

Annual Statement of the Trustees and Governing Body of St Mary's Catholic Primary Schools Trust 2023

In accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Governing Body are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction in line with the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Holding senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements The Governing Body consists of the following members; 4 foundation governors 2 parent governors 1 co-opted governor CEO 2 head of schools 2 staff governors Total – 12 members

The Full Governing Body meets once each term. Sub committees also meet once a term, to consider different aspects of the school in detail.

We currently have a Resources Committee, a Learning and Wellbeing Committee, a Safeguarding Committee and an Admissions Committee. Other committees such as: Appeals Committee, HT Performance Committee and a Pay Review Committee are convened when necessary

Our governors undertake a skills audit at the beginning of each year, and attend training and refresher training to ensure the Governing Body continues to have the appropriate mix of skills and expertise to effectively undertake its functions.

The new constitution allows associate governors to be appointed if there is an identified gap in the skill set. Attendance record of governors Governors' attendance at meetings is excellent.

The work that we have done within our committees and in the governing body During the first half of the academic year, the governing body monitored the school improvement plan and looked at its impact on pupil achievement and wellbeing.

The governing body has also been working with our neighbouring Catholic schools to create a new Multi Academy Trust and developing a leadership succession plan to secure both schools going forward. The Resources Committee met at once a term to monitor the budget and agree future spending priorities and to monitor all aspects of staffing.

The Learning and Wellbeing committee met termly to monitor tracking data, which gives the results of pupil achievement and progress and discussed how Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding is allocated, as well as its impact. This committee also monitored children's behaviour and personal development and the continued development and enrichment of the Catholic life of the school.

The Safeguarding Committee met once a term to monitor all safeguarding and health and safety procedures, including the single central record, all safeguarding policies, fire procedures. A member of this committee also carried out health and safety walks with senior leaders.

Minutes of Governing Body and Committee meetings are public documents.

Future plans for the Governors

- To continue to investigate examples of outstanding governance.

- Governors will continue to make regular visits to school to monitor the impact of School Development priorities.
- To investigate ways for our schools to consolidate our relationships with our neighbouring Catholic schools.