

Paul Jacques – Pen Portrait

I was born and raised in North London until just before Secondary School when my parents moved to Telford. I enjoyed school and following successful GCSE results continued in education to take A Level's at New College, Telford. It was here I realised my fondness for Chemistry at GCSE didn't quite prepare me for the same subject at A Level. I just couldn't get my head round it, so instead focused more on computing and business. At least here it's simple: 'Why is it broken?', 'it just is... Reboot!'

In 1998 I joined EDS on the HMRC Account as part of a Modern Apprenticeship scheme. One of the first to join and complete this scheme I found it a very good way to enter business, with similar schemes still running today I would thoroughly recommend them to anyone.

I worked in the support arena initially before moving into IT Security. In 2005 I left the HMRC Account and began working across Europe for a number of years. This included work on major accounts like Vodafone, Barclays, ING, DWP and Yorkshire Water ☺ More recently I returned to work on the HMRC Account, and now run an architecture and engineering team as a Senior Solutions Architect.

During this time I started a family and have three children, 2 boys and 1 girl. Both boys attended Wrockwardine Wood Infants and my little girl is currently in Reception at the school. One of the key traits of being an Architect in my point of view is being, well, nosy! It's this random curiosity that sparked an interest to understand how the school is run, what decisions are being made and how could I help steer those decisions to ensure the school runs successfully for all pupils.

Therefore whilst my youngest son was at the school I joined as a Parent Governor and found a different side to the school that hadn't been quite as visible previously. The effort put in by the staff at the school and the pride they show was very apparent and it's clear why both my boys made fantastic progress whilst at the Infants.

At work I spend a lot of my time in meetings; questioning and steering decisions, and ensuring delivery and success go hand in hand. This leads me to take a similar role at school and I see myself as a 'challenging', but supportive Governor. Recognising where good value and success has been achieved, but quick to spot and question any concerns. It was these traits that I believe helped me take on the role of Vice Chair which I currently hold on the Governing Body.