



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON
EDUCATION SERVICE

Appointment of Foundation Governors – Priest Information.

Version: July 2022

In this diocese, all appointments to the position of Foundation Governor are made by the Bishop. The administrative process of appointing Foundation Governors is carried by the Education Service on the Bishop's behalf. It is only the Bishop who will make a decision to appoint (or not) to the position of Foundation Governor.

A crucial part of the appointment process is that of a supportive reference from the Parish Priest. Therefore, a person wishing to be considered for appointment as a Foundation Governor will be required, as part of the application process, to provide the name of a Priest who can verify their Catholic practice.

The Religious Reference will be provided separately to you by the diocese following receipt by them of the Application Form.

If you are contacted to provide a reference, your role as referee is primarily to verify that the nominee is a practising Catholic and that they are suitable for appointment as a Foundation Governor in the diocese.

Where you provide a reference verifying the nominee's Catholic practice (or not, as the case may be), you should be prepared to provide any further information or assurances to support your original reference as required by the Bishop, whether by way of written or oral representations. You will see that there is room on the form for additional information to be included if you would like to do that.

You should note that no appointment comes into effect until the point at which the Bishop has formally notified the nominee that the appointment has been made, and to which school, and the nominee has accepted the appointment. Before that point, no action should be taken which gives the impression that an appointment has been or will be made. Only the Bishop can make an appointment and it is important that nominees are not under the impression that appointments to specific schools will be made at the point at which a reference is requested.

You are encouraged to ensure that you are aware of the Application form as well as where it can be accessed e.g. on the diocese's website/hardcopy from the diocese. This is so that you are able to encourage suitable persons to nominate themselves and advise where they can access the applicable documents.

www.abdiocese.org.uk

The Arundel & Brighton Diocese is a Registered Charity No. 252878

You are encouraged not only to consider persons who may, in your opinion, make good Foundation Governors, but also to encourage a positive perception of governorship in Catholic schools in the diocese generally.

Volunteering as a Foundation Governor is an important act of service which aims to strengthen and further the Church's mission, and we would encourage you to take the time to identify those in your parish who serve in this way and to offer thanks and prayers for their service. We would also encourage you to ask those who serve as Foundation Governors to encourage other parishioners to consider whether they too might serve, and if they are able, to put themselves forward for nomination.