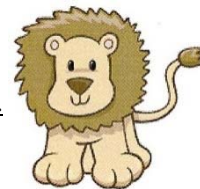


## St. Mark's Catholic Primary Governing Body Vision Statement 2018/2019.



Our values are rooted in the belief that Christ is at the centre of our daily lives. Our aims are: -

- Provide a Catholic setting for the development of the curriculum
- Develop and maintain in each individual their faith as a personal, living experience.
- Ensure that the pupils' experience of love and respect within the school has a formative and significant influence on their understanding of relationships.
- Encourage active partnership with home, parish and school and so prepare children to be responsible, caring members of the community.

This is what is distinctly Catholic about our school and is the vision behind our mission to make St. Mark's a place where proudly and joyfully every child loves, lives and learns as God's children.

We value our children and aim to be proud of them to ensure every child can develop unique talents and gifts. We aim to make our school a place where we hope to enrich every child with the spiritual awareness and social skills needed to become caring, confident, responsible and valued members of our ever changing society.

Our vision is to succeed in making St. Mark's a place which we place great emphasis on developing the skills of respect, sharing and cooperation that we believe are essential to every child's development.

Our vision is to succeed in achieving excellence, the very best provision for our children and the very best contribution from our children.

Our aim is that success will be achieved with high expectations by all stakeholders of themselves and each other (children, staff, parents, governors, parish community, Local Authority, Diocesan Education Service and other service providers).

Our aim for our children and staff is to achieve success through their ability to: solve problems by applying thinking skills; be independent; be creative; to challenge and be challenged; be literate; be numerate and be ICT able. Underpinning this will be the aim for high level effort, emotional intelligence, physical health and mental wellbeing, together with a resilient attitude all based on their RE and faith development.

Our aim as staff and governing body is to work together to a high level of consistency to ensure regular delivery of excellence through the implementation of the School Development Plan. We value teamwork support from our staff, parents, families, governors and our wider community essentially based on high quality modelling and coaching the skills and attitudes needed to achieve our learning outcomes.

We value our successes recognising them through effective, ongoing monitoring and self-evaluation, rewarding them and celebrating them with all stakeholders.

When our children leave our school community our aim is to be able to say that our children achieved success, their very best and that we did it because of our calling to lead a life of faith where Christ is at the centre.



**St. Mark's Catholic Primary School**  
**Governors Annual Statement to Parents**  
**2018-19**

The Governors of St. Mark's oversee the work of the school. We are very fortunate to have a Governing Body with a variety of skills and experience and I would like to thank them for the time they give so freely in the role. The Governing Body currently has a number of vacancies and will actively continue to recruit to these posts to ensure that the Governing Body fulfils all of its core functions.

A major aspect of the Governors role is to ensure that pupils progress well in their education, and appreciate that for this to happen, all pupils must be supported by a well lead, enthusiastic, professionally competent and motivated staff, all working together within a safe, supported and stimulating learning environment.

Governors appreciate too, the requirements of their children's parents and carers, and their need to be satisfied about the overall leadership and management of the school, and how it affects safety, learning and the enjoyment of their children.

To achieve their objectives, Governors too must continually evaluate the role they have played within the life of the school, and publish relevant information to all interested parties. This statement to parents is part of that evaluation and publication process.

I also fully recognise that we could not have achieved all that we have if it were not for all your support and providing us with such amazing pupils to teach.

### **School Development Plan (SDP)**

Governors work co-operatively with the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team to write and monitor the School Development Plan. The plan then sets out the priorities for the school in the forthcoming year.

The current SDP is based on priorities identified from data, school self-evaluation and our previous OFSTED Priorities. The SDP is set out with clear aims, the key tasks which will be completed in order to achieve these aims, and success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SDP is monitored and reviewed at termly governors' meetings, regular staff meetings/senior leadership meetings. The school also uses a school improvement advisor to evaluate progress.

### **The current priorities of the SDP are: -**

#### **Priority One – Religious Provision**

- Consistently good teaching and learning in all classes.
- Increase opportunities for spiritual and vocational development across the school
- Raise profile of virtues across the school

#### **Priority Two – Leadership and Management**

- Embed and develop new SLT structure to increase accountability
- SLT and governors to review and challenge leaders at all levels to further improve practice.
- Ensure teaching, learning, assessment and outcomes are externally validated as robust and accurate
- Targeted and bespoke CPD programme to upskill all members of staff

### **Priority Three – Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare**

- To ensure effective and robust safeguarding and child protection processes are embedded across the school.
- To maintain and further develop effective approaches to positive behaviour management to ensure all learners are engaged in learning and making progress.
- To ensure all students know how to keep themselves safe from harm including from extreme views and on line.
- To close the gap in learning and attainment of vulnerable, Pupil Premium and any children at risk of not fulfilling their potential.

