
St Mark's West Essex Catholic School Governing Body Structure

The Governors work in close partnership with the Headteacher, senior management team, staff, pupils and parents in providing good quality education for all our students, which emphasises care for one another, scholastic achievement and sporting commitment.

In line with the school mission statement the aim is to provide an environment that respects the needs, values, cultures, and opinions of others, where students can develop positive attitudes towards learning, discover success and develop self-esteem and where every student has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Governors are committed to working with the staff to ensure high standards of achievement, behaviour and discipline and to ensure excellence for all our students not only in academic matters but also in the outstanding range of extra curricular and sporting opportunities offered by the dedicated staff.

Governors have a strategic role in the development of the school but do not become involved in day-to-day management issues – that is the role of the Head teacher. Over successive years, working in partnership with the Headteacher and staff the Governors have helped to make St. Mark's West Essex Catholic Secondary School the success that it is today.

Each Governor gives up their time and expertise voluntarily and without remuneration, and in exercising their responsibilities ensure the adhere to the Seven Principles of Public life, i.e.

Selflessness

Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands this.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

The Meeting Structure

The Full Governing Body meets termly following a series of committee meetings which report to the FGB. Each committee has fully delegated responsibilities to consider and determine all matters relevant to their terms of reference. However, such decisions are ratified at the full committee.

Governors are automatically members of most of the operational (standing) committees but are asked to identify a preferred committee to work with, where their individual skills and experience would be of most benefit to the school

Operational (Standing) Committees

Meets

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| • Finance and HR | Termly |
| • Audit (designated membership only) | Bi-Annually |
| • Curriculum, Pupil Related and Admissions | Termly |
| • Premises and Site | Termly |
| • Canteen | Termly |
| • Standards (designated membership only) | Termly |

Statutory Committees (legally required)

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| • Admissions | Annually |
| • Pupil Discipline | As required |
| • Staff Discipline & Dismissal | As required |
| • Staff Discipline & Dismissal appeals | As required |
| • Headteachers Performance Review | Annually |

All committees report directly to the Governing Body. Whilst each Committee has specific areas of responsibility as defined in their Terms of Reference, other committees may need to be consulted before decisions can be actioned. Working groups are set up as required by the full Governing Body