

Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School



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Monday 30th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may remember our letter of 2nd October 2020 about the External Review of Governance (ERG). For us the review was positive and the report has helped us achieve a clearer vision of what is expected from us as the Governing Board and stimulated us to put ambitious but realistic plans in place.

We have taken the ERG very seriously and are currently working through the recommendations in the report. We recently met to consider the recommendations and develop an Action Plan. Here [www.smi.hounslow.sch.uk/ Media/notes-of-erg-mtg-300920.pdf](http://www.smi.hounslow.sch.uk/Media/notes-of-erg-mtg-300920.pdf) you can read the record of our meeting and the Action Plan for each recommendation. You will see which Governor is responsible for each activity, what action is required and an indicative timescale.

Under Recommendation 1 - 4 we are already raising awareness of St Mary's School by promoting our virtual open days for prospective Reception parents, not only through word of mouth from yourselves but also conversations with local nurseries, childcare settings and schools in Hounslow and Richmond. These have also been given literature so that they can pass on information about our school in a positive and informative manner to prospective parents.

With regards to the review of our vision and values in our mission statement - a short statement which sets out the overall goal for our school - we have already involved our School Council (the School Council is made up of 2 children in each year, who have been nominated by their class to represent their views). The children have put forward their ideas and thoughts of what it is that makes St Mary's School important to them; some great ideas have been received. This is just the start; very soon we will be inviting parents, staff and governors to virtual workshops to share their thoughts on the vision

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for the school. This will help us to create a clear and realistic vision of what being a child, staff, parent/carer at St Mary's School really means. At the end of this piece of work we will have a renewed and shared vision and values in the mission statement which will reflect what we stand for and will provide direction in our future work.

We have also been revising the Complaints Policy in line with the suggestions in the ERG report. The changes will be presentational so the essence of the policy, which is provided by the Diocese, will be carried forward. This policy will replace the current document on the website by the end of term.

Communication is absolutely key. We will do our best to keep you updated in a timely manner on our work. We would in the meantime, ask for your patience and understanding as each and every one of the recommendations deserve the time for research so we achieve the best outcome possible for our school community.

With every best wish

St Mary's Governors

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