



Dear Parents and Carers

Governance arrangements for St Mary's CofE Primary School

I am writing to inform you of the interim changes that the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the Diocese of Guildford are making to the governance at St Mary's CoE Primary School.

Following consultation with the governing body of St Mary's, the Local Authority (LA) and the Diocese applied to the Department for Education (DfE) for approval to establish an Interim Executive Board (IEB). The application has been approved by the DfE and they have provided written consent for the LA and the Diocese to appoint an IEB at the school.

The IEB's function is to provide interim expertise and high-quality governance to support further improvement at St Mary's CofE Primary School. This is a supportive measure, to build on the good work of the current interim leadership team at the school. The IEB's longer term aim is to develop a future leadership model and secure long term financial sustainability for the school. We will keep parents updated with our planning. A formal review of the IEB will be considered in early September 2026 to agree next steps and move towards the reinstatement of the St Mary's Governing Board.

While an IEB is in place, it qualifies as the governing body of the maintained school and any reference in the Education Acts to a governor or foundation governor applies to an interim executive member. During the interim period, the requirements concerning the governing body's constitution set out in the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 do not apply. The IEB will take on the responsibilities of a normally constituted governing body, including the management of the budget, curriculum, staffing, pay and performance management, and the appointment of the headteacher or deputy headteacher, if applicable. The obligations on the governing body in relation to maintaining the religious ethos of the school will also apply to the IEB.

The IEB members are:

- Rosemary Hafeez (Chair)
- Cathy Clarke
- Colin Powell
- Jenny Gresson
- Jon Chaloner

The clerk to the IEB is Alison Harvey. Further details about the experience of the members of the IEB can be found on the school website. There will also be other information about the IEB, how it operates alongside the roles and responsibilities.

The IEB was put in place on Monday 19 January and will work in close partnership with the LA and the Diocese over the next couple of terms. We will keep parents and carers updated with our progress and next steps.

Your sincerely



Rosemary Hafeez
Chair of the Interim Executive Board
St Mary's CoE Primary School

Cc Charis Penfold, Director of Education, Achieving for Children
 Alex Tear, Director of Education, Diocese of Guildford
 Revd Nicholas Pye, Vicar of St Mary's Church, Chessington