

THE GOVERNING BODY

Gordon Smith, Chair of Governors

Gordon Smith is the Principal at Riddlesdown High school a local secondary school of 1900 pupils and students.

He is Chair of the Central and South Croydon 14 -19 Partnership as well as Vice Chair of Governors at Croydon College.

Gordon's work in a range of London Schools means that he has a clear understanding of educational and leadership issues which contributes to Kingsdown.

Kevin Henry

Kevin spent the first 16 years of his working life in the Manufacturing sector working as an apprentice Electrician before becoming a Control Engineer. He gained an HTC in Electrical and Electronic Engineering before completing a BEng (Hons) in the same subject. Kevin undertook an MBA at South Bank University, completing his dissertation in 1995.

In 1994, Kevin changed career path and began running McRae Residential Care Services (MRCS) Ltd, a small family business providing residential care for 'looked after children'. Having had the benefit of a good education himself, Kevin was determined to provide educational opportunities for the young people in MRCS' care and began the journey in 1999 into what was to become Kingsdown School.

Kevin became a business governor for Croydon College in August 1997, Vice Chair in 2001 and Chair in August 2005.

In addition to his interest in MRCS Ltd and Croydon College, Kevin is also a Director of Focused Fostering Services Ltd and Chair of Hamsey Rangers FC.

Wendy Prichard Smith

Wendy works for the Learning and Skills Council based in the South East. The LSC is responsible for the learning and skills within institutes including colleges, training projects, prisons and community locations.

Her knowledge of the government's 14 – 16 agenda as well as her experience with young people not engaged in mainstream education is invaluable to Kingsdown.

Anne Orija

Anne is a consultant with over 15 year's experience of the public and private sectors. She has a passion for the issues surrounding young people who are gifted and talented and those on the fringes. Anne is a trustee of the local grass routes voluntary group, member of the Institute of Leadership and Management and an active member of her local Chartered Institute of Professional Development.

Barbara Round

Barbara Round retired in 2003 after a long and happy career in teaching, the final 24 years of which she spent as First Deputy Head of Riddlesdown High School. Barbara read Modern Languages at Exeter and gained her teaching diploma at the University of London Goldsmiths. She spent a year teaching in Germany and also taught in Brixton at Stockwell Manor School.

Barbara and her husband Michael fostered a number of teenagers, now all grown up with their own families. She continues to have wide interests in education.