

# **The Governing Body of St. George's Catholic Primary School**

## **Parent Governor Information Sheet**

### **BACKGROUND**

School governors represent the largest volunteer force in the country with approximately 1% of the adult population serving in this capacity at any one time. The governing body of St George's has 18 governor positions of which 4 are for elected parent governors. Two of these have become vacant. Parent governors are elected by their fellow parents normally for a period of 4 years (although you can resign at any time), and are vital to a governing body because they ensure that the other governors are kept in touch with the concerns and issues of most importance to our parents.

### **CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Governors are people who wish to make a positive contribution to the school and the education of its children. They contribute to the effective day-to-day running of the school and have an effective input towards the educational achievements of its pupils.

A governing body's overriding responsibility is to work in partnership with the Head Teacher to promote continuous improvement in the performance of the school. This involves the establishment of a development plan, the setting of challenging but achievable targets and the interpretation of information to assess progress and determine appropriate action.

Typically, a governor's duties will entail attending full Governing Body Meetings (3 per year, 6pm-7:30pm) and belonging to a committee which has 3 meetings. Governors also make visits to the school. Aligned to its improvement role, the governing body is there to be a 'critical friend' who can provide the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of both the headteacher and the school.

### **TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

Enfield LA and the Diocese values the voluntary contribution of its governors and in return aims to provide a high-quality training and support service. Governors are able to access this support in a variety of ways including training courses and a designated helpline as well as help from fellow Governors .

### **BECOMING A PARENT GOVERNOR**

Being a parent governor can be stimulating, enjoyable and rewarding. If you have the enthusiasm and desire to become closely involved in the running of the school then please consider putting yourself forward for vacancies that arise. Parent Governors are an important component in achieving an effective and well-balanced governing body.

If you wish to be nominated for election to these vacancies please complete the nomination form which requires a parent to propose you and another parent to second you.

### **Contact for further information**

**The Head Teacher or Chair of Governors at school.**

