

Code of Practice for Governors

The Governing Body has adopted the following principles and procedures:

General

- We have responsibility for determining, monitoring and keeping under review the broad policies, plans and procedures within which the school operates;
- We recognise that the Headteacher is responsible for the implementation of policy, day-to-day management of the school and the implementation of the curriculum;
- We accept that all governors have equal status, and although appointed by different groups (e.g. parents, staff, LEA) our overriding concern will be the welfare of the school as a whole;
- We have no legal authority to act individually, except when the governing body has given us delegated authority to do so;
- We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice, and in so far as we have responsibility for the employment of staff, we will fulfil all that is reasonably expected of a good employer;
- We will encourage open government and should be seen to be doing so;
- We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect other schools.

Commitment

- We acknowledge that accepting office as a governor involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy;
- We will each involve ourselves actively in the work of the governing body, attend regularly, and accept our fair share of responsibilities, including service on committees or working groups;
- We will get to know the school well and respond to opportunities to involve ourselves in school activities;
- We will consider seriously our individual and collective needs for training and development.

Relationships

- We will strive to work as a team;
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the Headteacher, staff, parents, the LEA and other relevant agencies and the community.

Confidentiality

- We will observe complete confidentiality when required or asked to do so by the governing body, especially regarding matters concerning individual staff or students;
- As a matter of trust we will not discuss the views of fellow governors with members of the public outside our meetings.
- We will exercise the greatest prudence if a discussion of a potentially contentious issue affecting the school arises outside the governing body.

Conduct

- We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings, but accept collective responsibility for all decisions made by the governing body or its delegated agents;
- We will only speak or act on behalf of the governing body when we have been specifically authorised to do so;
- In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school, we will follow the procedures established by the governing body;
- Our visits to the school will be undertaken within the framework established by the governing body and agreed with the Headteacher;
- In discharging our duties, we will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our school.