

St. JOSEPH'S GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Thank you to every member of staff at St. Joseph's who have helped to make this another very successful year for the children. The Governing Body has worked hard in the process of getting a new school building and to make it a 2 form entry school. This will provide an additional 15 spaces per year. We are told that the new School will be operational from February 2020 which is a delay from the original September 2019. We set up a New School Building Group with those Governors with skills in this field. Our detailed work is carried out in our Sub-Committees and by Governors with specific responsibilities. We meet as a Full Governing Body twice per term to make decisions as a corporate group.

Premises, Finance, Health & Safety and Critical Incident Committee

This year saw foundation governor, Kieran McAuliffe take over as chair and he is happy to report on a very positive and successful year. The Committee continued to review the policies and procedures for the financial management of the School, ensuring auditing of all accounts. 2017/2018 came in on budget and the new 3 year plan was formally presented to the Governing Body and ratified during May's meeting. Throughout the year the committee monitored and ensured proper fiscal management of the school and good evidence of obtaining value for money and cost savings could be seen without impacting on the quality of education provided or the resources available. Opportunities to develop and implement the school's letting policies and reviews of existing contracts ensured budgets moving forward remain healthy, particularly good news with a new school building on the horizon.

Curriculum Committee

Meetings are held once a term. In them, we discuss teaching, learning and progress at St Joseph's. Each subject is reviewed biannually. This entails the Subject Leaders submitting data, plans and policies to us before the meeting and then presenting a report and answering questions at the meeting itself. We also have the opportunity to hear from pupils about their learning and to see work they are proud of. This year, we have reviewed Maths, RE, English, Languages, Special Educational Needs, Science and Computing. This is my final year of Curriculum after 8 years as a member (including 7 as Chair). Over that time, it has been a real privilege to see how well the subjects are prepared, taught and assessed, and, particularly, to hear from our enthusiastic and well-motivated pupils. Colette Kerins

Admissions Committee

The Committee reviews the School's Admission Policies considering Diocese and Local Authority requirements. We administer the School's admissions criteria for applications for Nursery and for Reception separately. Nursery and Reception places are considered separately because Nursery is not compulsory and some parents opt for a full time Nursery due to work commitments. Attendance at our nursery therefore never guarantees a place in our Reception. Whenever we use our oversubscription criteria the process is witnessed by an independent person who is not an employee or a Governor at the school. A paid Local Authority clerk takes minutes. Legal requirements are followed strictly. We do not have any discretion to stray from the oversubscription criteria set out in our published Admissions Policy.

Personnel Committee

As a Voluntary Aided Church School, the Governors are the employers of every member of staff. We are responsible for appointment and performance management and pay of all staff, including our Headteacher. During this year our new leadership team have performed very well for the benefit of the children. All the staff are driven by Mr Coldwell's guidance and high expectations.