

School Governance

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Good governance means holding the Executive Head Teacher, Head of School and the Senior Leadership team to account, being a critical friend and supporting the leadership role to ensure our school delivers the exceptional outcomes we all expect for our children.

The Governors receive reports from the Executive Head Teacher and Senior Leadership team each term. As well as the overall Governing Body they are organised into several sub committees: Curriculum (which receives information on how the curriculum is delivered and outcomes for children), Finance (which receives information on the schools finances, health and safety and the school buildings) and staffing (reviewing how the teaching in our school supports learning).

Governors play an important role in holding senior leaders to account and provide a level of challenge and oversight. The role of governors requires strategic thinking and is not operational. Day to day tasks are the responsibility of the senior and middle leaders. All of our Governors commit to ensure their knowledge and understanding is up to date and broad enough to ensure our Governing Body can play a crucial role in leading our school.

Committee	Chair Person
Full Governing Body	Stephen Edgar
Curriculum	Stephen Edgar
Staffing	Anusha Foy
Finance	Anthony Omotayo
Admissions	Clare Churchill

Structure and Remit of the Governing Body

The Governing Body consists of 12 Governors as follows:

- 1 Executive Head Teacher/Head of School Governor
- 7 Foundation Governors appointed by the Diocese
- 1 LA Governor appointed by the Local Authority
- 2 elected Parent Governors
- 1 elected Staff Governor

The Full Governing Body meets 4 times a year, with individual Committees meeting once a term.

If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors, please email the School Office via email: admin@st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk or telephone 01322 524162.

Governors' Declaration of Business Interests and Attendance

Full names serving Governors	Term of appointment	Type of Governor	Business or pecuniary interests	Governance roles in other educational institutions	Material interests (relationships between governors or school staff)	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2020/2021	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2021/2022	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2022/2023
Mr Mark Hannon	01/09/2021 – ongoing	Executive Head Teacher	None	Governor at St Fidelis, St John's and IEB member of Virgo Fidelis	None	N/A	9/9	12/12
Mrs Amanda Truss	01/09/2021 – ongoing	Head of School	None	None	None	N/A	9/9	11/12
Mrs Clare Churchill	12/01/2021 – 11/01/2025	Staff	None	None	None	6/6	8/9	9/9
Mrs Anusha Foy	02/06/2021 – 01/06/2025	Foundation	None	None	None	4/6	7/9	6/9
Miss Jane Gwam	16/12/2020 – 15/12/2024	Foundation	None	None	None	1/6	4/6	7/9
Father David Gummett	12/05/2023 – 22/05/2027	Foundation	None	None	None	6/6	5/6	2/6
Mr Anthony Omotayo	19/03/2023 – 18/03/2027	Foundation	None	None	None	3/6	7/9	7/9
Mr Stephen Edgar	01/09/2021 – 31/08/2025	Parent	None	None	None	N/A	9/9	9/9
Mr Belliappa Konganda	01/09/2023 – 31/08/2027	Local Authority	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	1/1
Mrs Sian Martin	01/09/2023 – 31/08/2027	Foundation	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	1/1
Mrs Belinda Raji	03/10/2023 – 02/10/2027	Parent	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	N/A

Governors who have stepped down in the last 12 months

Full names of all those who served as governors during 2020/21	Term of appointment	Date Stepped down	Type of Governor	Business or pecuniary interests	Governance roles in other educational institutions	Material interests (relationships between governors or school staff)	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2020/21	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2021/22	Attendance at Governing Body meetings 2022/23
Mr Robert Clarke	31/10/2022 – 31/08/2023	Chair of Governors Foundation	None	Governor at St Catherine's Catholic School	None	8/8	6/6	3/6	3/6
Mrs Fiona Salem	15/01/2022 – 31/08/2023	Foundation	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	6/6	9/9
Mr Antony Thomas	01/12/2021 – 31/08/2023	Foundation	None	None	None	N/A	N/A	3/4	2/6
Mrs Kerry-Ann Reid	01/09/2019 – 31/08/2023	Parent	None	None	None	N/A	6/6	6/6	4/6

Governing Body Structure
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
2023-2024



Chair of Governors

Mr Edgar (EP)

Vice Chair of Governors

Mr Omotayo (F)

Executive Head Teacher

Mr Hannon

Head of School

Mrs Truss

Finance Committee

Mr Edgar (EP) **Chair**
Mrs Omotayo (F)
Mrs Foy (F)
Mrs Martin (F)
Mr Konganda (LA)

