

**GUIDELINES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF
LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS - SEPTEMBER 2012**

All governing bodies have at least one local authority governor post as part of their membership. The Governor Appointment Panel (GAP) is responsible for approving nominations and in very rare circumstances removing authority governors.

General principles and expectations

Local Authority governors should be able to make a full and effective contribution as a school governor and meet any skill set identified by the appointing school.

Nominations for appointment will be considered from political groups, Kent Governor Services, School Governors Once Stop Shop, and the school where there is a vacancy.

GAP have agreed the following guidelines for the appointment of Local Authority governors which will also take account of any relevant comments received from the headteacher, governing body or LA officers before recommending a nominee for appointment.

A person is unlikely to be successfully nominated to a school if he/she is;

1. A member of staff in a Kent funded school. This because they can apply to become a staff governor at their school. A person who volunteers at the school may be considered.
2. Is a parent of a child at the same school. This is because they can already apply to become a parent governor at their school.
3. Related to a member of staff or a member of the governing body.
4. Has worked at the school in the past.
5. Has worked at a school in the same area in the last 2 years.
6. It is an expectation that all Local Authority governors will attend at least one training session for governors each year and attend at least 2/3 of governing body meetings.
7. Applicants who have made complaints of a vexatious nature to either the school or the LA.
8. Where there is more than one person wishing to be the Local Authority Governor for a school, the following priority will occur:
 - a) an existing Authority governor with an attendance record of at least 2/3.
 - b) the local County Councillor.
 - c) a nomination supported by a political group.
 - d) any other suitable nomination.

Reappointment

9. The length of time a person serves as an authority governor is between 1 and 4 years. A person can be re-appointed for a further 1-4 years provided he or she:
 - a) Has attended at least 2/3 of the governing body meetings or explains their absence and agrees to improve attendance.
 - b) Has attended at least one session of governor training during each year of their previous term.
 - c) Nominees who are parents of children at the school at the time of their re-appointment will be considered by the panel as an issue. The time that the child is to remain in the school will be considered when making a decision.

Note: A register of exceptions is maintained of any person appointed against these guidelines.

The original guidelines were agreed by the former Case Sub-Committee at its meeting on 9 April 2001.

These Guidelines have been amended to take into account changes arising from the Education Amendments September 2012 and agreed by the Governor Appointments Panel at its meeting on 29 June 2012.