Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Annual Governance Statement- 2025/2026

Our Lady of Lourdes is a Catholic school based in its local community. We work hard to provide an environment which is secure, stimulating and happy, and where everyone is appreciated and enabled to give their best.

Purpose of this statement

This governance statement has been prepared and published by the Governing Body of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School. It identifies who we are, along with our role and responsibilities, as well as outlining our governance arrangements and priorities relating to the school and its essential Catholic ethos.

Governance arrangements

Who we are?

The Governing Body of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School comprises staff, parents, foundation (appointed by the diocese) and local authority governors who all have specific skills relevant to the work we do and to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. We give our time voluntarily. All governors are committed to ensuring that every pupil at Our Lady of Lourdes has the best possible education and that standards at the school continue to strengthen each year. We are fortunate to have a governing body with a range of skills and expertise who work in various fields within education and other industries. We all value and understand our role and function as stakeholders in the continuing success of the school.

Role of the Governing Body

The governing body has three primary tasks:

- to set the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school
- to ensure that the head teacher is supported and challenged, when appropriate, in performing her responsibilities
- making sure the school makes effective use of its financial resources.

What do we do?

As governors, we endeavour to provide support and challenge to the school by keeping ourselves informed about the quality of teaching, learning and school performance and acting as a robust critical friend by scrutinising and questioning. We achieve this through regular monitoring and analysis of data on children's performance and progress, visiting the school to observe and meet with staff and by using meeting time as a forum for questions, challenge and scrutiny. We keep up to date with the School Improvement Plan and support and monitor progress made. We have total confidence in the Head teacher and her staff to lead and deal with the day to day running of the school. Governors are fully involved in the performance management of the Head teacher and support the appraisal of teachers and support staff when required.

The governing board considers: -

- Standards, attainment and progress of all year groups
- The school's improvement plan and termly action/impact plan
- Attendance and punctuality
- Safeguarding
- Staffing
- Budget and finance monitoring
- Support for children with special educational needs
- Pupil Premium allowance and its impact on pupils
- Health and safety for premises and stakeholders

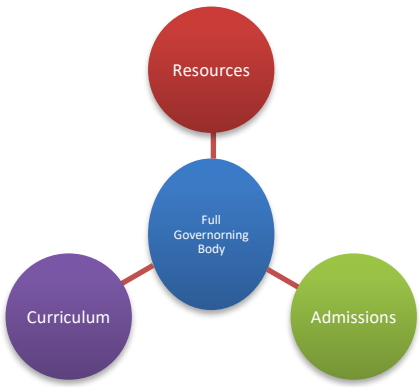
How we do it?

The full governing body meets four times throughout the year to discuss, advise and review the areas above. We use meetings to listen to presentations from staff, ask questions and discuss key issues.

In addition, there are three separate committees which focus on priority areas. These include:-

- Resources committee - focusing on the financial management of the school and the effective management of all resources, including safeguarding
- Curriculum - focusing on the quality of teaching across the school, results and the performance of all pupils, including more able pupils
- Admissions - focusing on the admissions to the school.

Governors are involved in one or more of these committees and attend a full governing body meeting. Information from the committees is fed back to the full governing body meeting.



We also:

- Have 'special interest' or 'link' governors who take responsibility for particular areas such as Pupil Premium children, or subjects such as maths, literacy, science or RE.
- Take part in 'learning walks' around our school so we have a good understanding of how our school operates.

Approved minutes of Governing Body minutes are public documents which can provided, on request, by contacting the school office – office@ololschool.enfield.sch.uk

Attendance records of governors

A record of our attendance at meetings is kept by the clerk to the governing body and can be found on the school's website. The summary details will be reported at the end of the year. Meetings need to be 'quorate' to ensure that decisions can be made (this means that more than fifty per cent of voting members must be in attendance). To date, no meetings have failed to meet this quoracy requirement.

Training

During each academic year, governors have the opportunity to attend training sessions run by the diocese and Education. We audit the skills of the governors annually and identify the appropriate training required to enable the governors to fulfil their role.

Priorities for 2026/ 27

This year we strive to continue to support the work of the school. We will work together in our strategic role. Our priorities for this year as a governing body include:-

1. Continue to develop the role of the Governing Body within the school and be more visible to staff. Ensure visits are regular.
2. Governor attendance at events / staff meetings / training / feedback meetings. Ensure some representation
3. To ensure that the governing body is supportive of initiatives which will support the SDP objectives.
4. Training for governors
5. Succession planning

How to contact your governing body.

We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents with regards to the **strategic** aspect of our work. Please post any suggestions in the blue box outside the office or email – ololchair@gmail.com

The governing body endeavours to operate at a strategic level, leaving the headteacher and senior school leader accountable to us for the operational day-to-day running of the school.

You can see the full list of governors and more information about what we do, on the Governors' page of the school website.

Other documents available from the Governor's section of the school website:

- *The Board of Governors Code of Conduct.*
- *Who are the Governors?*
- *Attendance Records*
- *Register of Business and Pecuniary Interests*

Nicky Madigan [Co-Chair of Governors]

Mark Vargeson [Co-Chair of Governors]