



## Could you be a governor at St Mary's?



St Mary's are looking for a parent governor to join its board.

We are looking for dedicated individuals who can offer their knowledge and expertise in one or more of these areas; finance, human resources, health and safety or managing premises.

- Are you committed to raising the education standards within school?
- Are you comfortable asking challenging questions?
- Do you have the time and commitment to get to know a school, go to meetings and read papers (approx 4-8 hours per month)?
- Do you want to put something back into your local community?

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

- setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement.
- monitoring progress towards meeting these targets.
- supporting and challenging the performance of the school
- deciding policy and future development plans

As well as attending meetings governors are also asked to look at specific areas of the school's work in more detail. It is a demanding and rewarding role.

### **How much time will it take?**

Being a governor means making yourself available for some evenings each term and occasionally during the day.

Governing bodies meet once or twice a term usually in the evening and on average meetings last about 1 ½ hours-2 hours. Governors are expected to become a member of a committee responsible for a specific aspect such as Finance, Personnel and Pupil Welfare or Curriculum and Standards.

You will also need some time to read papers, prepare for meetings and to attend training. The amount of time varies widely, depending on how involved you become and what needs doing, but schools do need governors who are fully committed.

You have a legal right to ask your employer for “reasonable” unpaid leave or flexible working, and some employers offer limited paid leave for this as it constitutes a public duty. What is considered reasonable will vary according to the nature of your job and your employer.



### **Are governors paid?**

All governors are volunteers and there is no payment for carrying out the role.

### **Restrictions**

Almost anyone over 18 can serve as a governor but there are some understandable restrictions. No one can serve if they:

- Are barred from working with children or vulnerable adults
- Are subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or similar
- Have certain criminal convictions, depending on the nature of the offence and sentence and how long ago it was

If this sounds like something you would be interested in becoming involved with, please email us at [parentgovernor@stmarys-prestwich.co.uk](mailto:parentgovernor@stmarys-prestwich.co.uk) with your expression of interest. Some details about yourself would be helpful, such as why you would like to become a governor and what qualities you would bring to our board. You will be able to arrange a meeting with the Chair of Governors for more information, should you wish to find out more. We would love to hear from you. The closing date for expressions of interest is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

*Claire Almond*

Chair of Governors