

Role Description

Governors

Reviewed by	Approved by	Date of Approval	Version Approved	Next Review Date

Accountable to: Chair of Local Governing Body (also a Director of BDAT)

Summary:

Governors have three main roles:

- To provide strategic direction for the Academy
- To act as a critical friend to the Headteacher / Principal / Head of School
- To ensure educational, financial and operational accountability

Purpose:

The core purpose of the post is to contribute to the work of the governing body in raising standards of achievement for all pupils.

This involves providing a strategic view for the Academy, acting as a critical friend and ensuring accountability. The individual governor has a responsibility, working alongside other members of the governing body, to the staff and pupils of the Academy, the Academy's wider community and where they are representatives, to their particular constituency (parents; staff; teachers; etc). Although some governors may represent particular constituencies they are not delegates of that group.

Governor Responsibilities include:

- Developing the strategic plan for the Academy.
- Determining aims, policies and priorities of the Academy.
- Setting statutory and non-statutory targets.
- Monitoring and evaluating the work of the Academy.
- Appointment of staff (excluding the Principal) and ensuring the implementation of a range of personnel procedures. Governors will advise and take part in Principal recruitment but the Trust is responsible for the appointment.
- Management of the delegated budget.
- Securing high levels of attendance and good standards of pupil behaviour.
- Ensuring that all children in the Academy have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which is suitable to age, aptitude and ability, which prepares them for adult life.
- Ensuring the health and safety of pupils and staff.
- Promoting the Christian values and ethos of the Christian faith to the children and staff of the Academy.

Governors are not expected to be experts in all areas and relevant training will be provided as required. Governors will be selected to meet the wide skills base required to support the Academy and as representatives of the Academy community they seek to serve.

Tasks will include:

- Getting to know the Academy: its needs, strengths and areas for development.
- Attending meetings (full governing body or committee meetings, depending on interest and agreement).
- Speaking, acting and voting in the best interests of the Academy as one perceives them.
- Representing the perspectives of constituencies, where appropriate.
- Respecting all governing body decisions and supporting them in public.
- Acting within the framework of the policies of the governing body and legal requirements.
- Committing to training and development opportunities.

What criteria are used when selecting a governor?

Governors will be selected for a variety of reasons to support the Academy including:

- Interest or background in education.
- Appropriate availability.
- Good communication / interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work as part of a team.
- Undertaking to participate in the governor's training programme.
- A desire to support the Academy.
- Local/community knowledge and understanding.
- Other relevant experience for example practicing the Christian faith.

Governors must:

- Respect confidentiality.
- Listen to and respect the views of others.
- Express their own views clearly and succinctly.
- Take their fair share of work / positions of responsibility.
- Know, understand and work within the prescribed regulatory framework.
- Report any evidence of fraud, corruption or misconduct to an appropriate person.
- Prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand.
- Take responsibility for their own learning and development as a governor, including attending training.
- Attend meetings promptly, regularly, and for the full time.
- Agree to a full DBS checking procedure. No governor will be allowed to take up post without a valid DBS.

What is the time commitment?

Time commitments will vary depending on the role and committees a governor attends.

As a minimum all governors are expected to attend the main governing body meetings which take place six times a year (once every half term). These usually take place in the late afternoon or early evening to accommodate those governors with full time work.

Those governors taking part in sub-committees such as finance or Academy improvement committees, or those governors appointed as Chair or Vice Chair may find the work load is significantly more depending on the needs of the Academy and number of committees they join.