

Role and Expectations of a Local Authority Governor September 2014 (2012 Constitution regulations)

You would want to be a good governor therefore you will need to:

- Develop a basic understanding of KCC Education Policy, strategy and plans and contribute appropriately to governing body discussion
- **You are a representative and not a delegate of the local authority**
- Be prepared to be deployed flexibly within a district or an area e.g. a governing body in North Kent
- Develop an understanding of the school, its strengths and weaknesses, vision, ethos, and values
- Attend full governing body meetings (details of the day and time of meetings for a particular school will be shared with you as part of the nomination process)
- Read agenda papers in advance, and participate in discussions and decision making in governing body or committee meetings
- Accept a governing body responsibility, either as an individual, monitoring pair, or as part of a committee
- Make a minimum of one governor visit to the school each year
- Undertake a one-day face to face induction training session for new governors, followed by at least 6 hours of training annually (either face to face or by e'learning)
- Attend an annual briefing for local authority governors, held in Maidstone in the autumn term each year
- Abide by any additional governing body requirements in place at the school to which you are appointed e.g. code of conduct, training and development expectations (these will be shared with you prior to appointment)
- Notify the clerk to the governing body if you meet any of the criteria for disqualification

General Information about the role of a school governor

Governing bodies have a vital and demanding role as the strategic leaders of our schools. All governors must govern in the best interests of pupils, no matter what category they represent. Being a governor is a demanding task, and anyone appointed should therefore have the skills to contribute to effective governance and the success of the school. You can find full details in the Governors Handbook

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governors-handbook>

You will be expected to attend a minimum of 3-6 governing body meetings each year, attend committee meetings or undertake an additional responsibility, and visit the school as part of your monitoring

Appendix A

role. You should also expect to undertake approximately 4 hours reading and/or analysis each month in preparation for meetings.

All maintained schools have one governor who is nominated to serve as a representative of the local authority, and is then considered for appointment by the governing body of a particular school. All governors are selected for the skills and experience they can contribute to the role matched to the needs identified by the governing body. A term of office is between 1 and 4 years.

An individual who is also a member of staff at the school cannot be appointed as a local authority governor.

Guidelines for the appointment of local authority governors set out the required criteria for appointment. Potential local authority governors are required to complete an application form identifying their skills, experience and suitability for the role.

A local authority panel of elected members will select individuals as nominees based on the application form and references. Successful nominees will then be 'matched' to suitable governing body vacancies and offered for appointment. The governing body will then 'appoint' the candidate who most closely matches their requirements.