

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School
Governor Personal Statements
Academic Year 2020-2021



Mr J Ismay - Chair of Governors.

My involvement with St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School stems from my joint beliefs which are "rooted in children as our future" and we must do as best we can to help/support their education and to "follow the Catholic/Christian belief in following Christ", his example to us all, and seeing his values passed on to our children.

I have no professional experience in education other than my own personal time at school as a pupil and that of my own children, who are now grown up. I do subscribe to the need to help our parish school thrive and understand that all schools have to be governed.

To be able to support the senior management team and staff is a privilege and if, in some small measure I can be of service, I will continue to do so.

Father P Clarke - Foundation Governor and Parish Priest

Hello, it's Father Peter, I've been a priest for 26 years and the last 7 have been at St Bernadette's. It's great to be a part of such a wonderful school, which is an integral part of St Bernadette's Parish.

Mrs J Farrell - Local Authority Governor-Vice Chair

I have been a governor representing the Local Authority for 3 years at St Bernadette's. I am really proud to be a part of the school community as St Bernadette's is such a wonderful school.

I am also the local councillor so it's brilliant to be able to support my local school and the children. It's important to me that every child can achieve their full potential and I feel very privileged that I can play a small part to help them to succeed. I also have a particular interest in safeguarding and I have completed the safeguarding & safer recruitment training.

Mr F Kelly - Parent Governor

My name is Frank Kelly. I have been a Parent Governor since February 2019. My child is in Year 6. I have been a Parishioner of St Bernadette's from 2002.



Mrs L Robins - Parent Governor

As a professional working within the health and social care sector I have good knowledge and understanding of our schools aims and objectives. I feel I can contribute to the success of the school and offer support and guidance where appropriate. My particular skills aim to support safeguarding procedures, recruitment and retention and quality assurances. St Bernadette's provides a positive and loving environment for children to flourish and excel which attracted me to become a parent governor of the school.

My name is Christine Smith and for the last 13 years I have been engaged as the Online Tutor for the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies for the Lancaster Diocese Education Service. My main interest is adult formation in the Catholic faith employing catechesis and evangelization. I have been involved in adult formation at both Deanery and Diocesan level for over 20 years.

Previously I worked for Lancashire County Council as NVQ Co-ordinator for Business Administration and Management NVQs delivering the qualifications to support staff in schools throughout Lancashire. Prior to this I was Curriculum Manager for Business Administration and IT Qualifications at Lancaster and Morecambe College. These two positions have given me experience of liaising with senior management, staff, pupils, parents and other agencies. In both positions I also had responsibility for managing teams of staff and ensuring that they had all the resources and support they need to effectively carry out their duties.

Mrs D Duke - Staff Governor and Family Support Worker/Designated Safeguarding Lead

My role at St Bernadette's is Family Support worker and Designated Safeguarding Lead
My role is wide and varied, and includes -
Attendance and Pastoral care for children, families, and staff members

I have been on the Governing Body as an Associated Governor for several years. I am happy to be able to represent the staff members on the Governing Body.

My hobbies and interests are reading, my grandchildren, knitting, sewing and travel
I am a member of my church PCC as safeguarding officer
I am secretary of a local branch of the Royal Air Force Association.

I became a Governor to give the staff a voice on the Governing Body, to support the Governors in ensuring that the school is accountable and giving the best service to the families and children of St Bernadette's

Miss J Greenhalgh - Associate Governor, Assistant Headteacher and Year 6 Teacher



Having taught at St. Bernadette's for over seven years, I am proud to work in a school which has such a positive, inclusive ethos. As the Year Six teacher, I feel privileged to support children and parents in their last year at primary school and prepare them for the next stage of their academic journey. My other roles include Assistant Head Teacher, Key Stage One Leader, Maths Subject Leader and PSHE Subject Leader. I am an active member of St Bernadette's Catholic Church as a Sacristan and Reader. Alongside being an Associate Governor, these roles afford me the opportunity to work with the whole school community. In my spare time, I love walking my lovable Labrador, Teddy, who is extremely mischievous and keeps me on my toes!

Sadly, Peter Brennan, our Previous Vice Chair of Governors, has recently passed away. As he had already prepared a statement for our website, we would like to include it.

Mr P Brennan - Previous Vice Chair and Foundation Governor

I am Peter Brennan-- a Foundation Governor and Vice Chair of the Governing Body. When I moved back to Blackpool after teaching for 30 years in Leeds I became involved in Church affairs and with the school. I have been a Governor for about 20 years. I enjoy going into School when I can and helping within classes. I have responsibility for Literacy and SENCO. As a foundation Governor I am appointed by the Catholic Church usually the Parish Priest. I am always welcomed into School by the Head , staff and children. I try to support School activities as far as possible. I hope to continue as a Governor for a few more years and support Mrs. Satterthwaite and staff to the best of my ability
Peter J. Brennan