

[Kitchen Refurbishment](#)

Last Easter the kitchen was refurbished very cost effectively. It's made a real difference to the teachers and other staff at the school during their breaks, as well as the serving of food at lunchtime and the food activities we do with the children and it received a 5 star rating from Environmental Health!

[Safeguarding Training](#)

All our Governors took part in a Safeguarding Training course last term to ensure that we are all up to speed on the practices and processes required to ensure all aspects of school life are safeguarded.

[Security Review/Enhancements](#)

The Governors are currently looking at costings and solutions to improve the security/access to the school.

[What's happening next?](#)

The Governing Board are really excited about all the new pupils in Coral Class and look forward to these healthy numbers continuing through the school to help build a stronger community. We are very keen to ensure that all stakeholders involved in the success of the school have a voice and work together to ensure the school's ongoing success.

Therefore, as part of Denise's remit she organises a Parents' Forum, giving parents an opportunity to attend a discussion so that everyone's thoughts and suggestions about the school can be heard. This will be held on Tuesday 7th November at 7pm, to ensure that working parents also have the opportunity to attend. We will circulate an agenda a few days before the meeting, but feel free to chat to Denise if you'd like to ask for something specific to be discussed. Please do come!

[Become involved](#)

We have all our Parent Governor positions filled, but are in the process of recruiting a replacement Governor with Finance and/or Premises experience. Please email our Chair, Matt on mcoe74rf@nsix.org.uk if you know someone who would be interested and suitable for this role.

[How can I find out more?](#)

Minutes of the meetings are available online at www.langhamvillageschool.com and at the office.

Or speak to one of the Governors, or the Chair, Matthew Coe directly. He can be contacted on mcoe74rf@nsix.org.uk

Please see our School chart (next to the reception) which shows the Governors and Staff at the school.

Langham Village School Governor's Welcome

The Governors for Langham Village School would like to welcome you and your children.

The purpose of this letter is to communicate to new parents/carers about the function, activities and responsibilities of the governing body of Langham Village School.

Governing Body FAQs

[What is the governing body?](#)

The governing body is a group of volunteers comprising parents, staff, the headteacher and people from the community whose role is to provide strategic management and to act as a "critical friend", supporting the work of the headteacher and other staff at the school.

There are two committees within the governing body which oversee specific areas of school activity:

Committee A looks at Curriculum and Staffing issues

Committee B has Finance and Premises responsibilities

[Who are the governors?](#)

The governing body at Langham Village School is made up of:

[Matthew Coe](#) – Parent Governor and current chair

[Polly Kossowicz](#) – Headteacher

[Diana Howes](#) – Staff Governor

[Maggie Broad](#) – Community Governor, Maggie has been a headteacher and also an Ofsted inspector. She is currently advisor to the Norfolk Diocese for their church schools.

[Denise Markham Wroe](#) - Co-opted as a governor in 2016, with a focus on communication and publicity. Denise has two children at the school and is a Director of an Advertising and Communications agency.

[Jennie Walker](#) - Jennie has two children at Langham. Before moving to Norfolk, Jennie was a science teacher at a secondary school in Camberwell, London, and now runs a guesthouse in Cley with her husband James. As a co-opted Governor she brings her experience in education to support the Teaching and Learning committee.

Suzy Duckworth - Suzy is a co-opted governor and she participates in the Curriculum and Personnel Committee. Suzy completed an English degree and had a career in healthcare management, before studying medicine. She now works as a GP and has an interest in child development and safeguarding, to promote a nurturing learning environment.

Kate Arnold - Clerk to the Governors

After more than 20 years in various roles on the Governing Board we are sorry to say goodbye to Jeremy Bagnall-Oakley who has decided to resign his position on the Board as Vice Chairman and Chair of the Finance Committee.

We were also sorry to say goodbye to Helen Ward - Clerk and former parent at the school at the end of last term, but welcome Kate Arnold as our new Clerk.

How are the governors selected?

There are different types of Governors:

The Headteacher is part of the governing body as part of her role in running the school.

Staff Governors are appointed/elected by the school staff and serve for one year, unless re-elected

Parent Governors are elected by the parents/carers of children at the school and serve for four years.

Co-opted Governors are asked to join the governing body as they may have specific skills which would be of benefit to the school, such as legal skills, project management or human resources.

What do they do?

Governors are responsible for the direction of the school and holding the Headteacher to account, while ensuring that the best possible outcomes are available for the children.

They set the budget for the school and monitor income and expenditure throughout the financial year to make sure the school keeps within the budget. They are also involved in purchasing and contract decisions to ensure the school gets the best value for money.

More specifically:

- They meet regularly both in committee and twice a term as the full governing body to review activities and progress of the school
- They create and review all the policies for the school. These stipulate how the school should operate
- They are involved in staff recruitment, most importantly of the Headteacher
- They visit the school regularly to monitor particular areas of responsibility, as well as to see the effect of their decisions
- They meet with external parties who come to assess the school, including local authority finance officers and Ofsted

What don't they do?

They don't get involved in the day-to-day running of the school. The governors may set objectives but how they are achieved is largely up to Polly and her staff.

It is also important to note that parent governors are representative parents and not parent representatives. They are expected to put the interests of the whole school and all the children before their own, so they can't take individual parents' issues to the governing body.

School Funding

Langham is a Local Authority School and receives an annual budget each year from the Norfolk Education Authority. This is calculated according to the number of pupils on role in the October of the previous year. Numbers of pupils are therefore extremely important and as they fluctuate the financial implications for the school are significant. Some children attract extra funding, for example if they are in receipt of free school meals. For those pupils who have Special Educational Needs there is a grant given to the Wells Cluster of Schools which Langham bids for, according to individual need.

Small schools such as Langham are seen as financially vulnerable and we have to be careful with the money we are allocated. Many small schools now share a Headteacher with other similar schools and many have made the decision to academize. Langham hopes to grow or at least sustain current pupil numbers in order to retain its current status and the four class system.

What have the governing body done recently?

Broadband

In 2016, the governors were involved in securing a faster and more cost effective broadband service for the school following the end of the current contract with Norfolk County Council.

School Dinners

They negotiated a new contract with Norse to provide school dinners. This contract not only saves the school £2,000 per year, but offers a wider choice of food with better support and training for the kitchen staff.

Jet Class Refurbishment

As part of the Avada Homes' Langham Hotel planning application, agreed with North Norfolk District Council, Langham Village School has received £58,000 intended to benefit the education of children at the school. The governors commissioned the external refurbishment of Jet Class over the summer holidays. With the donation of one parent's project management skills and some local suppliers lending their support we have been able to transform an 'eyesore' into a open, light and insulated classroom for all pupils throughout their time at Langham to enjoy. With quite a large part of the pot still remaining for other projects.