



**St Sebastian's
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Monday 17th March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I wrote to you in February to invite nominations for a parent governor.

I am delighted to say that there has been a good response and there are eight candidates for the two vacancies. This means we must now hold a ballot.

Attached to this letter is:

- a ballot paper with the names of the candidates (in alphabetical order)
- a copy of the personal statements from the candidates

You may vote for up to two of the candidates. Each parent can submit one ballot paper. As indicated on the ballot paper, you should vote by marking a single 'X' alongside the candidate(s) you support.

- *Paper voting forms will be given to all families one for each parent – ballot papers can be returned to the school office and place within a sealed box*

The election will be decided by a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, lots will be drawn.

When the election has been completed, I will let you know the outcome. If you have any queries in the meantime, please let me know.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Moloney

Chair of Governors and Returning Officer

Election of Parent Governors for the Federation of St Cuthbert's and St Sebastian's Catholic Primary Schools

There are **two** vacancies for two parent governors – attached are the nominee's personal statements for your guidance.

You may vote for **two** candidates by marking an X alongside their names.

All votes must be returned to school office by **TUESDAY 25TH MARCH** in a sealed envelope.

Candidates

Candidate name	Mark an 'X' to indicate your vote
Calvert Mr John-Joseph – St Cuthbert's parent	
Habtemariam Mr Fitsum – St Cuthbert's parent	
Jones Ms Anna – St Sebastian's parent	
Meehan Ms Hannah – St Sebastian's parent	
Nelson Mr Thomas – St Cuthbert's parent	
Ofoegbu Ms Elisha – St Sebastian's parent	
Smith Ms Sarah – St Cuthbert's parent	
Watson Miss Deborah – St Cuthbert's carer	

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Mr John-Joseph Calvert – St Cuthbert's parent

As an Operations Director, I believe I touch on all aspects of the Parent Governor role.

I work with the Board of Directors to review the previous year's performance, then set the expectations and targets for the year ahead. Then, working closely with the SLT, we agree a plan to achieve these targets.

I have a degree in Quantity Surveying so have a good understanding of financial management. I am also responsible for the performance of a team of 10 Surveyors – I ensure they are estimating works accurately, budgeting the material and labour allocation correctly, and handling the job efficiently, then on completion of the project I sign off on their final accounts.

I feel comfortable holding people to account for their performance, however I believe a collaborative approach is always best with positive reinforcement at its centre.

As a Training and Development ESG Champion, I visit schools in the Knowsley region where I engage with students and school staff. During my visits I am promoting our business within the construction industry and offering apprenticeships to aspiring pupils.

In conclusion, when considering St Cuthbert's, I believe the culture in place is fabulous from a parent's perspective. My children are learning and developing brilliantly, and that is down to the incredible staff (teachers and extended team) and facilities available. It would be a privilege to use my personal experience and skill set to assist with this in the future.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Mr Fitsum Habtemariam – St Cuthbert's parent

I confirm I believe I have the skills and experience to serve as a school governor. I am a geologist with 5 years of experience, Petroleum Engineer with 3 years of experience and a Sworn translator with 18 years of experience. Through my work as a professional translator of 7 languages, and deep involvement within community matters, I have a vast professional and social experience of helping people, including people from my community and others.

During my various careers, I have observed the impact of holistic educational experience in children and young people's wellbeing and outcomes. I have a passion for equality in education, stemming from my own educational experience in Eritrea, Europe and in the UK. I am a father of three children, two of them are in Bluecoat Grammar School. I strongly believe children should benefit from a good day-to-day experience at school and eventually achieve their full academic potential. Parents support, guidance and motivations are of paramount importance. My professional and personal experience have provided me with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of what is required from the school, parents/carers and the child to achieve this.

In the rapidly changing world, our children are becoming more independent, thus school and parent's responsibilities and challenges are changing by the day. I wish to contribute and give back to the wider community and for the benefit of students. I believe that my knowledge and experience are transferrable to a parent governor role.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Ms Anna Jones – St Sebastian’s parent

I am writing to express my interest in volunteering as a parent governor for St Sebastian’s School.

I am a parent of three children, one who has recently left for high school and two children who are attending the school in Y4 and reception, I was also a pupil of St Sebastian’s many years ago.

I am keen to volunteer as a parent governor at St Sebastian’s as I am passionate about providing, not only my own children, but all children with access to high quality, inclusive education. As a parent of children at the school I have a personal investment in its success and believe that my skills, experience and commitment would be a positive contribution to the governing body.

My professional background in senior leadership roles has equipped me with the key skills such as strategic planning, decision making, financial acumen and problem solving. I am confident in reviewing policies, working collaboratively, and have a clear understanding of safeguarding and its vital importance. I also understand the importance of accountability and would strive to support the school’s leadership while constructively challenging decisions to ensure the best outcomes for the children.

