

The Governing Body of St Michael's C of E (Aided) School, Aldbourne, Wiltshire

Strategic Aims from 2019

Dear Parent / Carer,

This letter is designed to explain what the school governors do and how we operate within the school in our role as a “critical friend” to the senior leadership. Governors at St Michael's are responsible for the following:

- Ensuring that the school delivers the best educational and learning environment possible
- Ensuring that the vision and ethos of the school is maintained, where each child develops a love of learning and an appreciation of the world, underpinned by Christian values
- Moving the school forward with a clear strategy
- Monitoring the finances and ensuring that the money is well spent

To provide the best for our children we aim:

- 1) To continue to be an outstanding school
 - a. Maintaining our own “whole child” ethos; and the special nature of our school
 - b. To be focussed on the impact of everything that we do
 - c. To continually and openly be forward looking embracing new ideas and thinking as they may be developed by us and elsewhere.
- 2) For excellent communications with parents and community and to market and promote innovative activities as these come to fruition
 - a. To promote our lifetime love of learning ambition for every child
 - b. So parents can assist educational aspiration and achievement
 - c. To promote and welcome volunteer and other support to the school
- 3) To maintain single form entry (i.e. 7 classes)
 - a. Ensuring most appropriate staffing and administrative support structure
 - b. But not ambitious for growth above sustainable level – (for guidance expressed as 30 pupils per year group class (NOR c.210)).
- 4) For excellent relationships with contractors and partners

- a. To maintain relations with pre and afterschool activities
 - b. To maintain good relations with other peer group schools and seek opportunities for further collaboration where appropriate.
- 5) To have well planned successions and leadership resilience
 - a. In school leadership team and to maintain a fully constituted governing body
 - b. To allow space, time and resources to foster the development of new projects where these are agreed.
- 6) To be a distinctive church school balanced with community ethos
 - a. Include positive relationships with diocese
 - b. Continuing development of foundation governors
- 7) To have premises fit for long term purpose
 - a. Continue to develop a rolling programmed of maintenance to support our aims for long term sustainability.
 - b. Continue to identify funding sources for upgrading premises and improving children's environment more generally.
- 8) To be knowledgeable and focussed on all aspects of children's development
 - a. With in depth understanding of children's mental health and well being
 - b. And to promote of a "citizens of the world" understanding.

Parent Survey

Thank you for filling out our parent survey earlier this year. We were pleased to see that you think the school is performing well and have attached a summary of the results to this letter at Appendix 2.

How we go about our work

The minutes of the Full Governing Body are available in the entrance lobby in hard copy or in soft copy on request. Together with the minutes from our regular committee meetings they demonstrate how we hold the senior leadership to account for the performance of the school and identify strengths and weaknesses.

Full Governing Body

This meets five times a year to give all the governors an opportunity to share reports from their areas and discuss the success of the school in general. Strategy is considered by all governors in an annual all day meeting.

Premises and Finance Committee

Six Finance governors approve the school budget, scrutinise Income and Expenditure Reports and agree major purchasing decisions. They ensure value for money and that funds are spent on strategic priorities. They also help to attract investment to secure some of these improvements.

Staff Committee

Three Staff governors act to ensure that the school's staffing structure is appropriate for the numbers of pupils on role to ensure the best education and pastoral care for pupils and ensure the senior leadership has the necessary practical support in the day to day running of the school.

Pay Panel Committee

Four governors consider the staff's pay awards based on performance management targets and review.

Monitoring and Evaluation Committee

Eight governors share the task of closely scrutinising the performance of the school in four areas:

- Maths and Literacy
- Quality of Teaching and Learning
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural
- Leadership and Management

Communications Committee - four governors keep relations with parents and partners under review, including management of the website and promotion of the school

Health and Safety - one governor has responsibility for keeping this under review

Performance Management - three governors examine staff performance

Child Protection - one governor has the job of reviewing this area with the appropriate staff

SENCO (Special Needs) - one governor has the job of reviewing this area with the appropriate staff

The aim of this letter is to give you some idea about the work that we carry out on behalf of you and our local community in keeping St Michael's the successful school it is today. There are pictures of us all in the entrance hall to the school and you can see who we are on the school website

<http://www.stmichaelsaldbourne.co.uk/our-team/governors/>

Individual attendance at governor meetings is evidenced in the Appendix 1. You will find us all very approachable if you decide you would like to learn more about how we work.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SK', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Knighton

Chair of Governors

**Appendix 1
Governors' Attendance 2019**

<i>Governor</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>11.10.2018</i>	<i>4.12.2018</i>	<i>27.2.2019</i>	<i>2.5.2019</i>	<i>26.6.2019</i>	<i>Term of Office start</i>	<i>Term of Office end</i>
Liz Morris	Foundation	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	14.5.18	13.5.22
Caroline Kaneen	Foundation	Apologies	Last				1.1.2015	31.12.2018
Emma Barnes	Foundation		First	Attended	Attended	Apologies	21.12.2018	20.12.2022
Nadia Aylett	Foundation	Attended	Last				29.2.2016	28.2.2020
Eleanor Williamson	Foundation		First	Attended	Attended	Apologies	21.12.18	20.12.22
Lorna Moore	Foundation	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Attended	9.2.2016	8.2.2020
Viv Bayne-Jardine	Foundation	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies	9.2.2016	8.2.2020
Kate McPhedran	Foundation	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	18.4.2016	17.4.2020
Ex Officio Candice Marcus	Foundation	Last	Apologies				27.9.2011	26.9.2018
Ex Officio Rev Rhona Floate	Foundation				First	Apologies	20.03.2019	19.03.2023
Marguerite Seward	Foundation	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies	13.7.2016	12.7.2020
Judith Arkwright	Staff	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	6.2.2007	7.4.2021
Linda Maslin	Staff	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Attended	27.11.2008	16.11.2018

Simon Knighton	Authority	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	11.2.2004	14.5.2022
							30.11.2016	29.11.2020
Patrick Zebedee	Parent	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	Attended	Apologies	16.11.2018	17.11.2022
Alex Lambert	Parent	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	7.10.2017	6.10.2021
Rupert Bound	Co-opted	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Apologies	01.01.2015	31.12.2022
Victoria Parmiter	Associate	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	7.2.2005	3.3.2021
Ben Everitt	Associate	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	27.09.2016	26.09.2020
								25.01.2022
Sandy Martin	Clerk	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended		