper Academy in Derbyshire, where I have held several roles. Most recently, I have been working as a Teacher of Business, Employability, and Finance, as well as serving as the Careers & Employability Leader. In this capacity, I have successfully driven improvements in academic results and significantly enhanced the school's Careers & Employability programme.

In addition, I have been serving as a Co-opted Governor at Mickley Village Primary & Nursery School since Spring 2024—a role I find both rewarding and inspiring. I am deeply passionate about empowering students to achieve their full potential while equipping them with the skills and attributes necessary for long-term success.

Helen Suffolk-Adams– Trust-appointed Governor:

It is a privilege to join the team of governors at Mickley Primary School and I am looking forward to being part of your community, getting involved and offering support.

Throughout my working life I have worked across the UK for organisations including the Probation Service, Civil Service, Local Authority, Financial Services and Education sector and this has really helped me gain lots of skills and experience that I hope to put to good use working with everyone at Mickley.

I also have volunteering experience as an educational mentor and with NSPCC ChildLine. I believe that children have the right to be happy and given opportunities to thrive.

In my spare time I love spending time with my family, I have two sons, recently became 'Nonna' to my first grandchild, I am a passionate gardener and enjoy walking with my husband and wire-haired sausage dog Orla.



Ashley Greveson– Staff– appointed Governor:

With 20 years of experience in education, I am committed to creating a learning environment where every child is equipped with the skills and knowledge to feel empowered and to succeed. Since joining the team at Mickley Village Primary and Nursery School over a year ago, I've had the pleasure of teaching our adventurous Year 1/2 class. Prior to this, I spent my previous years working as a teaching assistant/ Special Educational Needs Teaching Assistant and Higher Level Teaching Assistant before qualifying as a teacher. I spent my first 7 years teaching predominantly in Early Years and have also taught across both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. This broad experience has given me a strong understanding of the full primary journey and the importance of building strong foundations from the very start.

As subject lead for Maths, Early Reading and Phonics, Science, and Computing, I'm passionate about planning engaging and inclusive learning experiences that build confidence and curiosity. My degree in Early Years Education has shaped my belief that the early stages of learning are where children lay the foundations for lifelong success—and I'm dedicated to making those years count.

I want to be a voice for both children and all stakeholders, and to help ensure that every child is included, valued, and given the opportunity to be the very best they can be.