### **Priority Four – Teaching Learning and Assessment**

- Consistently good teaching and learning is evident across all year groups.
- Ensure assessment procedures are accurate in all year groups.
- Raise the profile of a broad and balanced curriculum across the whole school.

### **Priority Five – Pupils' Outcomes**

- Achieve above national average for all statutory assessments in Key Stage 2 and above National for EYFS, Phonics and KS1 statutory assessments.
- To raise progress and attainment of Writing in Key Stage 2.
- To ensure accuracy and consistency of pupils' outcomes.
- To raise progress of reading at the end of Key Stage 2.

### **Priority Six – Early Years Provision**

- To raise percentage of children achieving Good Level of Development so it is above National at the end of EYFS.
- To reduce the gap between achievement of Boys / Girls and FSM / non FSM
- To raise standards in Shape, Space and Measure in the Early Years

### **We will achieve all of the above aims by:**

- The adoption and implementation of policies
- Strengthening our relationship with both parish and other local Schools
- Listening and responding to our parents and carers
- Taking care and investing in our building and grounds
- Ensuring British Values are a core part of our curriculum
- Recruiting the right people for the right posts
- Developing and expanding a broader and deeper curriculum
- Receive external validation of internal analysis through School Improvement Partners
- External scrutiny of Statutory Testing

Cooperative working on preparation and implementation of the SDP follows considerable research and input from the Senior Leadership Team and Lead Teachers within school, as well as all other members of staff. The plan is also evaluated at the end of the academic year, in preparation for creating priorities for the following year.

### **Governors Visits**

Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SDP; named governors have a responsibility for reporting on the progress of specific priorities in the SDP. The Chair and Vice-Chair of Governors have regular meetings with the Headteacher, which are at least termly and Governors with specific curriculum responsibilities meet with Lead Teachers and Senior Staff throughout the year.

### **Data Analysis**

Data is analysed and discussed as an agenda item at Governors Meetings, on at least a half termly basis. Governors receive termly training in analysing performance data through the SIPS and/or the Local Authority. In this way, Governors are able to benchmark their data against similar schools, the Local Authority and schools nationally, to ensure the school's standards and expectations are high and are able to be closely scrutinised to ensure good progress is made. It is this level of data analysis, which informs and leads school improvement planning.

Particular scrutiny is placed on pupil progress across all ability groups, including vulnerable groups, and the effective use of pupil premium.

### **Policies**

Governors review all relevant policies on a programmed basis, to ensure that all guidance is current and up to date. These policies can be found in the school website.

Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education mandatory policy list.

### **Financial Management**

Our Governing Body contains Governors with significant expertise in financial management and whom receive regular training and updates to ensure that a robust budget is maintained.

Working with the Resources Committee, they drive the financial management of the school. In recent years, the Governors have worked with school staff on an annual basis to achieve the School Financial Value Statement (SFVS).

The impact of the Governors' role in school ensures that the school's budget is managed well; improvements are effective and continuous and contribute strongly to positive pupil outcomes.

### **Staff Recruitment**

The Headteacher, Chair & Vice of Governors are trained in 'Safer Recruitment'. Governors are involved in the recruitment and selection of all teaching staff and use the appointment process to ensure that high quality staff, who share the schools' ethos and aims, are appointed.

### **Governor Meeting Attendance**

Governor attendance has continued to be of a very high level, with all absences being fully explained, accepted and approved by the Governing Body. The Governing Body has seen a change in its membership over several years and is currently in the process of recruiting to several vacancies. We are currently looking to recruit the right people to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction at St. Mark's, our three core functions as Governors.

### **Impact Statements Review**

Governors have listened to parents and have ensured that the school offers high quality, timely information through its school website, and that a greater range of school clubs is offered.

Governors have ensured that Pupil Premium funds are deployed effectively, resulting in disadvantaged children making good progress.

Governors have ensured that staffing is deployed effectively resulting in all children making good progress by the end of each key stage.

### **Complaints**

We have duty to report to parents about complaints made to school. In 2017-18, there were no formal complaints made to the Governing Body.

St. Mark's has undergone a journey in the 2017/2018 year and has overcome many challenges. One of the most important things we will do as Governors is the recruitment of a Headteacher. Governors of St. Mark's are tasked with that very process during 2018/2019. This vacancy at St. Mark's represents a wonderful opportunity and challenge for an inspirational leader who will lead us into the next phase of our School's development.

Thank you for taking time to read this statement, as always if there are any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Governing Body or myself via school office. Governors will undertake on an annual basis a review of its work, to ensure it continues to be effective.

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Mrs. M Naughton  
Chair of Governors

September 2018