

# Welcome from the Governors

Governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the country and have an important part to play in raising school standards. The role of the Governing Body is key to the effectiveness of our school.

The Governing Body at Mundeford Infants School exists to support and contribute to the strategic development plan of our school. Whilst the Headteacher is responsible for the day-to-day management and leadership of the school, the Governing Body are involved with overseeing the curriculum, pupil welfare, premises, personnel and school finances at a strategic level. The best description of a Governor is a 'critical friend'. We support the school and its management but we also challenge by asking probing questions.

Our Governing Body has 13 members, and the full Governing Body meets at least once every term. We also have two sub-committees that meet regularly – Resources, and Learning. Each Governor is assigned to one of these, depending on their area of interest and/or expertise. All Governors are informed about what happens at these sub-committee meetings.

There are several categories of Governor, appointed by different groups that have an interest in the school. These are Community governors, the Local Authority ("LA"), Parents, and Staff. All Governors have equal status, however they are appointed.

We attend training sessions to keep us up to date with changes in schools and education, and to help us do our job effectively. We also go into school to meet with the Headteacher, other members of staff, and pupils, to help us find out how the school is progressing towards its targets.

## **The Role of the Governing Body at Mundeford Infant School**

The governing body fulfils a largely strategic and good governance role in the running of the school. It's main functions are:

1. To establish a strategic framework to clearly define the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction by:
  - Setting the aims and objectives of the school;
  - Developing policies to achieve those aims and objectives;
  - Setting targets to ensure those aims and objectives are met.
2. To monitor and evaluate progress towards the achievement of its aims and objectives, and regularly review the strategic framework for the school in light of that progress. In establishing and monitoring the strategic framework, the governing body considers any advice given by the headteacher and must comply with any trust deed relating to the school.
3. To ensure the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources.
4. To act as a critical friend to the headteacher: it will support the headteacher, offer constructive criticism, and hold the headteacher to account to ensure that they meet their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school.

## **Governors Strategic Vision**

*The school will provide the very highest standard of education that will prepare the children for the next stage of their learning. Sound financial planning will enable the school to serve its community and to continue to innovate and develop its educational provision.*

The Governing Body will measure the progress of the school achieving this aim by the use of the following statements:

- 90% of children will make at least expected progress in reading, writing and maths.
- Pupil attainment will be at least in line with the national average and mostly above in reading, writing and maths (although the Governing Body recognises the potential for cohort reflected dips).
- The school will continue to serve and to be involved in its local community.
- The Governing Body will continue to develop its role of effectively challenging and supporting the school.
- We will continue to create a positive and supportive working environment for staff and pupils.
- We will continue to ensure children are happy and engaged at school. Their personal development will be nurtured, and they will be encouraged to gain an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as global citizens.
- A broad, well balanced child centred curriculum will be delivered in a cross curricular topic based approach.
- Pupils' good behaviour will be maintained through consistently high quality teaching, excellent staff-pupil relationships and clear procedures.
- Effective use of resources will allow the school to give pupils the best possible education on a long term basis.
- Governors will use a range of tools to understand the views of parents.