

## Role of a Parent Governor at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

As a parent governor you hold the unique position of having a parental viewpoint. Through the children you will have first-hand experience of the curriculum and how the school is perceived from the parents' point of view. You will be able to bring this perspective to the strategic management of the school. As a parent governor you do not have to vote in a particular way because you have been pressed to do so by parents. Objectivity, however, is essential. You are not there to promote the interests of your own children but all children. Parent governors are elected by other parents and it is important to establish a rapport with the parental body that elected you, whilst continuing to maintain a strategic approach to school governance.

As an effective parent governor you:

- help to decide the priorities for improving the school
- work in partnership with the Head Teacher, senior leadership team and cooperatively with other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children
- prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand
- attend annual safeguarding training
- attend full governing body and relevant committee meetings
- read briefings and newsletters for governors; present a balanced view of issues representing different sections of the community
- promote the interests of the school in the wider community
- be loyal to the decisions made by the governing body
- respect the confidentiality of governing body affairs
- declare an interest and withdraw from any meeting where you, a partner or close relative or associate stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial

## Time commitment

- Governors are expected to attend all full governing body meetings and committee meetings as appropriate.

The expectation is that Governors attend x1 Full Meeting each term = 3 per year. In addition to this it is requested that Governors also sit on either of these two committees:

1. Curriculum & Standards
2. Finance & Resources

Therefore over the year; it is reasonable to be expected to attend x6 meetings.

As school situations require; you may also be invited to sit on committees for: Disciplinary, Appointments, Complaints and Performance Review.

When a vacancy for Parent Governor arises it will be published by the Head Teacher. Should more nominations be received than required; an election will then be arranged.