

# **Annual Governance Statement 2025**

## **for the Governing Body**

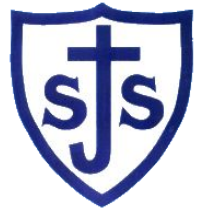
### **of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**

The Governing Body of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has a strong focus on the core strategic functions:

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

## **Contact Details**

The governing body welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/carers. Please contact the Chair of Governors c/o the school office.



## Governance Arrangement

The full governing body meets once in each term across the course of the academic year. There are also three committees that meet at least once a term:

- Curriculum
- Finance
- Staffing.

Full governing body meetings and all committee meeting are professionally clerked and agendas and approved minutes are kept in the school.

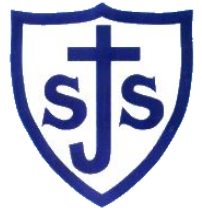
Throughout the year governors attend training sessions on a range of topics.

There are in addition specific individual governors with responsibility for key aspects of the school's work such as Safeguarding and Special Educational Needs.

Governors monitor the School Development Plan and the Self Evaluation Form.

A list of governing body members is available on the schools website together with their individual responsibilities. Governors have a wide spread of knowledge and expertise and are a part of the committees which utilise their particular skills.

Attendance at meetings is good and an attendance record is available on the school website.



## Key issues addressed by the Governing Body 2025

The governing body has fulfilled its statutory duties of monitoring all areas of the school's work and offering support and challenge through the agreed agendas of each committee and the agendas of full governing body meetings.

Key issues covered this year include:

- **Financial Sustainability and Staffing Structures**  
The core issues centered on managing tight financial constraints due to reductions in real-terms funding, unfunded pay uplifts, and planning appropriate staffing levels.
- **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Provision and Funding**  
Addressing the growing complexity and severity of pupil needs, combined with financial uncertainty regarding high-needs funding, was a major focus.
- **Staff Professional Development (CPD) and School Culture**  
The board reviewed the findings within the annual staff survey, which was overwhelmingly positive, but also identified areas where staff felt professional development (PD) could be more effective.
- **Governing Board Constitution and Governor Recruitment**  
The Board faced significant challenges in maintaining a full complement of governors due to the resignation of a Parent Governor and the expiration of a Foundation Governor's term of office. Governors are pleased that further positive recruitment steps have brought new governors on board as the school moves forward.



## Assessment of Impact

Governors provide a high level of challenge to the Executive Headteacher, the Head of School and the school's senior leadership team as a whole. They consider a range of reports and data provided by the school in order to judge the impact of strategies within the school. Governors also visit the school to meet with staff to gain a greater understanding of the school and the ongoing requirement to raise standards.

Governors monitor finance termly to ensure the schools budget is spent to achieve the best possible outcomes for students. The school provides good value for money

## Future Plans for the Governing Body

The governing body's prime strategic aims are:



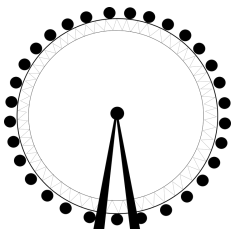
Strengthen the quality of the religious education provision, Catholic ethos of the school, parish and family- enhancing our faith community.



Form formal collaborations with other schools and organisations to build capacity and sustain excellent educational outcomes.



Foster a sustainable model of financial planning where expenditure on a best in class staffing resource remains aligned with likely increased costs and reduced budgets.



Construct an explicit stimulating curriculum that enables all pupils to achieve great outcomes, thriving academically, emotionally, physically, culturally and spiritually.