

Federation of Leaders in Special Education (FLSE) - Who's Who

National

David Bateson	Chairman
Malcolm Reeve	Vice-Chairman
Pauline Miller	National Administrator
Shru Suragh	Business / Finance Assistant

Regions

Ann Standley	East Midlands
Cathy Cleary	West Midlands
Mark Dale-Emberton	London
Richard Ware	Yorks & Humberside
Malcolm Reeve	East
Stephen Roberts	North West
Hugh Steele	North East

A brief biography of the principal FLSE executives and representatives is provided here, together with their primary contact details.

David Bateson **Chairman**



David is currently the Principal of Ash Field School and Assistive Technology Assessment Centre in Leicester. Ash Field is a Leicester maintained day and residential school for learners of all abilities (P levels to post-GCSE) and disabilities aged 4-19 from across the East Midlands. Ash Field is in the 'Ofsted hall of fame' which lists 1% of schools, having been named three times as excellent in annual HMCI reports.

David has been a primary Ofsted inspector, an external adviser in secondary schools, a threshold assessor, a consultant leader, a SIP, a Regional Leader for NCSL, an iIP assessor, and a Trustee of the EMLC. He has worked on a number of bodies including DCSF and Cabinet Office working parties, NAHT and local secondary, cross-phase and special head teacher groups, each of which he has chaired. He is also a Local and

National Leader of Education.

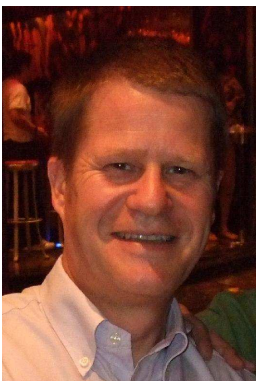
Previously David was head of a national charity residential school for speech and language disorders which was named as outstanding in the HMCI report.

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Malcolm Reeve **Vice-Chairman**



Malcolm has worked in the field of special education since 1981. Initially in the adult sector, he moved to schools in 1984 and taught in the comprehensive system in Shropshire focusing on children with moderate learning difficulties. In 1989 he became Head of Mathematics and Head of Curriculum in a special school in Hertfordshire where he supervised the introduction of the new National Curriculum. In 1993 he was appointed Deputy Headteacher of a school for children with moderate learning difficulties and in 2000 was appointed Headteacher of a school for children with moderate learning difficulties and autism in Essex. In 2007 he became Headteacher of a second special school in Essex for children with severe, complex and profound difficulties and is currently Chief Executive over both schools.

In addition to his wide experience in the field of special education with all types of cognitive, physical and complexity of learning difficulty Malcolm has a wider brief in promoting the training and education of those working in the SEN field and sharing best practice. Most important for him is the development of integrated therapy services for children with special education needs and the social inclusion of people with cognitive disabilities in society which underpins the New Model Special School concept.

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Pauline Miller **National Administrator**



Pauline's role within the FLSE is to provide administrative support to the Chief Executive Officer and Strategic Development Group. This includes a variety of activities including such things as arranging meetings, booking venues and taking Minutes at meetings - and with many busy diaries to control this is no mean feat.

Before having her family, Pauline's career included experience of working for a firm of Chartered Accountants for several years and she was then PA to the Finance Director of Britvic Soft Drinks plc. For the past 11 years she has had the privilege of working at Columbus School and College in Chelmsford as the Administration Manager and PA to the Chief Executive, Malcolm Reeve. Columbus is a large special needs school for children and young people aged 3 – 19 years with complex, severe and profound learning difficulties.

She enjoys keeping fit and spends much of her spare time enjoying leisure activities with her family.

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Ushrula (Shru) Suragh **Business / Finance Assistant**



Ushrula (Shru) Suragh began working for Columbus School and College in Chelmsford, Essex as a Business Assistant in January 2009 having had a break to raise her family. She became involved with the FLSE in November 2009 taking on a book keeping role. She had previously worked in Finance within the private sector where her principal tasks were producing management accounts and providing statistical analysis.

Coming to a school environment has been both challenging but also rewarding as she now has a better understanding of a 'Special School' and how it operates.

Whilst being a working mum takes up most of her time, she has found pleasure in helping to run the local village market. She was recently introduced to glass painting which is a welcome distraction from everyday life and photography is something that she has been interested in for many years.

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Cathy Cleary **Chair – West Midlands**

Cathy is the Senior Adviser, Curriculum and Innovation (Inclusion), for Wolverhampton Local Authority.

More soon...

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Mark Dale-Emberton **Chair - London Region**

Mark is the Head Teacher of Charlton School in South East London and is the parent of two young boys. He is an accredited School improvement partner and has over 12 years experience as a special school head teacher in South East London and is on his third headship. With support, he has taken schools out of special measures, been seconded into other schools in difficulties and then taken a lead in the strategic local reorganization of special provision creating larger organizations.

