



**Annual Governance Statement
for the Governing Board of
The Blessed Sacrament Catholic
Primary School
2020/21**

The Governing Board of The Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School has a strong focus on four core strategic functions:

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 and the performance management of staff;
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent;
4. Monitoring and developing the Catholic Ethos of the school.

**Governance
Arrangements**

The full Governing Board meets three times a year and the three main committees (Faith, Curriculum & Community, Finance & Resources and Standards & Effectiveness Committees) also aim to meet three times a year. Governors are also invited to certain Inset Days.

The Governing Board also has a Pay and Pay Appeals, Appraisals Committees which meet annually, an Admissions, Staff Appeals, Pupil Discipline Committees, that meet as required and a Headteachers Performance Management Committee.

Full Governing Board meetings and all Committee Meetings are professionally clerked and agendas and approved minutes are housed on the School Portal platform we utilise for ongoing communication and sharing all documentation. Each Committee has Terms of Reference reviewed annually.

Governors are also linked to faculties or aspects of the School ensuring they work closely with Faculty & Subject Leaders across the curriculum. Governors who visit the School provide a written report which is shared with the rest of the Governing Board.

A list of Governing Board members is available on the School website together with their individual responsibilities. Governors have a wide spread of knowledge and expertise and are part of the Committees which utilise their skills.

Attendance at meetings is satisfactory and an attendance grid is available on the School website for the academic year 2019/20

	<p>In addition to our standard arrangements of meeting, the Chair and Vice Chair regularly met with the Headteacher during lock down and the restart of school at the end of the academic year. The purpose of these meetings was to assure effective governance during the pandemic including regular review of the care and education provision over lockdown and oversight of the health and safety and safeguarding arrangements in place.</p>
<p>Key issues addressed by the governing board 2019-20</p>	<p>The Governing Board has fulfilled its statutory duties in terms of monitoring all areas of the School's work and offering support and challenge through the agreed agendas of each Committee and the agendas of full Governing Board meetings.</p> <p>Some of the areas covered this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting a new Senior Leadership Structure • Recruitment Process started for a Deputy Headteacher & an Assistant Headteacher • Governance Audit in November 2020 • Recruitment of extra support staff for COVID Bubbles • Welcoming a new Foundation Governor in November • Rigorous School Improvement Plan • Wellbeing monitoring of the Staff and pupils • Monitoring the use of Pupil Premium funding (statement available on the school website) • Review of statutory policies and ensuring there is compliance of the school website • Monitoring of pupil progress across the school and ensuring there is a broad offer of curriculum to all pupils • Rigorous budget management • Assurance of effective care, health and safety and education arrangements over lockdown • Assurance over the plans to restart education, initial return of pupils at the end of the academic year and preparation for the return of students in the new academic year.
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>Governors provide a high level of challenge to the Headteacher and the School. They consider a range of documents and data provided by the School in order to judge the impact of strategies within the School.</p> <p>Governors also visit the School to meet with Subject Leaders /Faculty Heads and staff to gain a greater understanding of the School and the on-going requirement to raise standards.</p> <p>The School's Improvement Partner provides notes of visit which are considered at Governing Board meetings.</p> <p>Governors monitor finance stringently to ensure the School's budget is spent to achieve the best possible outcomes for students.</p> <p>The recent Governance Audit ensures we are continuously setting high standards for ourselves and constantly improving.</p>

<p>Future plans for the Governing Board</p>	<p>The Governing Board will continue its work in line with the government agenda.</p> <p>The Governing Board will work closely to support the Headteacher and new Senior Leadership Team to embed relationships and ensure close collaboration for further success.</p> <p>The Governing Board is keen to further partnerships with other Schools to increase understanding of what excellent learning looks like and improve efficiencies where possible.</p> <p>The Governing Board, along with the Headteacher, will do a full review of the arrangements around link governors to ensure that this process is effective and continues to ensure regular updates around key areas of school life.</p> <p>The Governing Board are looking at succession planning for members, and are looking to recruit members to strengthen the skill sets of the Governing Body.</p>
<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>The Governing Board welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors Helen Lynch c/o the School.</p>