

Tel: 028 8224 2717
Fax: 028 8225 1074
Fax: 028 8224 0877
Email: info@shc.omagh.ni.sch.uk
www.shcomagh.co.uk



Kevlin Road,
Omagh,
Co Tyrone
BT78 1LG

1st October 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: Election of Parent Representative to the Board of Governors

Four parents have confirmed their intentions to stand for election after being nominated to be the parent representative on the newly reconstituted Board of Governors of Sacred Heart College. There is one position to be filled and this will be via an online vote. The vote will be conducted by the principal, Mr Gormley, and secretary to the Board of Governors, Miss Clare-Marie Darcy. Attached are the names of the 4 nominees and short pieces of writing in which they were asked to write about themselves and why they should be elected as the parent representative on the Board of Governors. There are also instructions on how parents can vote. The vote will close at 3:30pm on Friday 4th October. On behalf of the governors, I would like to thank all the parents who enquired about the position, those who nominated parents for the post and the nominees for allowing their names to go forward for election.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. Mullan', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Harry Mullan

Chairperson (interim) of Board of Governors



~ Where Every Child Matters ~



Principal: Mr Michael Gormley

Below are the names of the four nominees who are seeking to be elected as the parent representative.

- Each parent/guardian will have one vote irrespective of the number of their children who are pupils at Sacred Heart College.
- If a parent makes a mistake or wishes to change their vote, they can cast a new vote and the most recent vote will be the vote that is counted.
- Voting will close at 3:30pm on Friday 4th October 2024.
- The results will be shared with all parents later that evening after 5pm.
- Votes will remain private.
- A link will be available at the end of this document to access the online ballot form.

Catherine Hyland

My name is Catherine Hyland. My son is currently in Year 9. I am currently a Mathematics teacher in Holy Cross College, an examiner for CCEA and a member of the Board of Governors for Holy Family Primary School. The education of our young children is a passion of mine. I strive to ensure my own pupils are taught to the highest standard and that the schools I am involved with get the support needed to meet the needs of all children in their care. I volunteer within the parish and at fundraising events at the local Primary School. As a member of a BoG I feel it is important to be to date with changes in education and opportunities available to staff and pupils. As Parent Rep I will endeavour to bring a parents view to the meetings.

Darryl Burns

My name is Darryl Burns, and I am the father of Olly, who is currently in Year 9 at Sacred Heart College. I also have a daughter in Year 6, and I am hopeful she will join Sacred Heart in two years. For over 10 years, I have been a Director in a Fire Protection Company, responsible for managing all areas of the business. In addition, I serve on the Health & Wellbeing committee for Omagh St. Enda's and am an active member of the GAA community.

I am seeking to become the Parent Representative on the Board of Governors because I am passionate about contributing to the school's success and providing a strong voice for parents. My background in business management and community involvement equips me with skills that I believe would be beneficial to the board and the wider school community.

There are three key reasons why I wish to serve in this role:

1. I want to actively demonstrate to my children the importance of supporting their education and being involved in their school life.
2. I believe that my experiences in both business and the community will provide a valuable and diverse perspective to the school's governance.
3. I want to give back to the next generation, ensuring that today's students benefit from the same level of support and commitment I received during my own education.

I would be honoured to have your vote and the opportunity to represent all parents at Sacred Heart College.

Stephen Donnelly

I have put my name forward for the parent representative on the Sacred Heart College Board of Governors.

I am currently employed by the Western Health and Social Care Trust. I have worked in the area of mental health for over 30 years. I am currently the Team Lead and Specialist Psychological Trauma Therapist for the Regional Trauma Network (RTN).

I have been involved with the GAA throughout my life as a player, administrator, coach and volunteer.

I have a solid knowledge and understanding of the challenges that our young people face in a modern society.

Within the school environment, wellbeing is essential to ensure pupil progress and positive outcomes. My mental health expertise ensures that I have a unique understanding of the challenges that impact mental wellbeing.

My proven leadership skills ensure that I can engage and inspire people to work together for enhanced outcomes.

If chosen as the parent representative I will give my full commitment both professionally and personally to ensure the best for all pupils and help shape a positive school environment at the Sacred Heart College.

Dr. Martin Rushe

Sacred Heart College strives to provide an inclusive ethos of all of its students and staff. Student and staff welfare is the cornerstone of a successful learning environment.

The current senior management team in conjunction with the board of governors is navigating a successful course for the school. I for one am proud to have a child attend Sacred Heart College. During her time at the college the dedicated staff have nurtured a love for learning that places the child at the centre. The staff focus on the child as a whole, understand the complexities of the individual, but also the importance of teamwork and the appreciation of others and the wider community. They aim to instil a sense of pride in the school and as a member of the board of governors I wish to encourage and enhance this work.

As the parent representative on the board of governors I want to bring a voice to the table. All the representatives should have equal standing and thus equal representation. I work in the local area and am aware of the issues that affect our families. Omagh is a diverse and tolerant community, the parent representative needs to be able to highlight and affect changes on issues that concern the parents. The parent representative acts as the link between the parents and the school ensuring they have a voice at the table and an ability to affect change.

Click [here](#) to access online ballot