

# St John's Catholic Infant School

## MRS GRACE LYSAGHT

### FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

As a former pupil of St John's Aided Catholic Infant School, I am keen to have a supportive role within the school community that helped to shape my early years and now those of my daughter too. My daughter is currently in F2 at St John's Catholic Infant School, having previously attended the Pre-School last academic year. I would relish the opportunity to have an active role in the governance of the school and play a part in it continuing to be an outstanding place of education for my child and every other child that attends. My journey in education led me through to St John's Juniors and then on to St John Plessington Catholic College. It was important to my family (and it continues to be for me) that I was able to access all areas of a Catholic education, including receiving the sacraments and allowing my faith to develop.

I am in my tenth year of being a secondary school English teacher, a role I enjoy very much. Prior to qualifying as a teacher, I worked at St John Plessington Catholic College as a teaching assistant; a position which I enjoyed immensely and it truly ignited my passion for education and working with young people. I was privileged to work with children with SEND and it gave me a clearer understanding of the individual needs of students and the importance of meeting those needs. When I qualified, I was fortunate enough to return to SJP as a teacher, and I have remained there since. Working at SJP has provided me with a strong understanding of education and the importance of the Catholic ethos within a school. I am passionate about supporting pupils to grow into well rounded individuals, both academically and pastorally. In my role as the Literacy Coordinator for SJP, I am aware of the integral role that reading and writing has in education and I would be extremely keen to bring my expertise in this field to the table. During my time at SJP I have had the pleasure of being a form tutor, where it is my responsibility to ensure the general pastoral wellbeing of all the students in my care. Whilst in this role, I have followed all of the school's safeguarding measures and policies so I am also aware of the importance these play in helping to maintain a safe and developmental culture within a school.

I hold a Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies and in my pastoral role as a form tutor, I regularly lead acts of collective worship, enabling pupils to develop on their own faith journeys. I feel that my experiences so far give me excellent skills to be able to support St John's Aided Catholic Infant School. If appointed as a Foundation Governor, I would be proactive, enthusiastic and dedicated to my role and I would bring a great determination to have a positive impact: striving for academic excellence, celebrating all children and contributing positively to support the wellbeing of both children and staff.