

An Introduction to the Governing Body

Denbury Primary School

All governing bodies are legally constituted and have an Instrument of Government which sets out their size and representation. The size of the governing body at our school is 10 and our governing body is broadly representative of our main stakeholders: the community, the parents, the staff, the local authority. The current governors are:

Name	Type of Governor	Current term of office dates
Jamie Stone	Head Teacher	N/A
Charlotte McPherson	Teacher	July 2014
Chris Burford	Parent	Feb 2015
Tracey Macpherson	Parent	Oct 2014
Peter Wellum	Parent	March 2012
Emma Twamley	Parent	Aug 2014
Pennie Stinton	Community	Mar 2013
Mary Griffin	Local Authority	Nov 2014
Tessa Amies	Community	Mar 2013
Jill Shipp	Community	Jan 2014

Parent and staff governors are elected onto the governing body, the local authority and the foundation governors are appointed from outside the governing body and community governors are appointed by the governing body itself. In addition the governing body may also appoint associate members to support its work.

Our chair of governors is.....**Chris Burford**.....

Our vice chair of governors is.....**Tessa Amies**.....

Our clerk is.....**Caroline Mathews**.....

Why we are here ?

The Law says that:

The governing body has general responsibility for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement (Section 21 of the Education Act 2002)

The governing body is accountable for the performance of the school and it fulfils this by setting the aims of the school and its priorities for improvement. It agrees, monitors and evaluates the policies, targets and actions by which the school will move forward, including setting and monitoring the school budget.

The governing body's role is strategic. Governors are not expected to be involved in the detail of the day-to-day management of the school. The headteacher has responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and for implementation of the strategic framework established by the governing body.

The governing body works in partnership with the headteacher and the senior leadership team. Acting as 'critical friends', the governing body has a role to support and challenge the work of the school.

Governors must act corporately. Individual governors do not have the power to act alone unless the corporate governing body has given them the authority to do so. Individual governors have a broadly representative role but they are part of a team. They are not delegates and do not have any kind of mandate from the body who elected or appointed them.

Queries and concerns about any aspect of school life should, in the first instance, be directed to the appropriate member of the school staff rather than to individual governors. It is important that governors are not involved in issues which may become formal complaints as this prevents governors from dealing with the matter impartially at a later stage. Should you wish to pursue a matter further, having first attempted to resolve the issue with the relevant school staff, then please put your concern in writing to the chair of governors.

What we do

The full governing body meets twice a term. In line with its strategic role, its focus for these meetings is school improvement. The governing body receives a report from the headteacher and discusses issues arising from this report...(add other key items that are considered at full governing body meetings eg the School Self Evaluation Form, the School Improvement/Development Plan/feedback from governor visits/school data/feedback from committees etc etc)

The minutes from the full governing body meeting are posted on our website and are also available in the school reception area.

Most governing bodies manage a substantial part of their work through committees. We have 2 committees. They are called:

- 1. Finance and Personnel, Chaired by Peter Wellum we review school budgets and staffing***
- 2. School Improvement, Chaired by Pennie Stinton we review Teaching and Learning and the school estates programme***

We welcome any interest in the work of the governing body. If you would like to know more about the governing body or attend any of its meetings please contact the chair of governors to discuss.