In addition to my professional expertise, I strongly believe in the value of home learning and parental/carer support and would welcome the opportunity to strengthen communication and engagement between the school, parents/carers and the wider community.

If I were to be appointed as a governor, I would be committed to understanding the school’s needs and being an active contributor. I am fortunate that my employer values roles such as this one and permits me a certain amount of time away from my role to support.

I can confirm I am not disqualified from holding office for any reason.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Ms Hannah Meehan – St Sebastian’s parent

My name is Hannah and I have a daughter currently attending St Sebastian’s reception class. My main reason for applying to be a Parent Governor is because I want to participate in supporting the school to achieve the best possible education for our children and to ensure they have positive experience of their school life.

I work in Finance for Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, I manage the budgets for various wards in our High Secure Division. I would like to use my financial knowledge, experience and skills to give back to my local community and help the continuous improvement of life at both St Sebastian’s and St Cuthbert’s Primary school. As part of my role in my working life, I attend budget meetings with the budget holders for each ward. I ask to attend the site budget holders are situated on, this not only enables me to see their challenges in person but it also gives me the opportunity to communicate with some patients and understand their needs to help achieve operational excellence.

I am also a Safeguarding Officer in my local Girls Brigade and church council. I attend training regularly so I am always up-to-date with the latest policies and procedures. I will utilise this experience so I can contribute to the role of ensuring that crucial effective safeguarding practice is in place at all times to keep our children and the school’s staff safe. My work has a policy in place that allows me to attend all school governor activities when necessary so I can fully commit to this role

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Mr Thomas Nelson – St Cuthbert's parent

I am excited to apply for the role of parent governor to support our school in providing the best education for our children. As a high school teacher with over fifteen years of working with children and a financial educator I bring experience, strategic management, decision making and team work. I understand the value of time and the importance of time keeping in ensuring efficiency and productivity.

I am eager to learn, contribute and represent parent's views while working collaboratively with the leadership team to enhance the school environment. I will be honoured in this role and appreciate your support.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Ms Elisha Ofoegbu – St Sebastian's parent

First if all let me introduce myself my name is Elisha Ofoegbu. My son Isaac Ofoegbu attends reception at St Sebastian's.

This is my first time being a mum within a school environment and seeing my son come home happy and interested to talk about his day makes me want to be involved in the school.

I understand being a parent governor requires commitment, honesty, openness, selflessness and confidentiality.

I will commit to giving time when needed. I will always be honest and express my opinions but I am a person who is very respectful of others views and believe we can learn from others to help broaden our own views.

The main reason I am applying to be a parent governor is, I want to be able to act on behalf of our children and parents making sure openness is throughout the whole school.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Ms Sarah Smith – St Cuthbert's parent

As a committed and enthusiastic parent, I am confident I would make a valuable contribution as a parent governor. I possess a clear understanding of the importance of setting strategic goals that are not only ambitious but also achievable. I am adept at collaborating with stakeholders to create a shared vision that reflects the school's ethos and aspirations, ensuring that every decision aligns with our collective objectives.

Holding people to account is another area where I excel. I believe that accountability is crucial in driving performance and ensuring high standards. I have experience in monitoring progress, evaluating outcomes, and providing constructive feedback. By fostering a culture of transparency and responsibility, I aim to support and challenge school leaders, ensuring that the school delivers the best possible education to its pupils.

Engaging with pupils, staff, parents/carers, and the wider community to understand their views is integral to my approach. I am an effective communicator who values the input of all stakeholders. Through regular interactions, consultations, and open forums, I strive to create an inclusive environment where everyone feels heard and valued. This collaborative approach not only builds trust but also enables us to address concerns and celebrate successes together.

Additionally, I am dedicated to ensuring that the school's finances are well-managed and money is well spent. I will ensure that resources are allocated effectively to maximise student outcomes and support the school's long-term sustainability.

In conclusion, my skills in developing vision, holding people to account, engaging with the school community, and financial management make me an ideal candidate for the role of parent governor. I am dedicated to making a positive impact and ensuring the school continues to thrive.

PARENT GOVERNOR NOMINATION FORM – MARCH 2025

Miss Deborah Watson – St Cuthbert's carer

St Cuthbert's is a terrific school. With an outstanding reputation. I would like me to help school continue to improve and develop.

I'm keen to join the governing body. As my granddaughter attend the school. I have been in retail and catering most of my working life. Unfortunately due to health issues I'm unable to work. But I do feel I would be able to give back a few hours back to the community. I have compassion and courage and I'm always willing to discover and accept new ideas which can be put into practice. I'm keen to support the school and all of its dedicated staff who work so hard to keep the school running smoothly.

I'm particularly keen to help St Cuthbert's children's ensuring all children are safeguarded and can fulfil their full potential whatever their background, SEND or disabilities.