

## WHO ARE YOU?



I'm Dorian Brown and I have been teaching for over 15 years in a number of different contexts and positions. This is my 3rd year at Doha College having previously had the pleasure of working in Viet Nam, China & Indonesia. My wife Lucy works in the DT department and we have 2 girls who attend primary. In my advancing years, I like nothing more than a quiet night in, decompressing from the day, doing some reading or watching an old film (they don't make them like they used to!). I am a keen triathlete ('tri' being the operative word) and am an enthusiastic participant on the Doha 'circuit'.

**DORIAN BROWN**  
Board of Governors  
Teacher Governor



I'm Kate Prescott and I'm a Primary PE teacher. I've been living in Qatar for 9 years, having moved here from London, and I've been teaching PE at Doha College since 2014. I was lucky enough to work in both the Al Waab and West Bay campuses before moving to our new home here in Wajba. Being a teacher keeps me busy, but I fill my spare time with a variety of hobbies. I enjoy participating in a number of sports and will give anything active a try, but my two favourites are cycling (in the Qatar sunshine) and skiing (in the French Alps). I'm an avid reader and particularly enjoy biographies and anything written by Haruki Murakami. I also have an appreciation of all music, and I'm a member of the Doha Singers community choir.

**KATE PRESCOTT**  
Board of Governors  
Teacher Governor

## WHY DID YOU WANT TO BE A TEACHER?



**Dorian**

As a young Bristolian, teaching wasn't something that immediately jumped out as a career option, but the acting career didn't take off so here I am! I worked for a few years in the fitness industry which kindled my interest in the intricate relationship between instruction and improvement and I was fascinated about how the quality of both of these elements can be ameliorated. No better hotbed exists to explore this further than the field of education and so my love of geography, my keen interest in educational research and regard for the role that cognitive science plays coalesced to make me the teacher I am today. Still learning, still enraptured and still enchanted by both the simplicities and complexities of the profession.



**Kate**

Growing up, I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life. When I was school age, my world revolved around sports and outdoor activities. At that time, I wanted to become either a professional football player or a swimmer. Despite my best efforts in both sports, it became apparent that I needed to have a back up plan! My chosen career was that of a firefighter, which I enjoyed for several years before my husband was offered the opportunity to move to Qatar for work in 2012. Whilst I leapt at the opportunity to make the move to the Middle East it unfortunately meant leaving my career as a firefighter behind, and so I embarked on a new challenge - teaching! From the moment I met my first class 2013, I immediately felt I had found my calling and I have loved teaching ever since.

As a PE teacher my job is many things, but my primary focus is to educate children and empower them with the skills and knowledge necessary to look after their physical and mental wellbeing throughout their school career and beyond - and I can't think of any work more important than that.

## WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO BECOME A GOVERNOR?



**Dorian**

I think that by having worked in a variety of teaching and leadership positions throughout my career (encompassing pastoral, academic and extra-curricular roles), I have accrued a rich tapestry of experience that I feel would be valuable to share with any institution looking to drive improvement. Consequently, when the opportunity arose to become a governor and contribute to the strategic development of Doha College, I strongly felt I had the capacity to add value through offering the perspective of a staff member as well as a research informed practitioner with an interest and eye for the latest developments in educational theory and practice. I have relished the opportunity to work with such a knowledgeable, committed and reflective team and feel that everybody shares the same desire to ensure that our students have the highest quality educational experience during their time with us at Doha College that will shape positive dispositions and empower them to make a positive difference in our communities.



It is clear to me that the Governors provide a valuable service in bringing together a variety of expertise in the interest of the school, to help facilitate the delivery of a world class education here at Doha College. During my time at the College, I have witnessed the growth of the school both physically and educationally, much of which has been facilitated by the Governing Body. I felt that given my experience, it was time for me to give something back and dedicate some time to the Board, to help guide decisions that impact teaching and learning and support the vision of the school as a leader of education in Qatar. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with all members of the board, and have learnt a lot about how the school makes strategic decisions with regards to not only teaching and learning but also business development and growth.

## WHAT OUR ROLE IS AS TEACHER GOVERNORS

Having been appointed at the beginning of the year, our role as staff governors has been a steep learning curve, not least the first few months where all meetings were conducted via Zoom.

We see our role as being the Janus-facing link between the day to day experiences of the school and the governing body, crucially allowing the governing body to understand what happens 'under the hood' and to bring a staff perspective to discussion and debate. With all governors having children at the school, but whose backgrounds are not in the field of education, we feel that our role is to offer an insight and an objective view of what day to day teaching looks like so that we can ensure that discussions are as authentic and fruitful as possible. We both bring a wealth of professional knowledge and experience to board meetings and through sharing our thoughts, opinions, reflections and experiences, this allows the rest of the governors to arrive at decisions in a more informed way.

Achieving the balance between being an impartial staff governor and regular involvement in day-to-day issues can sometimes be very difficult but it is a challenge we both relish and we strongly feel that we play an integral part in the continued improvement and enrichment of the educational experiences of every child at Doha College.



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