Dear Parent,

On behalf of the Governing Board, I would like to welcome you to St Paul’s Catholic Primary School. The Headteacher tells me that parents sometimes say that they do not know anything about the governors – who we are or what we do, so this is my attempt to introduce us to you.

There are twelve members of the Governing Board, seven of whom are foundation governors, appointed by the Bishop of Shrewsbury, on the recommendation of our Parish Priest.

We are all active members of our parish but our age ranges and backgrounds vary, though we have all had contact with the school in some way prior to our appointment. Miss Flynn, our Headteacher, is automatically a governor of the school. One governor is nominated by Tameside Local Authority. Two governors are elected by the parent body, and finally, one member of staff is elected by the other members of staff. All except the Headteacher serve a term of four years before facing re-nomination. The Headteacher is a governor as long as she is in post. The Chair and Vice Chair are elected annually by their fellow governors.

We meet as a full board normally once a term and we divide into three committees (Finance and Personnel, Curriculum and Standards and Premises and Safety) to deal with specific and more specialised matters. Individual governors take on particular responsibilities, such as Special Needs, English, Maths etc. and we are each attached to a named class which we visit occasionally and follow through the school. All our meetings are minuted and copies are kept in school where they can be looked at by parents or interested parties.

Miss Flynn, our Headteacher, runs the school on a daily basis so it is her, or one of her staff, that you would naturally contact to raise any issues that you might have. She will bring matters to the governors that she feels we need to know and she writes a detailed termly report that we discuss as a governing board. We are responsible for school policy. The Headteacher is responsible for the implementation of that policy.

As we are all members of our local Catholic community we all care a great deal about our parish school and we are all available to listen to general issues that you might wish to raise. When the school is inspected, the governors form part of that inspection and as the latest OFSTED report states the “Governors are highly supportive of the school and committed to bringing about improvements”.

So, on behalf of my fellow governors, I hope you have a long and fruitful experience of our school. It is a good school but still we strive continually to make it even better. We appreciate your support and commitment.

Yours sincerely



Thomas Edwards (Chair of Governors)