

eis

Scotland's largest  
education trade union

# GTCS

## ELECTIONS 2022

### EIS CANDIDATES



**Tom Britton**



**Lilian Field**



**Omar Kettlewell**



**Adam Sutcliffe**



**Elizabeth Russell**



**John Wilson**



**Krysia  
Smyth**



**Annemarie Harley**

# Representing Teachers in Scotland



## **I am writing to urge you to vote for all of the EIS supported candidates in the forthcoming GTCS elections.**

The GTCS is highly influential in terms of Education policy generally, as well as having specific remits in the areas of the Professional Standards and Code, and the Professional Update scheme.

At a time of real challenge in our schools as we continue to respond to the pandemic, as we look towards another series of Education reforms, and as we seek to bring about real culture change in Scottish Education in the context of the Empowerment agenda, it is crucial that the teacher voice is heard at GTCS.

Teachers have a majority of only one on the GTCS Council, the other seats being filled by appointment, so it is essential that the teachers who are elected are representative of the interests of the majority of teachers and not focussed on narrow agendas.

For this round of elections, the EIS has supported a number of candidates who are well-placed to ensure this. They are EIS members who are:

- **Class Teachers/ Headteachers and EIS members who command the respect of their colleagues in their schools;**
- **committed to promoting the highest standards within the profession;**
- **committed to defending teachers in the face of the many challenges faced on a daily basis in our schools.**

I believe strongly that their experience, taken together with their personal integrity and commitment, equip them well to represent colleagues on the GTCS Council.

When you receive your online voting information from the GTCS this month (January), please vote for all EIS supported candidates.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Flanagan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Larry Flanagan, EIS General Secretary

# Your Vote Counts

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## GTCS matters for every teacher

The EIS supports the work of the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) in its significantly important role in Scottish Education. The work of the GTCS impacts on teacher professionalism and the professional lives of teachers throughout their careers. This role is of particular importance in light of Professional Update, the development of teacher professionalism and the need to enhance the status of the teaching profession.

## Why strong teacher voice on GTCS Council matters

- To be able to teach in Scotland, every teacher must be registered, and remain registered, with GTCS.
- The GTCS sets 3 Professional Standards: The Standard for Registration; The Standard for Career-Long Professional Learning; and The Standard for Leadership and Management.
- The GTCS accredits Initial Teacher Education as well as playing a critical role supporting professional learning through the Professional Standards and related activity.
- Cases of alleged teacher misconduct or incompetence are reported to GTCS, which has the right to use the ultimate sanction of removing teachers from the GTCS Register.
- The GTCS is influential to a great extent in discussion and debate related to the work of the teaching profession and the quality of learning and teaching within our education settings.

**Vote for **all** EIS Candidates**

**Vote Online: [www.gtcs.org.uk](http://www.gtcs.org.uk)**

**Voting is solely online; your voting PIN will be emailed to you directly by the GTCS.**

All teachers on the GTCS register will receive an email with ballot instructions by **Monday 10 January 2022** and online voting will be open from that date until noon on **11 February 2022**.

# Primary EIS Candidates



## **Tom Britton**

Edinburgh

I have been honoured to serve as an elected teacher member on the GTCS Council for the past four years. I have served on the main Council and on the PRA Committee. I have seen my role as providing a strong and committed teacher voice at the heart of every GTCS discussion and decision. I have also been proud to be an EIS supported candidate and am currently an active EIS activist. I have been a teacher for over 20 years, working in Primary mainstream and Special Schools. Keeping the GTCS independent with a strong teacher voice is crucial.



## **Lilian Field**

Headteacher / Aberdeenshire

As a current member of GTCS Council, representing teachers and headteachers, I would aim to continue to ensure that teacher voice, high quality professional learning opportunities, equality and diversity are central to the vision for Scottish Education.

An active EIS member, I wish to see the GTCS continue as a highly respected, teacher led and teacher funded organisation. I believe that the GTCS should continue to operate independently of Government, leading on the management of teachers' professional learning, offering support for the health and wellbeing of members and ensuring standards of initial teacher education are of the highest quality.



## **Omar Kettlewell**

South Lanarkshire

I am currently a member of GTCS Council and am seeking re-election. I have worked across all stages of Primary and am passionate about making a difference within Scottish education. I am a qualified nurture practitioner and am also passionate about exploring Philosophy with children and about early years practice.

I have served on GTCS Council throughout the pandemic, and in school have supported teachers, pupils and families through many challenges, amidst an ever-changing landscape.

My priority is to represent teachers in a way that reflects the reality of classroom practice and day to day school life at this time.

**Vote for **all** EIS  
Candidates**

# Secondary EIS Candidates



## Adam Sutcliffe

Aberdeenshire

I am a Principal Teacher of Modern Languages at The Gordon Schools, Huntly and am currently President of my EIS Local Association. I also serve on EIS Council, Equalities Committee and the Anti-Racist Sub-Committee.

I have served on GTCS Council for the last 4 years and am a member of the Professional Regulatory Assurance Committee and the Decision Process Review Group. I am seeking re-election to serve a further term as I believe it is vital for experienced teachers, with an understanding of education on a national level, to commit and add their voice to this important role.



## Elizabeth Russell

Glasgow City Council, Education Services

I am a teacher who has taught in ASN and mainstream settings and have full registration across three curricular areas. This experience would allow me to represent you with confidence and ensure that the teacher's voice from the classroom is heard.

A committed EIS member, I am completing accreditation to become a Learning Representative. By listening to my peers, I am able to ensure that the discussion around the evolving nature of the profession has teachers at its centre. I am seeking your support towards ensuring that the commitment and endeavour of Scotland's teachers is reflected strongly in Council deliberations.

Vote for **all** EIS Candidates



## **John Wilson**

Headteacher, Edinburgh

I am privileged to be the Headteacher of Broughton HS in Edinburgh. It is a truly comprehensive school that serves a socially and ethnically diverse community. I have been an active member of the EIS for three decades.

I have supported the work of the GTCS through panel accreditation for the Standards. I believe the upholding of professional standards is vital for maintaining the quality of learners' experiences and enabling collegiate support between teachers.

As a member of the GTCS I would seek to ensure that the Council reflects and supports the realities and aspirations of teachers in Scotland's schools.

**Candidate  
preference  
- election  
statement  
only**

## **Krysia Smyth**

Edinburgh

I work at Tynecastle HS and am the EIS rep. Past roles include being Curricular Leader of the CDT Faculty and work at the SQA. Currently, probationer mentoring and authority-wide collegiate working alongside development work with Education Scotland give me a wider perspective of my profession.

As a professional invested in teaching with the sense of realism of the impact the GTCS has on teachers, my voice has a place within the GTCS Council. I have a keen interest in the changing assessment system and the role establishments play in delivering an assessment system that will be fit for purpose.

Further Education

Elected unopposed (EIS Candidate)



## Annemarie Harley

Forth Valley College

I have taught in Further Education for almost 20 years, with a background in Learning Support and Adult Literacies. I have a particular interest in access and inclusion.

I have been active in the GTCS sub-groups as an EIS/ FELA National Rep, working on the exciting development of the roll-out of GTCS registration to all FE lecturers, allowing the sector to have the professional recognition it deserves. I have developed a wider interest in GTCS matters from my recent experience and am committed to ensuring the success of the FE registration roll-out and a strong FE voice within GTCS Council.

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