



St Edmund Arrowsmith
Catholic High School



PARENT GOVERNOR VOTING PROCESS

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware, we have a vacancy for a **Parent Governor**.

I am absolutely delighted that we have received a total of 4 nominations for this post, which are detailed within this booklet for your perusal.

The voting process will take place virtually via an online link and a separate email will be sent out to all parents/carers to facilitate this process. However, if you prefer to receive a hard copy of the voting form, please contact the Clerk to Governors, Mrs P Lennon who will pass this to your son or daughter.

The rules regarding voting are that parents/carers are only allowed **one vote each** (irrespective of how many children are attending school). Therefore, the voting link asks you to identify the name of your son or daughter, so that we can confirm that voting takes place in an equitable manner.

Please take the time to read the statements within this booklet as I am sure you will agree our school is very blessed to have a parent body with such a diverse and valuable skill base.

Yours faithfully

S J WESTHEAD

Chair of Governors

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FROM:

		<u>Parent to:</u>
1.	JULIA KIRWAN	Y7 child
2.	LEANNE BROWNBILL	Y10 & Y8 children
3.	GARY ROBINSON	Y11 leaver, Y9 children
4.	NATALIE LOWE	Y8 child

Please read the nomination statements and then place your vote by following the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/nsQSiEgUXq>

Only one vote per parent/carers, irrespective of number of children attending the school).

If you prefer a paper copy of the ballot form, please contact:

For the attention of:

Mrs P Lennon, Clerk to Governors
St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

The vote must be submitted no later than:

Tuesday 30 September 2025 at 12.00noon

1. **JULIA KIRWAN**

I wish to apply for the position of Parent Governor at St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School because I am committed to supporting the Catholic education of our young people and contributing to the continued success of the school community.

I have taught in Catholic education institutions for the past 18 years and currently serve as a Senior Pastoral Leader at a nearby Catholic Sixth-Form College, where I have responsibility for safeguarding, pastoral support and extra-curricular activities. This role has given me extensive experience in ensuring the wellbeing and holistic development of students, while also upholding the highest standards of care, compliance, and accountability. I work closely with senior leaders, parents, and external agencies, which has strengthened my understanding of governance, policy, and the importance of collaborative leadership in Catholic education.

As a parent, I am passionate about ensuring that all children are given the opportunity to flourish academically, socially, and spiritually. I believe my professional background equips me to make a meaningful contribution to the governing body by offering both strategic insight and a parent's perspective. My safeguarding expertise, in particular, would enable me to support the school in maintaining its statutory duties while fostering a safe, nurturing environment rooted in Gospel values.

I am committed to the mission of St Edmund Arrowsmith to live out the values of the Gospel and I would bring dedication, professional skill, and a collaborative approach to the role of Parent Governor. Most importantly, I would seek to ensure that every decision taken by the governing body supports the flourishing of all students, enabling them to grow in faith, confidence, and character.

I would be honoured to serve the school community in this role and contribute to its ongoing success

2. LEANNE BROWNBILL

As a former pupil of St. Edmund Arrowsmith, and with both my own children and extended family currently attending, I have a sincere and long standing connection to the school and a keen interest in supporting its continued and future success.

I am currently in post at Winstanley College as the Associate Assistant Principal for Vocational, which includes responsibility for careers and work experience provision, the development of vocational pathways including T Levels and embedding the skills agenda, working very closely with employers and other stakeholders. As an A Level Film and Media Studies teacher I have over 20 years of experience in education which has given me a comprehensive understanding of the importance of aspirational and inclusive educational provision.

I am very much committed to undertaking the training required to be an effective governor and to playing an active role within the Governing Body. I am an advocate for continual professional development and believe that being fully informed is essential in being able to contribute effectively.

As a parent and as an educator I firmly believe in the right for all students to be fully informed and prepared for life beyond the classroom. If appointed, I would like to support the school in continuing to develop the essential skills students need to navigate the constantly evolving careers landscape. My ongoing work in developing partnerships with employers has given me a useful insight into how to bring education and the world of work closer together.

I would welcome the opportunity to work alongside school leaders and fellow governors to support the school in achieving its vision for all students.

3. GARY ROBINSON

I would like to become a school governor to assist in the policy making and procedural aspect of school life for the continuous improvement of the pupils and the staff. My eldest daughter Sophie no longer attends 'Eddies', but she gained a wonderful education and was shaped into a wonderful young lady, this is something I would love to see continue for all current and future students.

I am currently the Head of Asset Integrity for BOC UK & Ireland, a Chartered Engineer with the IMechE I have over 23 years' experience within Power Generation, Salt Cavern Gas Storage, Cryogenic storage, Pipelines, and Industrial Gasses including the stringent requirements of several Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) establishments, I sit on the Engineering Equipment and Materials Association (EEMUA) Council representing the interests of BOC/Linde. I actively participate in technical expert committees both within EEMUA and within the wider global team at Linde. I sit on the British Standards Institute committee for pipeline management, I am currently registered as a STEM Ambassador with a full DBS, and I am an advocate of all things STEM within my company. I am active in ensuring participation of BOC Employee volunteering and demonstrations into schools, colleges and Universities.

Mentoring and Line managing post-graduates in their early careers is an annual undertaking and I remain committed to establishing STEM as a foundation in society as a whole.

I have mentored junior engineers towards their own Chartership (CEng) with the Engineering Council.

I can offer a pragmatic, sensible and real-world experience to the governance of the school that I would be proud to help continue shaping and pruning.

I visit the gym daily and am a keen golfer, I know the benefits that participation in sport and fitness can bring to mental health and resilience.

4. NATALIE LOWE

I would be grateful to be considered for this role in a school which I admire and respect where I have watched my son thrive. I would love to help the school continue to promote not only Catholic values and academic achievement but well rounded, happy individuals that have been given the tools to reach their full potential in life.

As a teenager, I requested moving to an out of area school for better exam prospects and as a surgeon, I have studied in several organisations and so have a long history of wanting to get the most out of education systems whilst navigating different institutional approaches. I loved caring for children from all backgrounds whilst working at Alder Hey Children's Hospital and have safeguarding training.

I have module one PGCertMedEd and taught medical students, doctors and surgeons at Liverpool University and various North-West hospitals. Working for the NHS has many similarities to working in the education system and so I have some understanding of challenges faced including limited funding, high workloads, staffing and resource limitations. I also believe difficulties can be overcome with planning and resourcefulness as well as good team bonds and a genuine desire to succeed and get the best possible outcome for pupils. Whilst working at The Christie Hospital, I was involved in costings and securing funding for cancer research trials and so have some understanding of financing projects.

I believe the organisational, teamworking, analytical and communication skills gained will stand me in good stead to help on the board of governors. Unfortunately, recent health issues (chemotherapy causing nerve damage to my hands) has rendered me unable to work as a surgeon. However, as one door closes, another opens and hence I now have the time to dedicate to the school and its pupils.