



Governors Third Annual Report to Parents

The academic year 2017/18 was one of celebration tinged with sadness. Frank Maltby, who many of you will have known as an active member of St. Patrick's Parish and a long-standing Governor of both Blessed Robert Johnson Catholic College and Holy Trinity Academy, died after a very short illness. His expertise in Human Resources and his commitment to both schools; latterly in supporting the very successful transition from Blessed Robert Johnson to Holy Trinity was very valued with his good sense of humour and common- sense approach to governance have been missed by us all.

The Rev. Tim Carter, having been appointed to All Saint's Parish, Wellington has resigned from the Governing Body and has been replaced by the Rev. Debbie Loughran. Our thanks and very good wishes go with Tim, who, like Frank contributed a great deal to the development of Holy Trinity from its initial planning stages. We offer a very warm welcome to Debbie and also to Father Michael Hartley who has replaced Father Bill Fitzgerald, another longstanding governor of both Blessed Robert Johnson and Holy Trinity and who has now retired from governorship.

On a happier note, the school achieved its best ever Advanced Level and GCSE examination results. The A- level results achieved a pass rate of 100% with all Year 13 students applying for University places being successful in either achieving or exceeding the grades required of them. These tremendous results saw 48% of results being at A* or B. Two students accepted for University also had the choice of Higher-Level Apprenticeships in Optometry and Agricultural Studies which they subsequently chose to take up.

GCSE results are now measured not only in grades but in the value they add to each student's starting points in Year 7. Holy Trinity students' overall grades and value-added scores have improved year on year and continue to place the school amongst the top performing schools in Telford and Wrekin, Shropshire and in both the Diocese of Shrewsbury and Lichfield as well as comparing favourably at a national level..

Holy Trinity's examination results, together with the very successful outcomes of the two inspections undertaken during 2017/18 by Ofsted and the Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury working in partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Lichfield, have further reinforced Holy Trinity's reputation, both within the local area and further afield, as a school that is striving for excellence in all aspects of its student's development; academic, spiritual, social, moral and physical and one in which students of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, faiths or no faith are valued and nurtured to achieve their potential within its distinctive Christian Character and Ethos.

Both inspections highlighted the school as one that lives out its mission statement; where the headteacher and senior leaders are ambitious for all students and set high expectations of staff and students alike. They rate the students' moral, social, cultural

and spiritual development as excellent and student's good progress to be underpinned by "the school's Christian values and the values of Britain today" which underpin and are "threaded throughout the curriculum".

Prior to inspection the work of Governors was focused on supporting the Head and Senior Leaders in establishing Holy Trinity as a leading school both within the sponsoring Dioceses and Local Authority, one that lived out its core values of Faith, Aspiration and Unity, and challenge to provide the highest standards of educational provision for its students. Details of the activities undertaken by Governors are contained within the previous two annual reports to parents and were validated by both inspection bodies.

"Governors have an accurate understanding of their responsibilities... they hold the school to account for its performance...Governors are hard-working and have ensured that the school gets off to a good start. Statutory responsibilities are discharged well, including those for safeguarding. Governors are trained regularly and ensure that they are kept up to date with local and national education developments"

Subsequent to inspection, Governors have concentrated on supporting, monitoring and evaluating the action points arising from both reports, with an emphasis on further developing the role of subject leaders in the context of rapidly growing staff and student numbers, further raising standards of achievement and further embedding the school's distinctive Christian Character and Ethos.

Governors continue to hold full governing body meetings half termly with three elected committees covering Christian Character, Curriculum and Standards. Finance and Personnel, Buildings, Health and Safety and Safeguarding meeting termly and reporting back to full governing body meetings.

In order to fulfil the requirements of their roles Governors are regular visitors to school, observing lessons, Acts of Collective Worship and supporting in house working groups, for example in reviewing policy and practice in specific subject areas, which in 2017/18 included Science and English, in Safeguarding and Special Needs provision, in health and safety, including securing best value for money in maintaining heating and lighting a building that is still subject to some teething troubles, and in reviewing the school's Mission Statement.

Governors have also been active in staff appointments.

Subsequent to each visit individual Governors complete an agreed note of visit that is circulated to all members of the Governing Body.

Governors will continue to follow up on inspection outcomes throughout 2018/19 and will work closely with the Headteacher and Senior leaders to ensure that Holy Trinity's ever-growing student numbers enable us to further enhance what we already offer; keeping our Mission Statement and the school's distinctive character and ethos at the centre of all we do.

Maggie Langdale

Chair of Governors

