**What is a Governing Body?**

All state funded schools are required by law to have a governing body. The Governing body oversees the development of the school but does not deal with the day to day management of the school, this is dealt with by the Headteacher.

Our main responsibilities are:

* Help set the schools aims and objectives
* Allocate and control the schools budget from funding of staff to investigating in buildings or equipment
* Support and challenge the head teacher and together take positives steps to improve the school
* Monitor and evaluate progress
* Appoint senior staff
* Ensure the accountability of the school in line with statutory requirements

Governors usually serve a term of four years on the Governing Body. The role of a school governor is far reaching with a wide range of possibilities. Governors help to form the school’s strategic aims, policies and targets and support the school’s drive for improvement. They act as ‘critical friends’ to the school through monitoring and evaluating progress and ensuring compliance with statutory responsibilities. Full Governing Body meetings are held each term.

The governing body is made up in equal portion of Parent Governors, Staff Governors and Co-opted Governors. At Lenham we have the following:

**Parent Governors**:

Ceri Norey (Chair), Paul Culver, Lorraine Hattrait and Rory Costain

**Staff Governors:**

Karl Flood and Karen Smith.

**Co-opted Governors:**

Karen Parker (Vice Chair), Liz Porter, John Bone, Sandra Baxter, Rob Kennett.

Each year the governors along with the senior leadership Team discuss a new School development plan. This year our priorities are:

* To raise standards and achievement in all curricular areas for all pupils
* Improve the quality of teaching and learning
* Continue to improve the use of assessment information, target setting and marking
* Improve aspects of leadership and governance.

To support this, governors focus on specific key areas and report back each term at the Full Governing body. The roles and responsibilities this year are thus;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SEND and Personnel** | Karen PARKER |
| **Safeguarding (including Child Protection)** | Ceri NOREY |
| **Health and safety** | Paul CULVER |
| **Premises** | John BONE |
| **Curriculum and Attainment** | Sandra BAXTER |
| **Pupil Premium** | Lorraine HATTRAIT |
| **Early Years** | Lorraine Hattrait |
| **Finance** | Sandra BAXTER |
| **Sports Premium** | Rory COSTAIN |
| **Training** | Liz PORTER |
| **Numeracy** | Rob KENNETT |
| **Literacy** | Liz PORTER |

To keep the school community informed of the work we are doing we will be contributing regularly to the school newsletter in our new “Governors Corner”. We hope you find the information interesting and would welcome any feedback via the Chair.