



UPTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

Edge End Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2AH

Tel: 01843 861393 Fax: 01843 608498

Email: headteacher@upton.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.upton.kent.sch.uk

Mrs M Lewis BA Ed (Hons)

Headteacher

Twitter: @uptonjuniors

Facebook: Upton Junior School, Broadstairs - Official

A message from the Chair of Governors:

Robin Curtis



On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new parents and carers. For new parents to the school we thought we would tell you a little more about what the Governing Body role is within a school.

The governing body :

- sets the strategic direction, objectives, targets and policies;
- approves the school budget;
- reviews progress against the budget, plans and targets;
- acts as a critical friend to the Headteacher and staff by providing support and challenge;
- appoints the Headteacher.

So governors make important decisions on policy and strategy and are answerable to parents and the wider community. They help raise the standards and performance of the school by supporting the work of the Headteacher and the staff. Governors will support and, at the same time, challenge the Headteacher by gathering views, asking questions and helping to decide what is best for the school.

How Does the Governing Body Work?

The Governing Body conducts most business via a framework of termly meetings, working closely with the Headteacher, the Leadership Team and the Local Authority. Sub-committees are appointed from the full membership to deal with specific resources, curriculum or staff and pupil welfare aspects and these meet separately. Meetings can also be called in order to discuss a particular item of business.

Governors visit the school to monitor the actions the Headteacher and staff have taken to drive school improvement and specific visits to school may be to look closely at a subject or area of school life (eg What do pupils think about the Behaviour Policy?). Governors meet with children and parents to seek views on the strengths and areas of development for Upton.

Most full meetings of the *Governing Body* are held after school, whilst the opportunity to meet during the day also exists for link governors and sub-committees.

Who is represented on the *Governing Body*?

- Parents - who are elected by other parents who have children attending the school.
- The Headteacher and another member of staff elected by the teachers and non-teaching staff at the school.
- A governor nominated by the Local Authority.
- Co-opted *Governors* who can offer advice and support to the school.

Being a school governor is a good way to be involved in the life and development of our school.

Communicating with the *Governing Body*

The governors host a 'Meet The *Governors*' session three times across the school year. This is an informal meeting (held in the library with refreshments) for parents to meet governors, ask about the role we play in school development, ask questions about aspects of school life as well as put forward suggestions for school improvement.

The governors have a direct school email address if you wish to contact us about a specific issue: governors@upton.kent.sch.uk. Alternatively messages can be left with the school office.

Governors often attend school events and celebrations across the school year (we wear our official 'Upton Badge' so can be easily recognised!)

The governors also have an area on the school website where you can find out more about us as well as a regular section in the newsletter.

If you are interested in joining our governing body please contact me via the school office or email me on the email given above.

I look forward to seeing you at various functions across the school year.

Yours sincerely

Robin Curtis

Chair of *Governors*