

## THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Sharon Gant; Claire Baker; Charlotte Bower; Helen Sowden; Diane Stead; Sarah Youd; Steve Woodhouse.

In simple terms the Curriculum Committee oversees what is taught and how it is taught. Most of what happens in the classroom, plus outside learning including school trips, is within the remit of this Committee. As you would expect, this involves setting a wide range of policies and procedures and then checking that they are being followed. The policies for numeracy and literacy are clearly important ones because of the attention they get with Ofsted and in published performance tables, however, we believe in the children receiving a broad education at our school to prepare them for their future, so the overall school curriculum also includes subjects such as ICT, History, Art, Geography, Music, Science, PE, Foreign Languages and so on. Behind all these subjects is the school's approach to handwriting, homework, marking and assessment plus behaviour and discipline. The Curriculum Committee also has oversight of SEND, Collective Worship, and sex education. Like most other committees, this one normally meets once a term. Extra meetings are arranged as and when they are needed.

In between meetings, Governors with special responsibilities, e.g. SEND and Child Protection, will meet with appropriate school staff to encourage and review progress.

Child protection is a vital feature of the school and rightly gets a great deal of attention. Dealing with specific cases is not the responsibility of the governors, any incidents are handled by specially trained members of staff, but governors are responsible for ensuring that the proper policies and procedures are in place and are being followed. E Safety for children and staff is a growing issue, with the increase of social networking, and the school not only has policies and procedures in place, but also takes its responsibilities for educating our children about E Safety very seriously.

All Governing Bodies have important statutory duties towards pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Governing Bodies should, with the headteacher, decide the school's general policy and approach to meeting pupils' special educational needs for those with and without Educational Care & Health Plans. The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice, in force since 1st September 2014, applies to maintained schools and academies. It says in paragraph 6.3: there should be a member of the Governing Body or a sub-committee with specific oversight of the school's arrangements for SEND.