



Headteacher  
Mrs L Payne

Westminster Diocese  
Hertfordshire County Council

## St. Joseph's RC Primary School

Ainsdale Road  
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July 2018

We are now approaching the end of another 'outstanding' year here at St Joseph's, so I take this opportunity to say thank you to our Head Teacher Linda Payne and all her staff for their hard work. The school continues to flourish with great success in the academic achievements of all the pupils on the playing fields and in the classrooms.

The redecoration of the school continues within the planned order and the school is clean and bright throughout; some decoration will be done this summer holiday to maintain our high standards. We have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Diocese to repair and renew the roof above the hall and main school and this work will be done this July/ August.

For financial details please refer to the attached statement from the Resources Committee regarding the school.

I visit St Joseph's School on a regular basis and I am always impressed with the behaviour, courtesy and enthusiasm of the children. We have had many different schools and organisations visiting us in this past twelve months and our visitors always comment on how polite and friendly our children are.

Since our Ofsted inspection, our school attendance has dropped from 97% to approximately 95%. We fully understand the financial pressures of 'the holiday season' but the unnecessary absences are worrying. I must say here, that our UK law is very clear, all children must attend school. My message for the new school year starting this September is please let us get our attendance back up to over the 97% or even higher.

I would like to thank my fellow Governors for all their hard work over this past year, it is the hidden work between the Staff and Governors that helps to make St Joseph's School a great success.

A good summer holiday to all.

Adrian Ramsden, Chair of Governors.



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### **Message from the St Joseph's Resources Committee.**

The Resources Committee of the Governing Body deals with all those things that involve money, buildings, staffing and so on; in other words the behind-the-scene activity that ensures that the school operates effectively and efficiently in providing education for your children.

A key role for the Resources Committee is setting and monitoring the school budget. It takes well over £1 million to run St Joseph's and you may well be aware from the newspapers, television or social media that the money available for schools is limited. Our budget is set for the period April to March (the financial year used by government and not the school's academic year). We are fortunate that careful management of our money over the years by Mrs Payne and her team, and success from time to time in getting extra funds, has meant that we have been able for some years now to have a surplus of income over expenditure – and that is after all the money spent on decorating and refurbishment of the inside of the school.

In the year April 2017 to March 2018, we spent slightly more than we got in income – about £1,700. In the circumstances, this was a great performance and enables us to take forward most of the surplus from previous years. This is important since all the projections seem to be indicating that money from government will be reducing while costs continue to rise, including (and rightly so) teacher salaries. Our surplus means that we will not face difficult financial or staffing decisions for the next few years.