

Governors Code of Conduct

Introduction

The following is not a definitive statement of the responsibilities of the Governing Body but rather is concerned with a common understanding of the broad principles by which the Governing Body and individual governors will operate.

Governors have a general duty to act with integrity, objectivity and honesty in the best interests of the school at all times. In a Church of England school, governors have a special responsibility for ensuring that the Christian distinctiveness of the school is preserved and developed and that the school conducts itself in a way that is in accordance with its ethos statement. Mindful of these responsibilities, governors will strive to discharge their duties in a manner that upholds and demonstrates Christian values in the school, the parish, the local community and the wider educational community. Governors actions should at all times reflect their responsibility to secure the Christian ethos of the school and governors should consider carefully how their actions both corporately and individually will be perceived by all stakeholders.

This governing body has therefore adopted the following principles and procedures:

General

1. We have responsibility for determining, monitoring and keeping under review the broad policies, plans and procedures within which the school operates
2. We recognise that the headteacher is responsible for the implementation of policy, day-to-day management of the school and the implementation of the curriculum
3. We accept that all governors have equal status, and although appointed by different groups (eg parents, staff, local churches, diocese, LA) our overriding concern will be the welfare of the school as a whole
4. We have no legal authority to act individually, except when the governing body has given us delegated authority to do so
5. We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice, and in so far as we have responsibility for the employment of staff, we will fulfil all that is reasonably expected of a good employer
6. We will encourage open government and should be seen to be doing so
7. We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect other schools.

Commitment

8. We acknowledge that accepting office as a governor involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy
9. We will each involve ourselves actively in the work of the governing body, attend regularly and accept our fair share of responsibilities, including service on committees or working groups
10. We will get to know the school well and respond to opportunities to involve ourselves in school activities (cont.)

Living Worship Growing Disciples Seeking Justice

- 11 We will consider seriously our individual and collective needs for training and development and support new governors in becoming effective

Relationships

12. We will strive to work as a team
13. We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the headteacher, staff, parents, the LA and other relevant agencies (including the Diocesan authorities, where appropriate) and the community.

Confidentiality

14. We will observe complete confidentiality when required or asked to do so by the governing body, especially regarding matters concerning individual staff or students; as a matter of trust we will not discuss the views of fellow governors with members of the public outside our meetings
15. We will exercise the greatest prudence if a discussion of a potentially contentious issue affecting the school arises outside the governing body.

Conduct

16. We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings, but accept collective responsibility for all decision made by the governing body or its delegated agents
17. We will only speak or act on behalf of the governing body when we have been specifically authorised to do so; in making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school we will follow the procedures established by the governing body
18. Our visits to the school will be undertake within the framework established by the governing body and agreed with the headteacher
19. In discharging our duties we will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our school.

Date adopted

Signed by the chair of governors