

Stephen has had a long association with the school. His son, Chris attended the school from 1989-1999. He has also given many years' service to the school as Governor serving on the Prep School Committee, Finance and Resources, Marketing and External Affairs, and since 2010 he has been our Chair of Governors. It goes without saying what an important job this is, and Stephen has been brilliant.

His background is in the law. After a spell as a tax lawyer with Clifford-Turner, Stephen turned his attention to the business of law. For more than 30 years, he has advised law firms around the world on issues of strategy, economics, ownership, and valuation. He has a particular interest in the reconfiguration of the legal world being driven by competition and the Legal Services Act 2007, while maintaining a firm belief in the need for professional ethics and integrity in business. In 2015, he chaired the regulators' review of the Legal Services Act which resulted in the submission to the Ministry of Justice of options for legislative change.

Stephen is known for having an independent mind, and now divides his time between legal services regulation and non-executive and advisory appointments. He is a barrister and Bencher of Lincoln's Inn, and chairs the Inn's Regulatory Panel. He is also an honorary professor in the Centre for Ethics and Law at UCL, and emeritus professor of legal services regulation at The University of Law.

As well as chairing the Bedford School Committee, non-executive appointments include directorships of two alternative business structures licensed under the Legal Services Act (and chairman of one of them), and a charitable company limited by guarantee. As an adviser, Stephen has worked with hundreds of organisations around the world, helping them to make difficult decisions in times of structural and industry change. He has worked with law firms, barristers' chambers, corporate and government legal departments, and regulators.

Stephen is the author of several books, including *Law Firm Strategy: Competitive Advantage and Valuation* (2007, Oxford University Press), *Making Sense of Law Firms* (1997, Oxford University Press), and *Company Law* (33<sup>rd</sup> ed, Oxford University Press, with Derek French and Christopher Ryan).