



# The Priory School

Educating Students for Success in Life

The Priory School  
Bedford Road  
Hitchin  
Hertfordshire  
SG5 2UR

☎ 01462 622300 · ✉ admin@priory.herts.sch.uk · www.priory.herts.sch.uk · @TPS\_Hitchin  
Headteacher: Mr Geraint Edwards

---

## The Priory School Governing Board

### Significant Activities

The purpose of this note is to highlight the most significant of the recent activities of the Governing Board of the School.

The Governors have met frequently as a Body, and in the form of specific Committees. Aside from overseeing the routine business of the School (including scheduled individual Governor visits to School departments) there have been several specific decisions made and implemented recently, which will have a beneficial impact on the School provision to its stakeholders.

### Conversion to Foundation Status

In previous years the Governing Board deliberated, and rejected, the option of changing the status of the School from a Community School to an Academy. During 2016 it was decided that it would be better for the school community to change status. It was decided to become a Foundation School (without a formal association with a specific foundation (religious, or charitable, etc.). This was accomplished and the Board of Governors now has administrative responsibility for the School Staff, and ownership of the land and premises. The Governing Board has decided to adopt the relevant HCC personnel policies for School employees.

### Reconstitution of the Governing Board

The Department of Education issued a requirement, in 2015, that all school Governing bodies evaluate their structures and, where considered appropriate, revise their membership numbers. The conversion of the Priory School to Foundation status was an appropriate time to do this. As part of the reconstitution process we undertook an audit of Governors' skills. This audit enabled the Board to identify "gaps" which would be used when recruiting new governors. All candidates for governor posts are asked to undertake the skills self-audit as part of the recruitment process. A New "Instrument of Government" for the School was issued in July 2016 with the following composition of the Governing Board:

- 2 parent Governors
- One LA Governor
- The Head Teacher
- One Staff Governor
- Two Partnership Governors
- Nine co-opted Governors

The Governing Board is currently complete.

### School Vision and Mission Statements

The Governing Board has updated the School's vision and Mission. This process, which involved the participation of members of Staff, Parents and Students in review meetings is now fully implemented and has been rolled out across the school literature and on displays around the school.