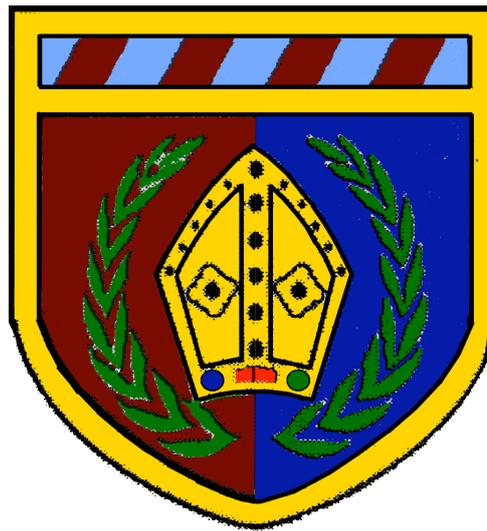


St John Fisher Catholic Primary School



CCC Code of Practice for Governing Bodies

(Adopted By St John Fisher Governing Body- March 2012)

"To live, love and learn and learn in our caring community"



St John Fisher Catholic Primary School
CCC Code of Practice for Governing Bodies

Name of School: St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

Name of Chair: Rev. Fr R Wright

Name of Headteacher: Denise Mooney

Date: April 2012

The governors of this school accept the following code of practice.

General

- The authority with which the governing body operates is held corporately. All governors have equal status and their central concern should be the welfare of the school as a whole. Although governors are elected or appointed by different groups, they should not act as delegates. Each governor is a governor in their own right, but each brings an individual perspective to the governing body, whether as parent, member of staff or from outside the school itself.
- **Governors have responsibility for:**
 - a. setting aims and objectives for the school and setting policies and targets for meeting them
 - b. monitoring and evaluating progress towards these aims and objectives
 - c. being a "critical friend" for the headteacher;
- **the headteacher is responsible for:**
 - a. the internal organisation, management and control of the school
 - b. presenting aims and objectives, policies and targets for consideration by the Governing Body;
 - c. reporting to the Governing Body on progress on meeting these aims and objectives.

Governors and the headteacher should each recognise and respect the roles of the other.

- Governors have a general duty to act with integrity, objectivity and honesty in the best interests of the school at all times.

- *Governors and the headteacher should seek to work together as a team.*
- *In so far as they have, or share, responsibility for the employment of staff, governors should fulfil all reasonable expectations of a good employer.*
- *Governors should consider carefully how their own decisions might affect other schools.*
- *Governors should be open about the decisions they make and the actions they take and be prepared to explain their actions and decisions as far as reasonable confidentiality allows.*

Commitment

- *School governance requires significant amounts of time and energy from every governor.*
- *All governors should involve themselves actively in the work of the governing body and accept a fair share of responsibilities, including service on committees and working groups.*
- *Governors should know the school well and take all possible opportunities for involvement in school activities.*
- *Regular attendance at meetings of the full governing body, committees and working groups is essential.*
- *Governors should be “critical friends” to the school inside its walls and loyally committed to it outside.*
- *Governors should realise that they will only be effective if they attend to their own development by taking up appropriate support and training opportunities.*

Confidentially

- *Governors should observe complete confidentiality when either required or asked to do so by the governing body, especially in relation to matters concerning individual staff or pupils.*
- *Governors should exercise the highest degree of prudence when the discussion of potentially contentious issues arises outside of the governing body.*
- *Governors should be loyal in word and deed to majority decisions of the governing body, even if they have not themselves agreed with them.*

Conflicts of interest

- Individual governors should declare any potential conflict of interest and withdraw from the meeting before the particular item is discussed.
- Governors should resist the temptation of outside pressure to use the position of governor to benefit him or herself or other outside parties.

Conduct

- Governors should express their views openly within meetings but accept collective responsibility for all decisions.
- Visits by governors to the school should be undertaken within a framework which has been established by the governing body and agreed with the headteacher.
- In responding to criticism or complaints relating to the school, governors should follow procedures established by the governing body.
- Governors should only speak or act on behalf of the governing body when they have been specifically authorised to do so.
- Governors should follow agreed procedures when wishing to make critical comment on any aspect of the school.
- Governors have a responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of the school and their actions within the school community should reflect this.

Signed: D Mooney

Headteacher

Signed: April 2012