

The Governing Body of Martin Primary School

The Department for Education define the purpose of a governing body as being *'the strategic leaders of our schools and have a vital role to play in making sure every child gets the best possible education. For maintained schools this is reflected in the law, which states that the purpose of maintained school governing bodies is to 'conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement at the school'...governing bodies should have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:*

- a. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;*
- b. Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and*
- c. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent'.*

The structure of our Governing Body is:

- 6 Co-opted governors. These governors are appointed by the Governing Body,
- The Head Teacher. This role is held ex-officio,
- 1 LA (Local Authority) Governor. Barnet nominate candidates who are then voted in by the Governing Body,
- 6 Parent Governors who are appointed following parental elections,
- 1 Staff Governor who is appointed following a staff election.
- Associate Governors with restricted voting rights.

We also have several sub-committees each with a specific area of focus who look in more detail at specific issues and make decisions as appropriate or make recommendations to the full governing body. We operate the following committees who usually meet on a termly basis:

- Community and Wellbeing,
- Finance and Resources,
- Standards and Achievement,
- Other committees such as the Pay Committee meet on a more irregular basis as required.

We also operate a system of link governors where individual governors take on responsibility for specific subject areas, such as SEND or Special Educational Needs and Disability. Such governors will meet with their link members of staff and may sit in on part of lessons to understand how these areas are being managed. As a Governing Body we have decided to appoint the School Business Manager as an Associate Member to the Finance and Resources Committee and have awarded them voting rights at committee level.

