

Code of Conduct for Governors at Charters School

The governing body has agreed to abide by the following principles and procedures:-

Commitment

- We accept that being a governor involves the commitment of a significant amount of time and energy.
- We will be actively involved, attend meetings regularly and share responsibilities - including service on committees or working groups.
- Wherever possible, we are expected to sit on two committees.
- We will get to know the school well and the services it offers, responding to opportunities to involve ourselves in the life of the school.
- We will attend training and other development activities taking responsibility for our own learning and for keeping abreast of current educational issues.
- We will prepare for meetings by reading paperwork beforehand.
- We will form a Link to a nominated department and act in accordance with the school's published guidance on Departmental Link Governors (attached as Appendix 1).

Confidentiality

- We will observe complete confidentiality when required to do so by the governing body, especially regarding matters concerning individual staff or students.
- We will observe the agreed protocol if a discussion arises outside the governing body of a potentially contentious issue concerning the school.
- We will declare an interest if an item under discussion at any full or committee meeting of governors impinges upon our personal, family or financial situation.

Conduct

- We will work as team members at all times and be loyal to collective decisions.
- We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings, and accept collective responsibility for all decisions made by the governing body or its delegated agents. This means we will not speak out against majority decisions in public (or private) outside the governing body.
- We will only seek to act on behalf of the governing body when we have been given delegated responsibility to do so.
- In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school we will follow the procedures agreed by the governing body as recorded in section 11.10 of the Staff Handbook.
- Our visits to school will follow the code of practice for visits established by the governing body and agreed with the Headteacher, see appendix 2
- We will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our school.
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the Headteacher, staff, parents, the LA, other relevant agencies and the community.

General

- We are responsible for determining, monitoring and keeping under review the strategic policies, plans and procedures of the school.
- We recognise that the Headteacher is responsible for the implementation of policies, and curriculum and the day-to-day management of the school.
- We accept that all governors have equal status, and, although elected or appointed by different groups, our overriding concern will be the welfare of the children, young people and their families.
- We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice.
- In so far as we have responsibility for staff, we will fulfil all that is expected of a good employer.
- We will encourage open government and will act appropriately.
- We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect other schools and the community.