

## **All Saints Catholic College**

### **THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL GOVERNOR AND GOVERNING BODIES**

The role of the school governor is demanding but very rewarding and is a worthy way to give back to your local community. School governing bodies are responsible for working with the school to ensure that it delivers a good quality education for all of its pupils. The headteacher is responsible for day-to-day management of the school and together with the governing body, they set out the school's aims and policies.

#### **Key roles of governors:**

- To ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent

There are a number of other important duties, which include:

- Determining how the school's budget is spent
- The appointing and dismissing of staff
- Hearing appeals and grievances
- Forming policy on the school's curriculum and collective worship
- Setting standards for pupils' behaviour and discipline
- Making sure school buildings are welcoming and safe
- Setting and monitoring the school's aims and policies

#### **What can governors expect from the school:**

The governing body expects the school to:

- understand and respect its statutory role and purpose
- recognise the shared commitment to school improvement and securing the best outcomes for every child
- respect governors as volunteers who bring other skills, experiences and perspectives, and value their contribution
- work openly with the governing body and provide clear, concise and relevant information on which to base decisions
- enable all governors to become involved in the life of the school
- contribute to the induction, training and development of governors
- ensure that where educational jargon is unavoidable it is at least explained

The school expects the governing body to:

- respect the professional expertise of the headteacher and staff
- work openly in partnership with the headteacher and staff for the benefit of the school and its pupils
- demonstrate its commitment, collectively and individually
- act and take decisions that are in the best interests of the school and not those of self, individuals or groups
- support the school with parents and in the community
- recognise the need for both governor induction and ongoing training and development

Individually, governors will:

- enhance the work of the governing body to enable a strong focus on raising standards, so that every child achieves their potential
- demonstrate their commitment by getting to know the school and becoming involved in school life and activities
- take personal responsibility for their ongoing training and development
- prepare for meetings so they are well informed, having at minimum read all of the papers sent out with the agenda
- attend meetings (governing body/committees/working group) and play an active part
- support the school with parents and in the community
- recognise the corporate status of the governing body and the concept of collective responsibility
- respect confidentiality and the need to act with circumspection.

Each governor must sign and abide by the governing body's Code of Conduct which is provided to all governors each year.

## **DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE CHECKS**

Governors are all required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring check on their appointment as a school governor and a form will be sent to you for you to complete (on appointment) so that this can be processed as quickly as possible.