

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL GUIDELINES FOR THE NOMINATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

The following guidelines are based upon the legislation outlined at the end of this document and are reviewed on a regular basis by Kent County Council. Kent County Council has delegated the authority to appoint or remove LA governors to school governing bodies, Pupil Referral Units and Academies to a sub-committee of its Selection and Member Services Committee - the Governor Appointments Panel (GAP) - as set out in Appendix 2 Part 2 of the Constitution. This guidance applies to only this category of governorship.

General principles and expectations

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

Candidates will be considered for nomination to a governing body vacancy by reference to a completed application form, and matching to the identified skill set

A member of staff who works at the school cannot be appointed as a local authority governor.

All candidates for nomination must conform in full with the qualifications and disqualifications specified in The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2014.

Kent County Council has laid down the following guidelines for the appointment of local authority governors. GAP will also take account of any relevant comments received from the Head Teacher, governing body or local authority officers before recommending a candidate for nomination or re-nomination.

Potential Conflicts of Interest

Kent County Council aims to ensure that no potential conflicts of interest will arise between the personal interests of the local authority governor and the local authority. Accordingly, a candidate is unlikely to be successfully nominated for appointments as a local authority governor to a school if s/he:

1. is a member of staff in a Kent funded school (however, a candidate who volunteers at the school may be nominated if GAP deems that their relationship to the School is sufficiently remote to make a potential conflict of interest unlikely to arise)

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2. is a parent of a child attending the school
3. is related to a member of staff, or a member of the school's 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. has made a complaint of a vexatious nature to either the school or the local authority

Re-appointment

Because appointment is at governing body level, if a person continues to meet the skills requirements, the governing body can make an appointment for a further term of office providing they have satisfied the following conditions.

- within 2 months of the end of the governors' term of office, the governing body provides to the panel
- a statement from the governor outlining the contribution they have made to the effectiveness of the governing body over their term of office, and
- a statement from the governing body supporting their reappointment

The Governor Appointments Panel's Discretion

GAP has the discretion to agree to the nomination of any candidate. In considering whether to exercise its discretion, it will take account of any relevant comments received from the Head Teacher, governing body or local authority officers before recommending a nominee for appointment. Its decision will be taken with full regard to all aspects of equal opportunities legislation and will also take into account any other factor that the candidate wishes to be taken into consideration.

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

These Guidelines were approved by Selection and Member Services Committee on DATE. They take into account changes arising from the Education Act 2002: specifically, the new School Governance (procedures) (England) Regulations 2014, the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2014.