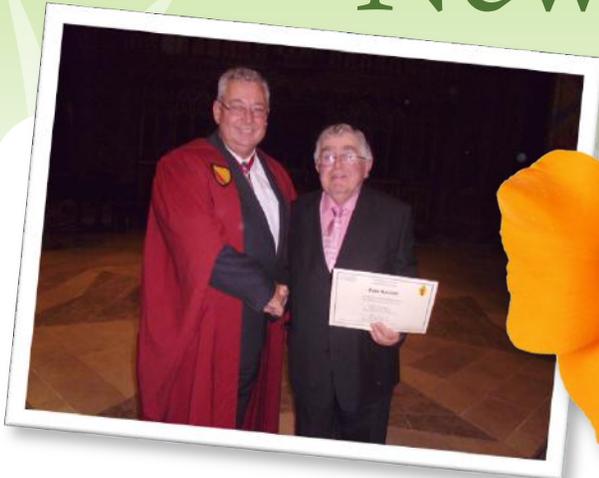


St Mary's Governors' Newsletter



Message from New Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my fellow governors to you. During the Autumn Term there were a number of changes within the governing body, after many years as Chair of Governors, John Ratcliffe stepped down from the position. John is still a valuable member of our Governing body, having a wealth of knowledge and experience, which was acknowledged during a celebration service at Manchester Cathedral just before Christmas. .

I was elected as Chair and am delighted that Maxine Lomax was elected Vice Chair. Maxine is a Foundation governor and I know she will be an asset to our Governing Body bringing her enthusiasm and experience, along with professional skills in Health, Social Care and Safeguarding.

I have been involved in governance for many years with the last four being Vice Chair

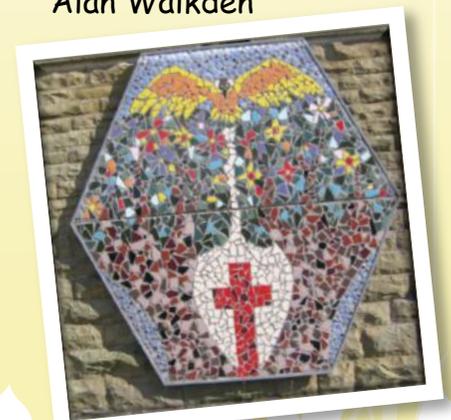
People often ask what do governors actually do? So we plan to produce regular updates which will give more understanding of our role.

Members of the Governing Body

Chair of Governors
Mags Wilcock

Vice Chair
Maxine Lomax

Reverend Paul Sumsion
Mrs Woodward
Mrs Wardle
Miss Griffiths
Mark Slater
Joanne Close
Dorothy Gunther
John Ratcliffe
Kirsty Walls
Jo Glass
Rob Critchley
Alan Walkden





Have you ever wondered why our school has Governors?

The work of the Governors often appears to be a bit of a mystery to many.

We would like to explain the work we do, how that value adds to our school and why it is so important.

The overall purpose of the Governing Body is to help St Mary's provide the best possible education for its pupils, in order to develop every child's full potential.

This involves, in particular:

- Setting the school's vision and strategic objectives, agreeing plans and policies, and making creative use of resources.
- Monitoring and evaluating performance and acting as a critical friend to the Head Teacher, in order to support and challenge them in managing the school.
- Ensuring that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, its local community, those who fund and maintain it, as well as the staff it employs.

Good governance makes an impact in the classroom and St Mary's Governors aim to contribute to high standards of attainment, together with good quality teaching and pupil behaviour.

The Governors aim to encourage a caring partnership between the School, Church, Parents and Governors, based on trust and shared understanding in order that the pupils' education will benefit the children themselves, the school and wider community.

Our Governing Body is made up of different types of Governors:

- Foundation Governors
- Parents Governors
- Teachers Governors
- Local Authority Governor

