



**CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL
GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT**

2018-2019

Governors' Annual Report

Biba Dow and Hilda Bellamy Co-Chairs of Governors

Welcome to our annual report from the Governing board to parents, carers and guardians. The report is produced in the Autumn Term each year.

Every governor is a volunteer who gives their time freely to the role and we would like to thank them for their commitment and valuable input.

Our job as governors is to work together with the staff of the school in achieving our one common goal of a successful school which enables our pupils to achieve their potential and leave after Year 6 well prepared for secondary school as well-rounded individuals. The three core strategic functions of the Governing Body are:

- 1) Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;**
- 2) Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;**
- 3) Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

This report summarises our work over the last year and identifies plans moving forward.

1. The Board of Governors

A total of 13 governors make up the Board at Corpus Christi School. Last Autumn, after elections, Thom Chesser became our new parent governor following the departure of Caroline Carberry. We thank Caroline for her committed service, highlighting her link role for SEND and PE (particularly her promotion of competitive sport for girls). We welcomed back Miranda Sawyer as our second parent governor and, following her election as Chair at the June Board meeting, now becomes a foundation governor. We congratulate Miranda in her new role as Chair. In spring we welcomed Andrew Godfrey as a new foundation governor and in June we re-appointed William Mordaunt for a third term of office. We also said farewell to Fanny Brown who we thank for her service as a foundation governor and her commitment to diversity issues.

Our esteemed Chair, Josephine Namusisi-Riley, resigned in January for personal reasons and Hilda Bellamy and Biba Dow stepped up from co-vice chairs to become co-chairs for the remainder of the year.

We warmly welcome Fr Tom, not only as the new Parish Priest of Corpus Christi Church, but as a foundation governor and our pupils' spiritual shepherd during their time at Corpus Christi school.

List of Governors (1st Sept 2018 to 31st August 2019) :

Name	Category	Committees/Responsibilities
Biba Dow	Foundation Governor	Co-Chair/Co-Vice Chair, Appraisal Committee, Safeguarding, Link governor for Health and Safety, Pastoral & Equalities
Hilda Bellamy	Foundation Governor	Co-Chair/Co -Vice Chair, Safeguarding, Pay Committee, Link governor for Pupil & PE Premium, KS1 and LKS2 achievement and Music
Fr Adrian McKenna-Whyte	Foundation Governor	Pastoral, RE and Ethos
William Mordaunt	Foundation Governor	Resources Committee, Link governor for Maths
Andrew Godfrey	Foundation Governor	Pay Committee

Michael Burke	Foundation Governor	Appraisal Committee, Link governor for Science and UKS2 achievement
Fanny Brown	Foundation Governor	
Josephine Namusisi-Riley	Foundation Governor	Chair until resigning in January 2019
Miranda Sawyer	Parent Governor	Resources Committee, Appraisal Committee, Admissions Committee, Link governor for Safeguarding, IT and EYFS, Chair January 2019
Thom Chesser	Parent Governor	Admissions Committee, Link governor for SEND & EAL, English
Jim Wood	Community Governor	Resources and Pay committees, Link governor for Art & DT, Governor training
Jean Connery	Co-Head-Ex Officio Governor	Admissions, Resources, Safeguarding, Pastoral and Equalities
Robert COyle	Co-Head Accounting Officer	

Our Foundation Governors are appointed by the Diocese and thought is given to what skills the governing body needs. Some governors may be co-opted; they are selected based on the skills we need, to ensure we have an increasingly talented and diverse group of people to support the school's leadership team and to meet our three core strategic functions.

Since 2017, our Governing Board structure is as follows:



As well as attending Strategy, Achievement and full Governing Body meetings, each governor also serves on one or more committee. They are also linked to one or more areas of school life as Link governors for: Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Pastoral and Equalities, Pupil Premium and PE Premium, SEND and EAL, Achievement across the phases and each curriculum subject. This involves meeting annually with lead staff members during school visits, after which a brief report is written and circulated to the lead staff, Head teachers and governors. Governors are interested in reviewing the strategies which derive from the SIP targets, in regard to their Link area, and in the well being of staff and children.

