

Re-Introduction of The Governing Body of St Adrian's School to the Parents of Pupils Part 2

As outlined in Part 1 of this series of information sheets there are three main areas of responsibility for governors and the first of those is strategy. In order to be strategic we need to be clear about what our Mission as a school is, have a vision about how to achieve that mission and a practical plan that is revised annually. The Governing Body at St Adrian's has a clear Mission statement which was developed many years ago and has been regularly reviewed. It states:

To Learn, to Love, to Live as a community of God with Christ as our teacher

The children are very familiar with this statement and those of you who attended the 60th Anniversary Mass in October 2022 will remember how well Bishop McAleenan used it in his sermon.

Our Vision is described as:

- to provide a Catholic Christian education based on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, in which the values of the Gospel underpin all aspects of school life
- to provide an environment in which the dignity of each person as a child of God is recognised and developed; and to promote the full potential of each child through a curriculum which develops spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth
- to provide a curriculum which is enriching and challenging, where children experience the opportunity to learn in a wide range of contexts

To achieve our Vision the school has a School Development Plan (SDP) which is normally created during the latter part of the summer term, following a review of the previous plan, and approved by the Governing Body. Our current plan is divided into six goals listed below.

- **Strategic Plan Goal 1: To further develop the distinctive nature of our school within the Mercy tradition**
- **Strategic Plan Goal 2: Quality of Education**
- **Strategic Plan Goal 3: Behaviour and attitudes**
- **Strategic Plan Goal 4: Personal development**
- **Strategic Plan Goal 5: Leadership and management**
- **Strategic Plan Goal 6: EYFS provision**

Goal 1 is obviously key to St Adrian's as a Catholic School founded by the Sisters of Mercy. Goals 2-4 reflect the current key judgement areas used by Ofsted inspectors and currently Goal 6 is focused on Nursery & Reception classes that are described as Early Years Foundation Stage which uses a different system of measuring children's progress to that used in Key Stage 1 and 2. When the Governing Body receives termly reports from the Headteacher they are based upon progress in the six areas listed. This process helps the governors to fulfil part of their second area of responsibility, that of holding the Headteacher and the senior leadership to account for the educational performance and Catholic character of the school; and for the internal organisation, management and control of the school. *The Strategy and Personnel Group of the Governing Body leads the work on Mission and Vision. While Senior Leadership Lead on the SDP.*

The school Premises are dealt with by a Premises Working Group that has at least three governors and members of the school staff who have responsibility for Premises matters. There is a separate Five Year Maintenance Plan monitored by this group, which meets on a termly basis, and at least one governor has to be part of an annual Inspection of the Premises. This group assists with applications to the Diocese for finance for building developments and improvements and monitors what is taking place alongside the school staff.

