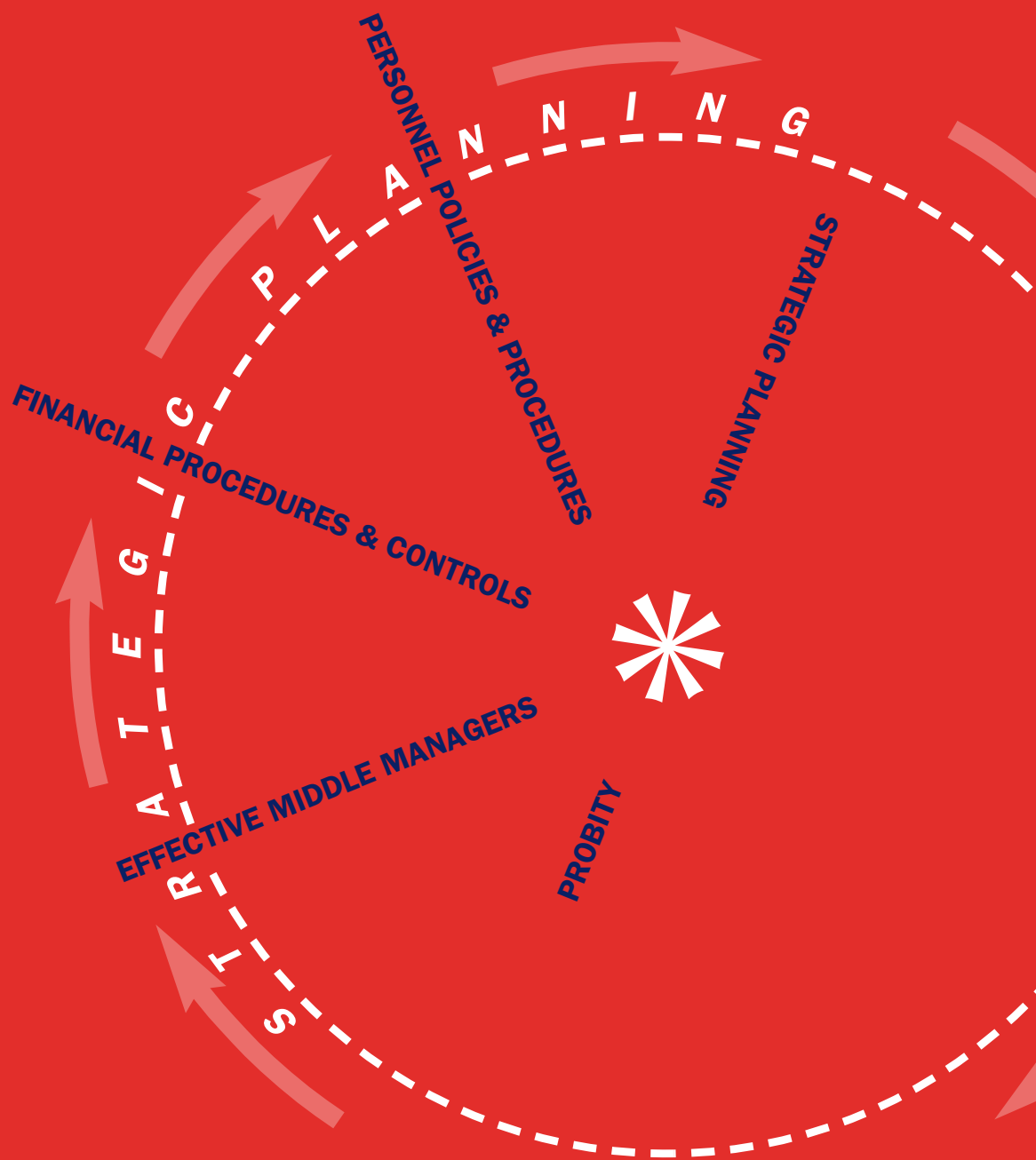


good governance & management at Thanet College



good governance & management – sharing a college’s experience

INTRODUCTION

The FEFC Inspection of Thanet College in May 1998 assessed College Governance and Management as Grade 1 outstanding provision, which has many strengths and few weaknesses.

The College has been successful in bidding for resources under Strand 4 of the Standards Fund to develop this information pack as a contribution to sharing ‘good practice’ with other further education colleges. We are pleased to take this opportunity.

Our aim has been to produce material which conveys the overall nature and character of the approach which we follow at Thanet College without in any sense wishing to produce an A to Z guide. Our intention has been to make the pack useful, practical and supportive of colleagues in Kent and other colleges who believe there is a need to review their approach to aspects of management and governance.

The units in this pack cover the following governance and management issues:

- Strategic Planning
- Financial Procedures and Controls
- Personnel Procedures and Policies
- Probity
- Effective Middle Managers

CONTEXT

Inspectors identified the key strengths of governance as:

- The experience and expertise of governors
- The well planned consultation exercise on the future strategic direction of the College
- The commitment of the governors to continuous improvement
- Effective monitoring of the College’s finances by governors
- An effective audit committee



and the key strengths of management as:

- **Effective and open management**
- **Financial management**
- **Strategic planning**
- **Effective management structure and good communication**
- **A reliable Management Information System**
- **Good links with the local community**

Our approach to governance and management is geared to ensuring that key themes of good practice characterise our work.

These key themes are:

- Our mission and our strategic aims must be reflected with sufficient accuracy and clarity to enable internal and external assessment and measurement of our performance.
- Responsibility and accountability throughout the College must be clear and unambiguous.
- Our policies, practices and procedures have to support and add value to the work of the College in achieving our strategic aims.
- We must undertake regular self-review and evaluation throughout the College in promoting quality standards and good practice to inform our strategic direction.
- We must have systems in place which ensure good communication with all our stakeholders.