2. Strategic Leadership

Governors have a responsibility to steer the strategic direction of the school and have an important part in developing the strategic objectives. We have an additional FGB strategy meeting in the Autumn to review the progress to date and to set the next year's strategic goals. Last year was year 3 of the 3-5 year Strategic Plan. From this a one year School Improvement Plan was produced. The SIP covers 7 key areas of school life and an action plan is developed for each area. Supplementary action plans are drawn up by the governors, subject leaders, SENCO and phase leaders among others. The 18/19 SIP focused on the following objectives, namely;

1. To embed PM systems for all support staff
2. To encourage enquiry through a curriculum that challenges and stimulates pupils' minds
3. To develop an IT strategy that is forward thinking in its delivery of the curriculum
4. To plan a Nursery provision that meets the needs of the school community in line with government changes

The evidence for the full set of the year's targets will be scrutinised at our Autumn Strategy Meeting where a RAG rating is decided upon and the new objectives agreed. The Governors produce their Action Plan at this meeting which links to the SIP targets and to areas for development highlighted in the Board's Self Evaluation which was completed at the end of April. Last year we increased the number of Link visits and this year we hope to publicise what we do via the school newsletter to raise awareness of our role across the wider community.

Among the many school achievements over the past year, I would like to highlight the following:

- Outstanding KS2 results which are well above the national and local averages
- Progress in Reading, Writing and Maths was significantly above national and in the highest 20% of all schools in 2019, 2018 and 2017
- Outstanding school attendance figures of 98.2% (the highest in our local authority)
- Embedding the FAMILY values via large, bold signage in communal areas.
- Improvements to the Infant playground to enhance the children's safety and experience
- New infant 'safe space' and improved storage and staff study facilities
- Two teaching assistants enrolled on Teach Direct scheme
- Highly successful Alumni day where past pupils could meet with professionals who are sponsors for their fields, and ask questions about career options.
- Outstanding results from the parents' questionnaire indicate satisfaction with the school in all areas is 99%
- Successful joint staff and governors evening after the AGM in November 18

Governor Training

As a Governing body, we regularly carry out a skills audit to identify areas in which we can develop and strengthen the team. We have a designated governor who oversees training and ensures governors receive information on forthcoming courses. Training is provided by school staff, Lambeth Council and independent facilitators as needed to make sure we have a well-trained Board with the right knowledge and skills. The Board has access to a wide range of online training modules from the National Governance Association e.g. a recent one on the new Inspection framework with its focus on a broad and balanced curriculum and governors' responsibilities. Over the past year, individual governors have attended training courses in financial management, headteacher appraisal, diversity, safeguarding, safer recruitment.

There was also an illuminating full board training session on diversity issues by an independent facilitator where areas such as unconscious bias and were discussed.

Full board training took place at our Achievement meeting and was facilitated by school leaders. We looked in detail at the way in which achievement and progress scores were calculated and what they

signified. We also learnt about the school's new triangulated lesson observation and marking schemes and asked about the impact of these. Feedback across the school has been very positive.

The first full governing body meeting each year is focused on pupil achievement. We look closely at pupil progress and attainment, understand the performance of different groups and in different subjects and key stages. We also make comparisons with schools both locally and nationally. Having this in-depth understanding and focus allows us to challenge and identify areas in which we could make even more improvements.

Governors also learn through their link visits and other activities, such as the book look in May where governors saw pupils' written work. These visits support our monitoring of performance but importantly they build relationships with our most valuable asset - the school staff.

3. Finances

The funds we receive are calculated using a formula. There is a fixed amount per pupil which makes up the majority of the school budget. Added to this are funds for special needs, social deprivation, English as an additional language, pupil premium and a number of other factors. Planning the expenditure of this budget each financial year is a process which uses historical information, predictions and known factors. The largest part of this expenditure, approximately 86% of our government funding, is spent on staffing costs.

Because of changes to the funding formula and ongoing cuts to school budgets the school continue to work very closely with members of the Finance Committee and full Governing body to review, plan and monitor our finances.

4. Staffing and infrastructure

Senior Leader Ship Team	4	SBM and Finance/Admin Team	1 + 4
Phase Leaders	4	TAs and LSAs	23
Teachers (not included above)	12	Premises and Middy staff	1.5 + 3

We have a Senior Leadership of the Co-Heads (Mr. R Coyle & Mrs. Jean Connery), two Assistant Headteachers (Mrs Smart and Mrs Cole) and a School Business Manager (Ms Ruiz). We also have an expanded our Middle Leadership Team to include Phase Group Leaders. The different Phase Groups are EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage), Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Our teachers across the school are well supported by our team of experienced non-teaching staff who are deployed to meet the ever changing needs of our school. There is an increasing requirement for Learning Support Assistants to meet the needs of children with SEN. We also employ a large number of external staff providing speech & language therapy, educational psychology, literacy support, PE coaches and music tutors.

