



Department
for Education

Member biographies

Chair: Professor Dame Athene Donald

Professor Dame Athene Donald, DBE, FRS, is a Professor Emerita of Experimental Physics and former Master of Churchill College, University of Cambridge. A Fellow of the Royal Society, Elected Fellow of the European Academy of Sciences, an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Physics, Royal Society of Chemistry and Royal Society of Biology, Professor Donald is an internationally recognised leader in Soft Matter and Biological Physics. She has extensive experience chairing scientific panels, including previously the DCMS Science Advisory Council and the Royal Society's Education Committee. She has worked extensively to improve the place of science in public awareness and is a champion of women in science.

Deputy Chair: Professor Mark Mon-Williams

Professor Mark Mon-Williams is the Chair of Cognitive Psychology at the University of Leeds. He is the Founder Director of the Centre of Applied Education Research (a partnership between the Universities of Leeds and Bradford together with DfE, the Education Endowment Foundation, and the Bradford Local Authority) and holds several advisory roles across government. He leads a team investigating the interactions between environmental and genetic risk factors for physical and mental health multimorbidity. As a Turing Fellow, Professor Mon-Williams also has experience in data science and AI.

Professor Chris Bonell

Professor Chris Bonell is a Professor of Public Health & Sociology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Professor Bonell combines his expertise in sociology and epidemiology to conduct trials of school health interventions, on a range of topics such as bullying, mental health, sexual health, substance use, dating and relationship violence.

Professor William J. Browne

Professor William J. Browne is a Professor of Statistics & Head of the School of Education, University of Bristol. An applied, computational statistician by training, Professor Browne has developed widely used statistical and data science tools and has worked extensively with government.

Professor Claire Crawford

Professor Claire Crawford is a Professor of Economics at the Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities, University College London. Professor Crawford's research tackles a wide range of education and labour market issues, with a focus on

inequalities and how policy can tackle these gaps. Recent work has explored the drivers of productivity and the impact of childcare subsidies on children and parents.

Michael Cribb

Michael Cribb is a Chartered Structural Engineer and Associate Director, Arup.

Michael Cribb has experience of a wide range of multi-disciplinary engineering projects, particularly in the Health and Education sectors. He worked with DfE during the RAAC response.

Dr Dougal Hargreaves

[Dr Dougal Hargreaves](#) is a Professor of Paediatrics & Population Health, Imperial College London. Professor Hargreaves has a long-standing interest in addressing inequalities and improving outcomes for children and young people. His work focuses on joining up data, services and policies across health, education, social care and other sectors. He was previously Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser in the Department for Education.

Professor Sonya Krutikova

[Professor Sonya Krutikova](#) is a Professor of Economics, University of Manchester, & Deputy Research Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies. Dr Krutikova focuses on understanding how childhood circumstances influence child development, education and adult economic outcomes and well-being. She has worked on a diverse range of high middle- and lower-income country contexts.

Professor Rose Luckin

[Professor Rose Luckin](#) FRSA, is a Professor Emerita of Learner Centred Design at University College London. Professor Luckin draws on her 30 expertise in the Learning Sciences, Computer Sciences and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to explore how AI can ethically and impactfully enhance learning and teaching and how it impacts educational organisations and systems.

Dr Amy Orben

[Dr Amy Orben](#) is a Programme Leader of the Digital Mental Health Research Programme at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, University of Cambridge. Dr Orben is a leading expert on the impact of widely used digital technologies, including smartphones and social media, on child and adolescent health and education. Her interdisciplinary research has played a pivotal role in shaping national and international policies in this area.

Professor Paul Ramchandani

[Professor Paul Ramchandani](#) is a LEGO Professor of Play in Education, Learning and Development, University of Cambridge. A psychiatrist in child and adolescent mental

health, his research studies children's development from the earliest point of life with a focus on the prevention of mental health problems.

Professor Michael J. Reiss

Professor Michael J. Reiss is a **Professor of Science Education at the Institute of Education, University College London**. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology, the Royal Society of Arts and the Academy of Social Science, Professor Reiss is an expert in ethics and science education and is a member of the Nuffield Council for Bioethics.

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