

**Annual Governance Statement for the Governing Body of
_Our Lady of the Rosary RCVA Primary School 2015**

School Vision/Mission Statement

The Governing Body of _Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School has a strong focus on its three core strategic functions:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Governance arrangements

The Governing Body of Our Lady of the Rosary was re-constituted and approved by the Diocese on April 1st 2015 and Consists of the following; 7 Foundation Governors , 2 Parent Governors, 1 Head Teacher, 1 Staff Governor and 1 Local Authority Governor.

The full Governing body meet at least once each term, and each Governor has specific areas of the school on which to focus, such as finance, premises and curriculum and these sub- committees meet as and when necessary each term.

Key Issues faced and addressed by the Governing Body

During the first half of the school year 2014-15 the principle focus of the governing body was to monitor the data showing pupil performance in anticipation of an Ofsted inspection which took place in early February. Mr. Swift organised fortnightly meetings with the governors to evaluate the pupils' progress in every subject and year group. A number of Governors were interviewed by the Ofsted inspectors as part of the inspection.

	<p>The Governing body were naturally very pleased to see that the school was judged to be a 'Good School' with respect to the standard of teaching and learning which re-affirmed the evidence which the data had already shown.</p> <p>The major issue faced by the current Governing body is the relative inexperience of some of our members. A number of experienced Governors , including the former Chair , Vice Chair and our former Parish Priest are no longer available to serve on the Governing body and new members have stepped in to fulfil the role.</p> <p>As a consequence many of the Governors have taken advantage of the Governor training courses provided by the County both in school and at the education centres in subjects such as understanding data and pupil safeguarding. Further training is planned for a number of areas and all Governors are keen to develop their knowledge in order to assist in maintaining and improving the good standards achieved.</p>
<p>Assessment of Impact</p>	<p>The impact of the Governing body on the improvements and changes that have taken place in the school during the last year are difficult to quantify.</p> <p>The governors have been included and involved in the monitoring of pupil and staff performance in the run up to the Ofsted inspection and these meetings will continue as part of our routine programme.</p> <p>The Senior Management in the school has been strengthened with the appointments of our Deputy Head and Assistant Head Teachers and the governors were heavily involved in the interview process for both.</p> <p>The governors have taken part in 'Learning Walks' through the whole school, taking the opportunity to meet both the pupils and staff in their workplace. The plan is to develop this practise with further training to improve the effectiveness of these visits.</p> <p>The school budget for 2015 -16 has been set and agreed by the governors which shows that the school is in a sound financial position.</p>

Future plans for the Governing Body	<p>To further improve our effectiveness in our roles through taking advantage of the training courses provided by the County.</p> <p>To improve our understanding of the curriculum, teaching methods and policies so we can contribute more fully in ensuring that our school continues to improve .</p>
Contact Details	<p>The Governing Body welcomes suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.</p> <p>Details of the full Governing Body are on the school website.</p>

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