

Diocese of Westminster

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Governing Body Code of Conduct

September 2020

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Catholic voluntary aided primary school within the Diocese of Westminster and the London Borough of Ealing. The governing body has the responsibility of ensuring that the school's mission and ethos reflect the teaching of the Catholic Church as well as promoting a high quality educational environment for children and staff.

The governing body is a corporate body. Governors have no authority to act individually or in groups unless such authority has been expressly delegated to them by the governing body. All governors have equal status and whilst they may have been appointed or elected by different groups, the purpose of the school governor is to promote the welfare of the children in the school in accordance with the Diocesan Trust Deed. Foundation governors have a specific statutory duty to ensure that the Catholic character of the school is preserved and developed and that the school is conducted in accordance with its Trust Deed (School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 8(1)). Foundation governors are appointed by and are ultimately responsible to the Bishop.

As Governors of St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School we undertake to:

- Attend governing body meetings regularly and punctually;
- Work with other governors as a team, promoting Gospel values at all times;
- Speak on behalf of the governing body only when specifically authorised to do so by the governing body;
- Preserve confidentiality in not discussing confidential items outside governing body meetings and not sharing discussion about decisions, even those decisions that are made public;
- Respect the professional knowledge and experience of the headteacher and staff;
- Accept a fair share of the workload by becoming involved in at least one committee and helping in other areas where family and other commitments allow;
- Endeavour to understand how the school works by making school visits in accordance with the governors' visits policy;
- Actively pursue the school's interests;
- Promote the school within the local parishes and local communities.

As a Governing Body we will:

- Ensure that the school is run according to its Catholic ethos and in keeping with the Diocesan Trust Deed;
- Accept collective responsibility for the decisions made by the governing body and its committees;
- Accept responsibility for the policies and procedures of the school and for ensuring that they are reviewed regularly;
- Seek to develop effective partnerships with the headteacher, staff, parents, local parishes and clergy, local community, local authority and other local schools;
- Welcome new governors and ensure that they have an opportunity to meet with the headteacher and chair of governors;
- Seek out opportunities to praise staff and to celebrate the school's achievements;
- Take an interest in the welfare of all staff and pupils;
- Take our own training needs seriously, ensuring that all committees have trained membership;
- Ensure that all governors are treated equally and encouraged to contribute;
- Conduct our business efficiently and in accordance with relevant regulations and guidance;
- Act professionally at all times and with integrity, objectivity and honesty, drawing on the model of the person, life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

This code of Conduct was agreed by the Governing Body of St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School at its full governing body meeting on

All new governors will be given a copy of this document on appointment to the Governing Body. It will be reviewed on.....