Staffing Committee

Mrs Foy (F) **Chair**
Mrs Churchill (ES)
Miss Gwam (F)
Mr Omotayo (F)
Fr David (F)
Mrs Raji (EP)

Curriculum

Mr Edgar (EP) **Chair**
Mrs Churchill (ES)
Miss Gwam (F)
Mrs Martin (F)
Mr Konganda (LA)
Mrs Raji (EP)

Admissions Committee

Mrs Churchill (ES) **Chair**
Mrs Truss (HoS)
Miss Gwam (F)
Mr Omotayo (F)

Area of Responsibility

Child Protection and Safeguarding
SEND/LAC
Religious Education

Link Governor

Miss Gwam (F)
Mrs Foy (F)
Fr David (F)

Bexley Clerking Service

Ms Lancett

Key

F = Foundation (appointed by Diocese)

LA = Local Authority (appointed by Local Authority)

A = Associate Member (appointed by the Governing Body)

EP = Elected Parent (appointed by parent election)

ES = Elected Staff (appointed by staff election)

Love, Learn, Live

Our Governors

Clare Churchill – Staff Governor

I have been working as a Teaching Assistant at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School since 2008 and was elected a Staff Governor in 2013.

As a TA, I have worked across all classes in Key Stage 1 and 2. I am highly experienced in delivering a variety of interventions on a group and 1:1 basis, and take pride in my professional relationship with both the children and teaching staff.

As a Staff Governor, I bring a staff perspective to the board whilst ensuring statutory duties are carried out, safeguarding the school to remain compliant. I also follow our school mission statement of enabling each child to achieve the highest standards of education in a Catholic ethos.

I have a long standing commitment to St Joseph's, with both my children and myself attending as pupils of the school.



Stephen Edgar – Chair of Governors

I was elected as a parent governor in 2021. I'm a father of 4 girls, 3 currently attend St Joseph's. My wife and I chose St Joseph's because we believe in the ethos and values of the school and as a governor I want to support the long term success of the school.

In my professional life I'm a commercial solicitor, operating at senior leadership level, questioning, challenging and supporting the strategic direction of the organisations in which I work and I aim to bring these skills to my role of parent governor.

I've also been fortunate to spend a number of years living abroad, in Kuwait and Singapore, working for multinational companies. This experience means I'm passionate about ensuring my children (and hopefully all children) grow up in a diverse environment, with a broad outlook on life and equipped with the knowledge and skills to embrace all the opportunities and challenges that life brings.



Anusha Foy - Foundation Governor

I joined the governing board in 2019 as a parent governor and in 2021 became a Foundation Governor for the school. I work in the medicines and devices industry and currently work at a FS company in the UK. I have a LLB in Law and a BSc in Chemistry and currently lead the Children's Liturgy Team at St Mary of the Crays Catholic Church.



Fr David Gummett - Foundation Governor

I became Parish Priest of St Mary of the Crays in November 2018.

I enjoy my role as governor because I value the close relationship between parish, parents and school. St Joseph's is a happy school and this is informed by our emphasis on ethos and values.

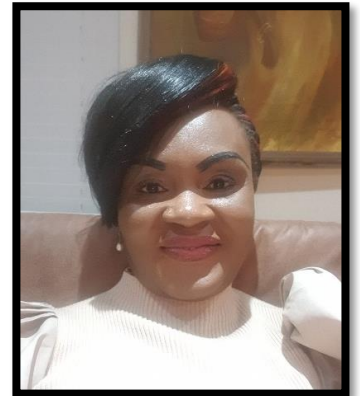
A Catholic education should provide every pupil with a well-rounded view of life and world, with the workshop of God at the centre of it.

I am proud that St Joseph's is a part of our Parish.



Jane Gwam – Foundation Governor

I was invited to join the governing board of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in 2018. I am a solicitor and specialise in family law. As a parent of three ex pupils of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School I am pleased to contribute my expertise to the school, for the betterment and welfare of the children. I live locally to St Joseph's with my family.



Mark Hannon – Executive Head Teacher

Since September 2021, I am the Executive Head Teacher of both St Joseph's and St Fidelis Catholic Primary Schools. Prior to this, I was the Head Teacher of St Fidelis for fourteen years. As well as being a governor for both schools, I am also a governor of a Catholic secondary school in Kent and a member of the Interim Executive Board (IEB) of a London School. This helps me to better understand the commitment and dedication that all our governors give voluntarily to make sure our school is a truly great Catholic school.



Belliappa Konganda – Local Authority Governor

I was appointed as a Local Authority Governor and joined St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School's Governing Body in 2023. I am a father of 2 girls, 1 recently graduated from St Joseph's while my younger daughter continues to attend the school.

