



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

Telephone: 0121 464 2141

Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss H.M. Cusack M.Ed.



Dear Parent,

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

I am writing to invite you to stand for election as a parent governor, or nominate another parent to do so. In our school we have provision for two parent governors and there is currently **one** vacancy.

The governing body, together with the headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Governing bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. It is important to note that the role of the parent governor is to contribute a parental perspective on issues that arise for consideration and decision-making, not to act as a delegate on behalf of parents. The term of office is normally four years. The time commitment varies year on year and does involve reading and reflecting on a range of documentation and attending meetings or training workshops, mostly in the evening or late afternoon. It is helpful if a governor can occasionally attend a meeting or make a visit during the school day.

Training is available for all governors and this governing body has an expectation that those new to being a governor, attend free induction training. Governors are also required to sign a Code of Conduct to which they must adhere. An important part of this is a Confidentiality clause which includes no participation in social media communications in relation to many school matters.

Governing Bodies are now required to be skills based. To this end, Nominees will be required to set out a Personal Statement of their skills/interests and commitment. Furthermore, we wish to ensure over time that our governing body better reflects the increasing ethnic diversity of our pupils and parents as our school community includes children and parents/carers from all over the world.

We currently require legal and buildings expertise – so a legal (especially in relation to education) or surveying/building background would be particularly useful.

If you are interested in becoming a parent governor, or nominating someone else, then please contact the school office by email to enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk for a nomination form. **Completed nomination forms and Personal Statements should be handed in to the school office FAO Returning Officer – by Monday 24th May 2021 – at midday.**

If there are more nominations than vacancies, the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Thank you for your interest and participation,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Miller
Returning Officer.