

THE GRANGE SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE

GOVERNOR EXPECTATIONS

Governors are asked to attend four meetings of the Full Governing Body in each school year. The dates for the year are usually agreed at the first meeting of the year .

There is normally a meeting of the supporting committees held before the full meeting and Governors are asked to be on at least one Committee, mutually agreeable to themselves and the Governing Body, maybe according to expertise that they can offer eg. Financial skills.

This Governing Body operates with Governor / Curriculum links to encourage liaison with the staff subject co-ordinators and to gain in-depth knowledge of one area of the curriculum. This is so that the Governing Body covers one way of monitoring the overall curriculum and can share their knowledge with the Full Governing Body through visits with their subject coordinators followed by brief reports / presentations to the Curriculum committee and kept on file. These act as a resource to show Governor involvement in the curriculum delivered to the children.

Sometimes working parties are asked for to address a particular need.

The LA provides governor training and all Governors are encouraged to attend training pertinent to their special responsibility or Committee membership. It is desirable for new Governors to attend the Induction training. All training is free to the Governors.

We have the opportunity to join with the staff in Inset training days occasionally if we are able and if it is applicable to us as Governors.

Governors need to be involved in the school as much as they are able. They are required to visit their 'Link' department/faculty at least twice a year, and if a 'Lead' governor to discuss the SIP with their Lead manager twice a year. They are also asked to support school events eg. Christmas plays, fetes etc. whenever possible.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the School Visiting Policy.

General principles for governors and heads

We recognise and value the different perspectives/views we each hold. We accept that all governors have equal status and are representatives, not delegates, of different interest groups.

We will all share the same concern for the welfare and progress of all the pupils in the school and accept that it is our duty to ensure that this is achieved.

In discharging our duties we will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our school.

We will be loyal to our school and our Governor colleagues and maintain the schools reputation and standing within the community by not speaking publicly against staff, pupils and governors.

We have no legal authority to act alone on behalf of the governing body, except when the governing body has delegated authority to do so.

We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice in all matters brought before us for consideration, and in so far as we have responsibility for staff, we will fulfill the expectations of a good employer.

We recognise that we are accountable for our corporate actions and decisions to those within and outside the school. This means that we will be prepared to explain our decisions and actions if necessary.

We will ensure that all our decisions are based on sound judgment and advice. We will not knowingly breach any statutory rules or requirements.

We will accept that we are not infallible and will sometimes get things wrong, but we will try to learn from our mistakes.

We will encourage the open expression of views and opinions at meetings, but accept collective corporate responsibility for all decisions made by the governing body (or any individual or committee delegated to act on its behalf).

We will decide which items of discussion or items of paperwork are either confidential or should be restricted at each meeting, and will not discuss, disclose, distribute or copy them outside the meeting. **We will not reveal to anyone outside the meeting how individual governors vote and their opinions on any matter deemed to be confidential.**

We shall formally publish all approved minutes and papers tabled at any Governor Meeting, unless they are either restricted or confidential.

In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school we will follow the procedures established by the governing body.

We will seek to develop effective working relationships with each other, and with staff and parents, the LA and other relevant bodies as well as those from the local community.

Commitment from governors

We accept that in taking office as governors we will commit some of our time and energy to the work involved.

We will each involve ourselves actively in the work of the governing body and attend **ALL** FGB meetings. In order for absence to be authorized, the absence must be notified to the clerk or Chairman in advance of the meeting.

If a Governor fails to attend successive FGB meetings spanning a six-month period they will have deemed to have resigned their position with immediate effect (unless the FGB mitigates the individual on the grounds of ill health)

We will accept our fair share of responsibilities, including reading papers and serving 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 help new governors to understand their role and to contribute fully.

We will take seriously our individual and collective needs for training and development. We will review this regularly and try to ensure that our governing body has enough people with the right skills to operate effectively.

Our visits to school will be with the prior agreement of the governing body and the headteacher.

Financial probity

We will declare any financial or personal interest in any matter brought before the governing body in order to avoid any conflicts of interest.

We will not use our position as governors to gain favours or rewards. Nor misuse our position as governors we will act in good faith at all times and secure the best value for the school

We will ensure that we apply the same standards of stewardship and propriety to other funds raised by or for the school.

Reviewed by the Governing Body. Date 10/12/08

Reference Documents

Guide to the Law for School Governors
Roles of Governing Bodies and Head Teachers
The Education School Government Regulations
The Education Terms of Reference Regulations 2000
Teachers Pay and Conditions Document

Governors may seek free advice from Governor Line on 08000 722 181

10/12/08