We have an ongoing plan of expenditure in order to make sure the premises provide a warm, clean and safe environment for children and staff. This included the provision of air cooling in Class 11, whose design made it an uncomfortable room to learn in during the summer months. The children and staff greatly benefitted from the more comfortable temperatures maintained this summer.

We continue to invest in our IT infrastructure and provide new interactive touch screens in classrooms, with the support of our Parent's association we have been able to progress with this programme at a faster than initially anticipated.

We have invested in our partnership with the Lambeth CLC to drive the IT Curriculum programme which enables us to teach the children a broad spectrum of topics, through lesson plans, training for staff and computing workshops for children.

Our P.E. Grant funding has been used to extend the PE curriculum and enter the school in a large number of competitions across different disciplines across the borough. Equipment has also been bought to promote PE in early years and to provide ballet for Early Years and Ballroom for Upper KS2. In addition to this exercise to music classes have been enjoyed by different year groups. You will find more detail about how we used our P.E. Grant funding on the P.E. page of the school website.

Some supplies and services are bought in to help with the running of the school. This includes administrative supplies, catering, cleaning, payroll and professional development services. Curriculum resources include classroom equipment, books, paper and pencils that are essential to everyday life in a school. It also includes a substantial amount spent on new technology and upgrading old equipment such as computers, laptops, smart-screens, projectors and iPads.

New boilers were installed over the summer to replace ones over 20 years old. The full costs was met from the Condition Improvement Fund. Additional storage space and improved staff working space has been added in the rooms adjacent to the staff room. Space has been created there for the 'safe space' where KS1 pupils can discuss any worries with a trained member of staff. KS2 have a 'safe space' in the Junior building. The mental well-being of pupils and staff remains a high priority.

New signage has been added around the school to promote and embed the FAMILY values (faith, aspiration, motivation, love and you are unique). This allows pupils and staff to see these as they move around the school. The new mission statement has been clearly displayed as a sign by the front desk.

The infant playground has been landscaped and resurfaced with artificial turf providing a comfortable, safer surface for our younger pupils. It is being populated with play materials, plants and activities which enable the children to develop practical skills, e.g. caring for plants, during the break times.

A budget is in place for all of the above, and the resources committee receives regular reports to monitor income and expenditure throughout the year and discuss future plans as the school continues to grow in size and reputation.

5. Pupil Achievement

Our KS2 results were outstanding once again this year. Achievement and progress are well above the national and local averages in reading, writing and maths. On behalf of the governing body, I would like to thank the Headteachers and all school staff for their dedication and very hard work that enable our pupils to be the best they can be when they leave Corpus Christi. As a governing body, we rely on school staff to help us understand the curriculum, challenges and issues at hand. Through regular communication, meetings and school visits we are able to effectively support and guide the school and continually improve outcomes and provision for all our pupils.

For SEND pupils, the school continues to provide a range of interventions to support pupils with cognitive, physical, social and emotional needs. These take place before and during schooltime and include Occupational Therapy, Spelling Club, Life Skills and Lego Therapy. Training for all school staff is given high priority. In the coming year the school will prioritise ASD sensory training and Makaton training.

Each year during the Autumn Term, the Senior Leadership Team scrutinises the data relating to achievement and attainment in all year groups and in particular of the results of national SATs tests. The middle leadership team also scrutinises achievement in each phase group. Their findings are reported to the full Governing Body in our first meeting and this informs the support strategies and interventions that are put in place. This information is reviewed by the leadership team on a half termly basis. Our School Improvement Adviser from Lambeth visits termly to monitor school performance and moderate teacher assessments to ensure they are in line with other local schools. They produce a full report which is shared at board meetings, along with the Head teachers report.

6. Finding Out More and Contacting Governors

More information about the Governing Body is available from the Governor's page on the school website. If you would like further details on any of the above information, how to become a school governor or you would like to contact a governor please contact the school on governors@corpus-christi.org.uk

We'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Governing Board to say a massive thank you to the Head teachers, the Senior Leadership team, Phase Leaders and the entire staff team for all their hard work in helping our children to achieve such outstanding results. We would also like to thank our parents and the whole school community for your continued support.

With all best wishes,

Biba Dow and Hilda Bellamy

Co-Chairs of Governors