

## **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

White Bridge Primary School has a well-established and experienced governing body. Our overall aim is to provide a safe, happy and stimulating environment where children are encouraged and challenged to reach their full potential.

Governors are responsible for overseeing the long-term strategic direction of the school. They set targets for school improvement and ensure that those targets are met and delivered to the highest standard. They have certain legal responsibilities including agreeing the school budget and expenditure and ensuring certain key policies are in place.

Governors play a crucial role in supporting the Head Teacher and senior leadership team in driving change and planning for the school's future. They do not get involved in the day-to-day running of the school, which is the responsibility of the Head teacher. Instead, they act as a "critical friend", working in partnership with the Head teacher and staff, both supporting and challenging them for the benefit of the school and its pupils.

Governors also come into school at least once a year for monitoring visits and to understand more about the day-to-day life of the school. Most recently, Governors have been visiting the school by attending a "Governor Day" during which they and the school's Senior Leadership Team have the opportunity to observe lessons, speak with children and staff, review children's work and then discuss any matters arising which impact on particular areas the staff and Governors have highlighted for development. These visits are vital in helping Governors build relationships with pupils and staff and to understand what happens in the day-to-day running of the school.

To fulfil their responsibilities, the Governing Body will:

- Analyse data
- Receive and discuss reports
- Ask questions
- Agree targets for school improvement
- Review resource needs and the use of current resources
- Agree policies and practice
- Encourage strong links between the school, parents and the community
- Provide support in those areas in which they have particular expertise
- Hold the school to account on standards of teaching and learning