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## **Governor**

### **Role Description**

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#### **Responsibilities of Governors**

The Local Governing Body is a committee of the Board of the Trustees of Sussex Learning Trust and acts within a scheme of delegated authority and terms of reference set by the Trustees.

Governors contribute to the work of the Local Governing Body in raising the standards of achievement for all students/pupils. This involves providing a strategic view of the academy, acting as a critical friend and ensuring accountability.

Governors ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the academy, in line with Sussex Learning Trust's overall vision and strategic objectives. Governors monitor the academy's performance, contribute to self-evaluation and understand the strengths and weaknesses of the academy. Governors agree and monitor the Academy Development Plan (ADP).

Governors hold the Headteacher to account for improving educational outcomes, the quality of teaching and learning, safety and behaviour. They use internal data, Ofsted's data dashboard, examination outcomes and other information to form a view of the academy's effectiveness.

Governors monitor the implementation and compliance with the Trust's policies and statutory requirements. Governors contribute to effective relationships with parents and the local community. Where appropriate, Governors take part in panels relating to staff issues or student discipline.

Governors should have a clear focus on three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the academy and their students and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the academy

#### **Person Specification**

Governors should be able to demonstrate:

- (a) A passion for education and in ensuring the best opportunities for young people
- (b) Commitment to raising standards and seeking 'World Class' educational provision
- (c) Commitment to the academy
- (d) Strategic vision
- (e) An understanding of the roles, responsibilities and distinction between governance and management
- (f) The ability and willingness to ask probing questions and participate in debate, including acting as a critical friend to the academy
- (g) Effective communication skills and the ability to express ideas clearly and listen to others

- (h) The ability to work as a member of a team and to stand by the collective decisions of the Local Governing Body
- (i) A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to the work of the Local Governing Body, including appropriate training
- (j) Commitment to the principles of equality, diversity and equal opportunities
- (k) An interest in voluntary service to the community
- (l) Adherence to the seven principles of public life laid down by the Nolan Committee. These are Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership.

### **Eligibility**

The role of the Governor is subject to the satisfactory completion of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and ongoing adherence to safeguarding policies

### **Expected commitment**

Governors are expected to make all reasonable endeavours to attend:

- All meetings of the Local Governing Body and any committee of which he/she is a member
- All relevant and appropriate training and development
- Visits to the academy, especially in their role as a Link Governor for a designated subject, year group or area of the ADP
- Where requested, membership of panels to consider staff issues or student discipline

A Governor's term of office is four years (renewable).