



# Newman Catholic School

Silverdale Road Carlisle CA1 3RQ

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Headteacher: Mr J D McAuley BA (Hons) MEd

September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

## **PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION – NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to a new school year and to wish you and your children all the very best over the coming months.

I am writing to inform you of a vacancy which has arisen on our school governing board for a parent governor. We warmly welcome your interest in joining us.

We are a small team of twelve drawn from the community of Newman Catholic School. Our purpose is to oversee its work and to help it become an excellent school, successfully fulfilling the aspirations and needs of all those associated with it. Of course your views, as parents, are amongst the most important and influential of all in achieving this goal, so we are eager to seek your help.

Being a governor is a really rewarding role, in which you will learn more about the school and have an influence not only on your own child's education, but also on the education of all the other children here. Parent governors are involved in agreeing the school's objectives and targets; they also monitor the progress the school is making and are a source of support and challenge to the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. Being a school governor is one way of making a real difference to the school.

Newman's governing board is a friendly group; its members have a variety of skills and experience, with one thing in common - a passion for excellent education for all of our students and for taking Newman forward to be a fantastic school.

It is really important for the success of our school that you play an active part in your children's education. So please participate and take an interest in the election process whether as a candidate or a voter.

If you have any queries at this stage regarding the subject of parent governors, would you please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Roz Gammage, who will be pleased to try to help you. Meanwhile please find some details of the formalities over the page.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

*Andy Abernethy*

Andy Abernethy  
Chair of Governors

## **PARENT GOVERNORS**

### **THE NOMINATION OF PARENTS AS CANDIDATES**

Each parent\* of a student attending the school is to be given the opportunity of putting their name forward with a view to becoming a parent governor. If you want to submit a nomination on your behalf you should do so, in writing, to the Clerk to the Governors. Letters of nomination, enclosed, must be countersigned by two sponsors, who must also be parents of children currently attending the school. The closing date for the receipt of nominations by the school is 6 October. Please note that incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

In the event of there being no more than one nomination, the person nominated will automatically be elected, unopposed, as a parent governor.

### **THE ELECTION PROCEDURE**

If the school receives more nominations than vacancies, an election by secret ballot will be held. Each parent\* of a child who at the time of the election is a student at the school will be entitled to vote.

In the event of an election, the Clerk will issue all parents with further details concerning the way in which the ballot (which will be entirely secret and as foolproof as possible) is to be organised and supply the official ballot papers.

### **CANDIDATES' CONTRIBUTION TO THE ELECTION**

Candidates will be given the opportunity to write a short statement, which will be circulated to all parents of the school. Should candidates wish to seek support in any other way, this will be entirely their own responsibility. Following an election, parents will be told the name of the successful candidate.

### **TERM OF OFFICE OF PARENT GOVERNORS**

An elected parent governor will hold office for a period of four years.

#### **\*DEFINITION OF "PARENT"**

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996

Meaning of "parent". For the purposes of this election, in addition to the usual meaning of parent, "parent" includes any person who has parental responsibility for, or who has care for a child or young person



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## NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### Parent Governor Nomination Form

Name of Nominee:

Address of nominee:

Signature of nominee:

**The above-named has a child at the school, is willing to serve if elected and is hereby nominated to stand for election.**

Sponsored by (Name in capitals and address):

Signature of sponsor:

Sponsored by (Name in capitals and address):

Signature of sponsor:

Completed nomination must be returned to the school by:  
**3.00pm on 6 October 2017**