

## GOVERNING AND MANAGING OUR SCHOOL – INFORMATION SHEET

### Setting strategic priorities

A key role for the governing board, in partnership with the school leadership, is to determine and articulate a clear vision as to where they want the school to be in three to five years' time. This then leads to the identification of the key strategic priorities that will drive the agenda of governing board meetings throughout the school year.

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the strategy is delivered and for this purpose she works with the staff to develop the School Development Plan (which is updated each year). The SDP concentrates on particular key areas that help achieve the longer-term vision and strategic priorities. The Governors agree and subsequently monitor the Plan and the Headteacher works with the staff to operationalise it.

At Wootton St Peter's, the Governing Board and Headteacher are committed to ensuring that we have effective consultative processes to feed the views of parents, staff, children and the local community into strategic planning and monitoring for the school. In 2017, the governors have spent considerable time in school, meeting with parents to discuss the vision for the school's future, culminating in a consultative exercise on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

### The line between governance and management

It is important to understand what the difference is between the governors' and the Headteacher's roles and responsibilities. The Governors' responsibilities are strategic rather than operational; the Headteacher contributes to strategy via her role on the Governing Body, but is directly responsible for all management and, jointly with staff, operational decisions. The Governors hold the Headteacher to account for the delivery of the schools' vision and strategy.

**Adapted from:** <http://www.nga.org.uk/Guidance/Workings-Of-The-Governing-Body/Governance-Tools/Framework-for-Governance/Element-B.aspx>