



St Anne's Catholic Primary School

With Christ at the centre of our lives, we live out our call to serve the young;

**"It is not enough to love children,
They must know that they are loved."**

Parent Governor Election – Background Information

The purpose of school governance is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance.

All Governing Boards, have **three core functions**:

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

Some positions on the Governing Board may be filled through election rather than appointment. In the case of elected parents, this helps to ensure that boards stay accessible and connected to the community they serve and that there is always a diverse range of perspectives around the table to support robust decision making. It is for the electorate (parents) to elect their choice of candidate(s) although the Governing Board can provide information about the Boards' expectations, ideal requirements and desirable skills.

Essential skills for all Governors include:

- Commitment to improving quality of education for all pupils and raising standards;
- Integrity, objectivity, honesty, ability to maintain confidentiality and a willingness to act in the public interest;
- Ability to work positively with others and to contribute as a member of a team and take collective responsibility for decisions;
- Commitment to the school's vision and ethos and a willingness to promote it within the community.

The Governing Board has a vital role to play and relies on a team approach with each individual contributing a range of skills and experience.

St Anne's Governing Board is particularly keen that Parent Governors with any of the following skills or expertise are elected:

- Financial planning skills, linked to budget setting and monitoring financial performance;
- Strategic planning and the ability to have an overview of performance of an organisation;
- Experience of serving on a committee or steering group;
- The ability to listen to others opinions and contribute as part of a team coupled with strong decision making skills;
- Ability, time, and willingness to learn and develop the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

The purpose of providing and publishing this information is to conduct informed elections and to enable the personal statements of those nominated to be considered in light of the skills and experience that the board desires. It is for the parents to elect their choice of candidate(s) via the Secret Ballot.