

## KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE Governing Body Report 2014-5

In the year I have been Chair of Governors there have been significant changes, the appointment of our Principal, Alan Salt, being one. As he navigates KEVICC along the path to Outstanding, governors are there to support him as well as to challenge. Although governors are volunteers, we are increasingly expected to be professional, effective, strategic and skilled - regular training is vital. Good organisation is also vital and our Clerk to Governors is invaluable. We have reassessed our governance structure and now all meet together as a Full Governing Body (FGB) monthly instead of just termly and have no separate committees. This means fewer, more focused meetings enabling us all to focus on our core functions. Successful governance requires work outside formal meetings and throughout the year governor working groups discuss strategic issues. Individual governors have responsibilities for key areas and are linked to staff members with whom they meet and then report to FGB meetings.

The work of governors can often go unnoticed and we are trying to change this. Our Clerk to Governors sends staff a monthly email identifying any policy changes and including approved FGB minutes. We also have a programme of governor visits to the College and, as governors in a College with strong Performing Arts; one of our very real pleasures is attending students' shows and concerts. Increasing our visibility to parents is another focus for us now. The governor pages on the website have been updated and we send a representative to the Parent Voice meetings. The KEVICC Facebook page was prompted by governors and we hope that this will be a useful forum.

In the spring term we carried out our promised three year review of the uniform decision. After scrutinising the feedback from the 2013 questionnaire and considerable discussion, we decided that it was in the best interests of the College to retain a uniform. Governors then asked the Principal to make recommendations about the uniform with regard to affordability, practicality and suitability and at our May meeting we approved his recommendations. The changes are minimal and details of the recommendations are in the minutes of the May meeting which will be posted on the College website once the minutes have been approved.

The GB has reconstituted and in the autumn term we will be recruiting new governors from the community and the parent body to join us. The recruitment will be skills-based, but there is support and training for anyone who would like to become a governor. If you think you might be interested and would like an informal discussion about the role, please contact me ([KWilson@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk](mailto:KWilson@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk)).

Being a member of the Governing Body can be hard work and challenging, but is also a great privilege; we are proud to be part of this College and its continued improvement.

Kate Wilson  
Chair of Governors