

# Welcome

I would like to welcome you to our governors' pages.

We are the school's 'critical friends' who give focus and direction to the school's leadership. If you would like to know what is discussed at Full Governing Body meetings please read our minutes.

The Governing Body of Our Lady of the Visitation has a key role. The governors are the employers of the staff, the admissions authority for pupils and are also responsible for making decisions about how the school is run. Governors have legal duties, powers and responsibilities as a corporate body, so it is vital we function well as a team and are confident in our collective decisions.

As governors of a catholic school, we also have a duty to ensure the rich traditions of our Catholic faith underpin our ethos, mission, vision and the future strategic direction of the school.

All governors have equal status and all governors are volunteers. It is important that governors attend meetings regularly, carry out school visits and attend training in anything relevant to their role.

There are several categories of governor, appointed by different groups that have an interest in the school. These are:

- 8 Foundation governors – appointed by the Diocese
- 2 Parent governors – elected by parents
- 1 Staff governor – elected by the staff
- 1 Local Authority governor – appointed by the Local Authority
- 1 Co-opted governor – appointed by the Governing Body
- The Headteacher who is automatically a member of the Governing Body if she so wishes

The Governing Body is very proud of the achievements of our school, not only in terms of academic results, but also in the solid foundations it provides in preparing our pupils to be willing and ready to keep learning throughout their lives.

All governors welcome suggestions from parents to help them carry out their duties. We may be contacted via the school office.

Maureen Gordon  
Chair of Governors