I am a technology evangelist and my professional career spans the field of education, media and broadcasting. My contribution to the strategic initiatives of schools and organisations by implementing innovative approaches to teaching, instituting mentoring programs and business efficiency will be a valuable asset to the governing body.

I believe in St. Joseph's ethos of providing a nurturing environment which is at the heart of every child's religious, intellectual and social growth.



Sian Martin – Foundation Governor

I joined the governing body as a foundation governor in September 2023. I currently have two children that attend St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

When choosing a primary school for my children I was looking for a close inclusive community as well as excellent values, which is what I found in St Joseph's.

Before becoming a governor I was chair of the PTA. I enjoyed my role as chair, especially as by running events we were able to contribute to the wellbeing of the pupils within the school. I know that the role of a foundation governor will mean I will be able to continue to contribute to the children's well-being as well as the development of the school.

In my professional career I work for a multinational trading/investment company, within the treasury operations team primarily dealing with foreign exchange.



Anthony Omotayo - Foundation Governor

I was appointed as a Foundation Governor of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in 2018. I am a family man and a father of two girls and three boys. Although, I no longer have a child in the school, I am glad to say that all my children attended the school and have fond memories of their time there.

I work in the Information and Technology space as a Software Architect. Having originally graduated with a BSc in Chemistry, I decided to pursue an IT career with a Master's degree (MSc) in Computer Science which has turned out to be one of my smartest moves ever. I have worked as a Consultant with large and small companies in the UK and abroad, helping to develop IT solutions that is economical, robust and flexible to meet the needs of businesses in the short and long term. I hope to bring this experience to my role as a governor of the school with commitment and dedication.

I enjoy playing Tennis and Badminton when I'm not at the stadium watching my favourite team playing football. I am also a Knight of St Columba and regularly attend the affiliated school church - St Mary of the Crays.

It has been an honour to continue to contribute to the development and welfare of the school in my capacity as a governor.

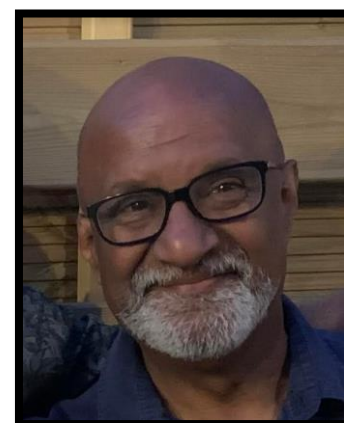


Dexter Pereira - Foundation Governor

At the end of 2022, I retired from a career in Forestry and consider myself to be one of the lucky people to have travelled to many parts of the world studying forest and ensuring that forest management rules were being adhered to. Countries included British Columbia (Canada), South America (Chile, Argentina and Southern Brazil), Scandinavia, the Baltic States, Europe (Central and Eastern, including Belarus).

Prior to that, I was in shipping specialising in Marine and Contract law.

Having been invited to join the Governing Board of St Josephs and seen the high standards of education being achieved with an emphasis on Catholicism. I am pleased to be part of a group of people endeavouring to maintain these high levels.



Belinda Raji - Parent Governor

I'm a mother of 4, my 3 girls attend St Joseph's (Years 5 and 1) and my little boy is 1 year old. I was very keen for my children to attend a small school like I attended - Catholic, with a welcoming family atmosphere. It's a joy to see the ethos and values of the school reflected in my children. I recently championed the incredible work of the school as part of the parent panel for the Catholic Schools Inspection.

My profession in the educational sector since 2005 has allowed me to serve in multiple roles including that of a classroom teacher, PSHE Lead, Department Head and provider of pastoral guidance and support. I have also had the privilege to work on alternative education initiatives fostering young minds through progressive learning methods. In my free time, I take on the role of a Junior Church leader at my local church and have been involved in ideating and managing medium-scale cultural events. Currently, I am positioned as a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead at my workplace.

My cumulative experience and skills, honed from my professional commitments and from motherhood, position me to be a valuable addition to the governing body.



Amanda Truss – Head of School

In September 2021, I was lucky enough to become the Head of School at St Joseph's. I joined the school in September 2011 when I became the Deputy Headteacher (and Year 4 class teacher). I started my teaching career in September 1996 and have been fortunate to teach every year group at some point in my career. This has enabled me to experience and appreciate our pupils' learning journey from the Early Years right up to Key Stage 2. I am highly committed to my vocation and firmly appreciate the Gospel values that are central to our Catholic school community.

