

Governors Charter

St Francis' Catholic Primary School

St. Francis'
Catholic Primary



Approved by FGB on: Sept 2022

Committee Responsible: LGC

Next review due by: Sep 2023

Governors Charter

We recognise that being a school Governor is voluntary position and we really appreciate the time, skills, enthusiasm and commitment that all our Governors bring to their role.

This Charter has been prepared so that all new and existing governors will have a clear idea of what they are expected to do when they agree to be a Governor of St. Francis Catholic Primary School and in turn what level of support and training they can expect to receive in order to help them fulfil their role. This should be read in conjunction with the Code of Conduct for Governors which covers other aspects especially the Catholicity of the School.

This agreement is not intended to increase the requirements of the role but formalise and document what we know is already taking place and provide a framework for new and existing Governors to work within.

Time commitment

Being a school governor requires a commitment to attend the full governor meetings, undertake targeted training, to offer specific skills as required to the school and sit on committees. The time this will take depends on many factors however all governors need to be able to commit to at least seven hours a month.

Confidentiality

In the course of our role, we are sometimes privy to sensitive information. We will observe confidentiality when discussing this information in line with the Governors' Code of Conduct.

1. Safeguarding

Although we have specific safeguarding requirements in order to fulfil the role, it is important to highlight that safeguarding should be the highest priority for all Governors in any part of their role.

Standard

- Ensure the highest standard of safeguarding is maintained in the school
- Challenge the Senior Leadership in the school about safeguarding standards

Measure

- All Governors will attend safeguarding training as this is arranged by the Head Teacher, Diocese or Governing body. As far as possible, a range of potential

Page 3 of 4 dates will be provided, if not possible Governors will be provided with an alternative means to undertake this training themselves

- Complete the training as specified or the available alternative remote learning within one month of the request being made
- Read and understand the safeguarding policy
- Know who the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), the Deputy DSL and the Safeguarding Governors are
- Complete the Prevent Training - aspirational

2. Governance

Standard

- Provide scrutiny and oversight of the running of the school
- Understand the structure of the teaching and support staff
- Understand the strengths and areas for development in the school
- Understand specific local challenges for the school

Measure

- As far as possible Governors should attend all the Local Governor Committee meetings (LGC). We understand that there may be occasions when this may not be possible due to other commitments and that where this is the case a Governor will send their apologies to the Clerk to the Governors
- Prepare fully for each meeting and read all the papers in advance of the meetings
- Comment on papers in advance wherever possible to the chair of the committee which submitted the paper
- Keep comments at the LGC meeting brief, targeted and relevant
- Notify the clerk of any AOB items before the LGC meeting and keep these relevant for all governors.
- Aim to visit the school at least twice a year and meet the staff by appointment.

3. Skills

Everyone has their own skills and talents, we are not asking Governors to be experts in education but to use their existing skills and develop their knowledge and understanding to better help the school.

Standard

- Identify existing skills and use them to support the school
- Grow their knowledge of the school
- Join committees relevant to their skill set and actively participate in them

- Read relevant articles on education and show an interest in government strategy

Measure

- Complete the Governor skills and knowledge audit when requested to do so
- Join committees as appropriate to scrutinise particular aspects of the school governance
- Attend relevant training and update the training log