He has worked within the Special sector locally now for 23 years, with a sizable population of SEN pupils living in some of the poorest wards in the country and 60% free school meals, with their parents having an average 3 year lower life expectancy from other London Boroughs due to a range of factors. Charlton School has been partly rebuilt, and is now on one site but is currently oversubscribed and has a number of accommodation pressures.

The school has a range of BESD, SLD, PMLD and ASD with 160+ students, with an ever changing profile so that the range of complexity and severity of need continues to grow. The school also has a small weekly residential unit, thus keeping children local and also runs SEN outreach services for over 8 years serving another 500 children across the London region.

Mark firmly believes that we need to forge new ways of developing partnerships, working across traditional service boundaries to efficiently and effectively meet the needs of high cost SEN pupils and support community groups and parents in new ways.

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Richard Ware **Chair - Yorks & Humberside Region**



Richard Ware is a headteacher in Kirklees MC which is the district centred on Huddersfield and Dewsbury in West Yorkshire. This is a vibrant multi-cultural area with many advantages but also its share of challenges and needs. Richard has 32 years teaching experience within the special school sector, predominantly SLD/PLD but also spells in a generic school, peripatetic work in a Sensory Service and as deputy head in moderate & complex needs resource.

Richard was previously head at Highfields SLD/PLD School for seven years and is now head at Fairfield since 2004 another SLD/PLD provision for 110 pupils aged 3 to 19 years. New build PFI facilities opened in 2006 Fairfield is an ECO School and will commence Specialist Status in Communication & Interaction from September 2010.

Richard has chaired the Special School Headteachers Group in Kirklees for too many years to remember and also work closely with the local authority on specialist work streams as well as strategic planning and communication groups. He has been involved with the Yorkshire & Humber special schools group and FLSE for the past two years and hopes to see this network develop in the future.

Currently Kirklees is facing many challenges associated with the cuts in the BSF programme and financial constraints and there is clearly a rapidly changing relationship between schools and their local authorities. Richard is looking to develop new working partnerships with schools and services across the local area in order to make the most effective and innovative use of scarce resources.

Away from work he enjoys family life with partner of 34 years and two almost fully grown children. Loves the outdoor life and is currently looking forward to launching Martha, a 28" yacht at the culmination of a successful restoration project.

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Stephen Roberts **Chair - North West Region**



Stephen is currently in his second headship position as the Principal of St Vincent's School for the Blind and Partially Sighted in Liverpool and has now been a serving head teacher for over twenty years in two very different settings, his first headship being in an SEBD school. Both schools provide residential placement. His experience is such that Stephen has worked in a wide range of SEN settings in the independent, maintained and non maintained sector

Stephen's work has involved him in being seconded and successfully supporting schools that have been in difficulty.

He is currently Chairman of the Visual Impairment Association. He has also served on the NAHT SEN committee for many years and is currently in his second year as a Leadership Network Regional Leader for the National College for Leadership of Schools and Children's Services.

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Hugh Steele **Chair - North East Region**



Hugh is a practicing Head Teacher with 30 years experience in special education provision, following a period of time in mainstream schools.

At present he is Head Teacher at East Hartford School in Northumberland. East Hartford is a maintained school which caters for children of primary age with a statement of special educational need categorised as either Autistic Spectrum Disorder Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulties, Attention Deficit Disorder or Complex Needs, including Global Developmental Delay.

Hugh is a Special School SIP. He is Chairperson of the Northumberland Association of Special School Head Teachers, and a member of the North East of England Association of Special School Head Teachers. He is treasurer of Northumberland NAHT.

Hugh is an approved OFSTED inspector. He holds a Masters degree in Educational Management.

For 15 years Hugh was a member of Northumberland National Park search and rescue team, including 3 years as Team Leader.

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Ann Standley
Chair - East Midlands Region



Ann is the head teacher at West Gate School in Leicester City. West Gate is a broad spectrum school for pupils aged from 4-19 years which also has specialist autism provision in the primary and secondary phases. The school is situated on a split site in the west of Leicester and is one of the original twelve 'trailblazer' specialist special schools with a specialism in cognition and learning.

Ann trained as a secondary English teacher and moved into special education in the mid 80's. She has been a head teacher since 1995 when she opened a new primary MLD/ASD school following a local authority review. In 2003, she was asked to act as Head teacher of a neighbouring SLD/PMLD whilst retaining her substantive headship. The two schools were merged in 2006. Ann was appointed head teacher and for the second time in her career, was charged with establishing a new school. West Gate was recently judged by Ofsted to be a good school with many outstanding features less than four years after opening and is a best practice school for Person Centred Approaches.

Locally Ann sits as the Special School representative on the Schools Development Support Agency, the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board and LA working groups.

Ann has been one of two head teachers representing Leicester City at East Midlands Regional SEN meetings which is where her interest in regional networking and sharing of good practice and commitment to the value of a regional voice has arisen and led to her enthusiasm for supporting the development of FLSE in the East Midlands.

Ann believes passionately in personalisation and particularly person centred approaches as a means for students to be active participants in their education, in determining their future and in challenging society's attitudes to young people with SEN.

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