

St Francis Roman Catholic Primary School

"With God, everything is within our reach"



Ellenbrook Close
Gorton
Manchester
M12 5LZ
0161 223 3457

admin@st-francis.manchester.sch.uk
www.stfrancismanchester.com

Headteacher: Mrs L Elder
Deputy Headteacher: Miss L Deighan
Parish Priest: Father K Murphy

Tuesday 16th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Meet the Governors of St Francis RC Primary School

St Francis RC Primary School is part of the Emmaus Multi Academy Trust. The Governing Body is made up of a number of members varying from staff, parents and foundation governors. We work for the benefit of all pupils and staff at St Francis. We are all volunteers and come from a vast background: educational leadership, global businesses, private and public sector, HR and finance. We are here to give a strategic direction, hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school, its pupils and the performance of its staff. We are not here to get involved with the day-to-day running of the school. We are here to help set the criteria by which the school is managed. We work hard to ensure that the local and national government legislation and targets are met, that the school budget is spent wisely, that the safety of our whole school community is paramount and that the curriculum is delivered to benefit all pupils. As governors we will be taking an active role in the school, it is not just about attending meetings. We are linked individually to certain aspects of the school development plan and will meet with school staff outside of the regular meetings, but we act as one body. If you wish to speak to a governor about the school, please feel free to approach us and ask any questions.

Introducing our governors:

Pat Jones – Acting Co-Chair of Governors



My name is Pat Jones and I am a Foundation Governor appointed by the Bishop of Salford for St Francis RC Primary School. I am currently a parishioner of St Bernard's Burnage where I play the organ, read at Mass and lead the singing in church. I am a former parishioner of St Francis having lived in the parish from 1983 until 1994. I have over 35 years of teaching; school leadership; and governance experience working in primary schools in the diocese. For 22 years I was a Primary Headteacher in Manchester and Bury. Our catholic school is where children can develop their faith and learn and flourish as members of our school and parish community.



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Christine Maymon – Acting Co-Chair of Governors

Hi. I'm Christine Maymon; a Foundation Governor at St. Francis R.C. School. I am also Chair of the Governing Board at Corpus Christi R.C. Primary School, Oldham and Acting Chair at St. Chad's R.C. Primary School, Cheetham Hill, which is part of the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust in the Diocese of Salford.

Retired now, I was a teacher of Modern Foreign Languages for many years in Rochdale, followed by Team Leader at Oldham Pupil Referral Unit.

Recently widowed, I have two daughters who are both teachers. In my spare time, I enjoy swimming, walking, theatre, travel and catching up on the TV soaps.

I really want to support the St. Francis family and I especially love to see the pupils' smiling faces.



Lynn Elder – Headteacher



I am Lynn Elder and am fortunate to be the Headteacher of St Francis RC Primary School. I was a Headteacher for eight years at my previous school in Lancashire. I applied to be the Headteacher at St Francis because I attended as a child and have very fond memories. I love working with children as they make me smile every day. I also love animals and many of you will have met my dog Mylo who comes into school. I am looking forward to working with all of the families at St Francis so that we can make St Francis the best school it can be.

Leah Deighan – Staff Governor

I am Deputy Headteacher at St Francis and I teach Year 6 two days a week. I have been teaching since 2013, and have worked in a number of different schools, gaining a wealth of experience. I joined St Francis in December 2022 from another school in Salford Diocese, and I am passionate about providing the best possible education and opportunities for our children.



Fr Kevin Murphy



I have been Parish Priest of Sacred Heart and St Francis Parish since October 2019. Before that I served in parishes in Rochdale and Clitheroe. Before becoming a priest, I taught in two schools and two colleges for over twenty years. I am a keen guitarist and song-writer, I enjoy long-distance walks such as the route of Hadrian's Wall and the St Cuthbert's Way (walked recently), and I also like to climb mountains and go running.



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Mary Garvey

My name is Mary Garvey and I joined St Francis as a Foundation Governor in October 2022. I have worked in Oldham schools for over 20 years. I am currently the Headteacher at St Mary's RC Primary, Failsworth.



Dean Maryam – Parent Governor



I joined the governing body in November 2022 as a parent governor, bringing experience from the operations and logistics sector for a global tech company.

I am a European expert for operational process and improvements within my role. With leadership experience across finance, planning and operations, I look forward to bringing this skill set to the governing body at St Francis.

I look forward to supporting the school and the governing body, as well as continuing to aid them in continuing the great work that is being done for the young children at the school.

Himo Sonny-Joe – Parent Governor

I am a HR professional within the legal services industry. I am passionate about children and young people serving in my local church's Children's ministry and my community as a parent governor in a Primary school. Another passion of mine is seeing healthy relationships at all levels serving in family enrichment groups. I am also an accomplished MC and events host.

