

## **Full Governing Body responsibilities**

Governors work to provide the best possible education for the children and to safeguard their well-being. In order to do this the Department for Education identifies three core functions for the Governing Body.

### **1. To ensure that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined.**

At Petersfield, Governors uphold the Christian ethos of the school. They help identify priorities, and agree objectives for future development. There is, however, a clear line between the Governors' strategic responsibilities and the management responsibilities of the Headteacher and staff. The Headteacher and staff are responsible for drawing up and implementing plans to achieve the agreed objectives. The Governors responsibility is to monitor progress against objectives and the effectiveness of the plans.

### **2. To ensure that the Headteacher performs his or her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school.**

At Petersfield, governors have a range of information to help them judge how well the school is performing. This helps them ask the Headteacher pertinent questions about the schools performance. The information includes reports from the Headteacher and staff, and data and reports from external sources. Benchmarking data is available so that governors can make comparisons with similar schools. Governors also make monitoring visits on specific areas agreed with the Headteacher and report back to the Governing Body.

### **3. To ensure the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources.**

At Petersfield the Governing Body sets and monitors the budget in line with agreed objectives. Governors are responsible for setting a balanced budget for the current financial year, but also look forward to subsequent years to ensure that the decisions taken are sustainable. They monitor value for money on spending and ensure that the school meets its statutory financial standards.

The Governing Body has a number of statutory responsibilities covering its role as employers, its responsibility for Child Protection and Safeguarding, delivery of the National Curriculum, and ensuring the schools' financial probity. Compliance with statutory obligations is recorded in the minutes of the Governing Body and its Committees.

In order to work together effectively Governors observe the Governors' Code of Conduct. The Governors are also charged with making sure that they have the skills available to carry out their core functions and do this through training and recruiting new governors with specific skills.