Local Governing Body Code of Conduct 2026-27

REMIT



The LGB's role is to support, monitor and challenge the Headteacher and Academy's senior leadership team in relation to the school's education provision, use and impact of ring-fenced funding, stakeholder engagement, strategic direction, safeguarding and SEND.

The LGBs carry out their functions in relation to their respective Academy on behalf of the Trust Board and in accordance with policies and procedures determined by the Trust Board and Executive. The act of delegation from the Trust Board to the LGBs is a delegation of powers and duties, and not a shedding of responsibilities.

Members of the governing board will focus on the key roles of governance as identified by the Trust and according to the delegations to the LGB by the Trust Board:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction in line with Trust wide strategy;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils
- Overseeing the plans, spend and impact of statutory grants and ring-fenced monies and making sure this money is well spent.
- Overseeing safeguarding, behaviour and attendance

Overseeing SEND and inclusionAll governors are required to fulfil their duties in line with the law, the DfE Academy Trust Governance Guide, and 'The 7 principles of public life' (the Nolan Principles). In addition, all governors will be expected to be:

1. Committed
2. Confident
3. Curious
4. Challenging
5. Collaborative
6. Critical
7. Creative

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Undertake the roles and responsibilities of a governor

All governors will:

- Accept that their role is strategic and, therefore, focus on the core functions of the LGB rather than the day-to-day management of the school.
- Respect the role of the headteacher and senior leaders and their responsibility for the day-to-day management of the school, never acting in a way that could undermine such arrangements.
- Accept that they have no legal authority to act individually, except when they have been given delegated authority in writing to do so.
- Stand by and accept collective responsibility for decisions made by the LGB.
- Act fairly and without prejudice.
- Apply the Equality Act 2010 in all governance matters.
- Help to ensure the board has a diverse composition which, as far as possible, reflects the composition of the local community.
- Encourage open governance.
- Be mindful of their responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of the school.
- Champion their school in the wider local community.
- Champion and embrace the REAch2 touchstones and vision.
- Consider how decisions may affect the community.
- Where decisions and actions conflict with 'The 7 principles of public life' or may place pupils at risk, bring this to the attention of the relevant authorities.
- Actively support and challenge the leadership of the school.
- Follow the procedures established by the LGB.
- When formally speaking or writing in a governing role, ensure their comments reflect current school and Trust policy even if that may differ from their personal views.
- Adhere to the school's and Trust's rules and policies, and the procedures of the LGB in accordance with the relevant governing documents and law.

2. Demonstrate commitment to the role

All governors will:

- Undertake training, mandated by REAch2, namely:
    - Induction: the roles and responsibilities of LGBs in REAch2;
    - Effective governor visits, and
    - Safeguarding for governors.
- Undertake and access additional training and support available to fully understand their role.
- Access support & guidance available to fully understand their role.
- Be committed to the amount of time and energy the role involves (Two meetings per term and one monitoring visit per term).
- Be actively involved in the role and accept their fair share of responsibilities within the LGB including link roles and, from time to time, sitting on panels.
- Give full effort to the attendance at meetings. Where a governor cannot attend a meeting, they will contact the clerk to governors in advance to give their apologies and the reason for their non-attendance.

- Come to meetings prepared, including having accessed and read the paperwork prior to the meeting.
- Visit the school, at least once per term, to undertake agreed monitoring or participate in school events, with visits being arranged beforehand with the headteacher and undertaken within the framework established by the LGB.
- Be prepared to support and to challenge in equal measure.

3. Behave appropriately

All governors will:

- Pay due regard to their position of public office and adhere to 'The 7 principles of public life' (The Nolan Principles):
  - Selflessness
  - Integrity
  - Objectivity
  - Accountability
  - Openness
  - Honesty
  - Leadership
- Acknowledge the time, effort and skills demonstrated in the execution of delegated functions by other members of the board.
- Take into account any concerns expressed about their delegated function and be prepared to answer queries from other governors, Trustees or the Executive regarding their role.
- Understand that their role as a governor is separate from any other role/association they may have with the school and to not use their governance role as leverage, recognising a separation between the role of governor and any other role they hold or association they have to the school.
- Act in the best interests of the school and its pupils; governors will not act in a manner that will bring the school into disrepute.
- Be conscious of their online presence and social media activity and how this can reflect on the school and be received out in the wider community.

4. Build relationships

All governors will:

- Seek to develop open, honest and effective working relationships with the headteacher, staff and parents at the school and throughout Trust, as well as any other relevant body.
- Continuously strive to work as a team.
- Express their views openly, in a courteous and respectful manner.

5. Maintain confidentiality

All governors will:

- Maintain complete confidentiality both inside and outside the school when matters discussed between governors are deemed confidential, or where they concern specific members of staff or pupils.
- Not reveal details of an LGB vote.
- Operate in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.
- Maintain confidentiality even after they leave the LGB.

6. Be transparent

All governors will:

- Accept and consent that in the interests of open and transparent governance, their names, dates of appointment, terms of office, roles, attendance records and any conflicts of interest will be published on the school's website.
- Accept and consent to information relating to them, as members of the LGB, being logged on Get Information about Schools (GIAS).
- Accept and consent to information relating to them, as members of the LGB, being logged on GovernorHub and that information being used by the Governance team and school staff to establish contact and to distribute information related to the role and responsibilities of the LGB. This information will not be shared outside the Trust.

7. Policies and Procedures

All governors will:

- Act in the best interests of the school at all times, and not act in the interest of, or as a representative of, any group or individual.
- Comply with regulatory requirements such as completing an enhanced DBS and section 128 check at the point of appointment.
- Observe all policies approved by the Trustees and/or LGB, particularly any safeguarding policies, complaints and exclusions procedures
- Declare any business, personal or other interests they have in connection to the governing board's interests, record these electronically using the Trust's governor management system and update as and when any changes arise.
- Declare any interest they may have in an item of business on the agenda and immediately remove themselves from the meeting while it is under discussion. Any conflict of interest will be declared at the start of any meeting, should the situation arise.

8. Chairs of Governors

As well as the above, Chairs of LGB will also:

- Have a strong understanding of the academy and also the roles of local governance in the Trust as delegated by the Trust Board
- Be mindful that the academy and trust are one and the same and that REAch2 is not a separate entity to the academy
- Build and maintain a positive working relationship with the Head to include regular meetings outside of the LGB meetings
- Be proactive in building positive working relationships within the LGB and encourage all governors to maintain standards and practices
- Partake in opportunities to join additional Trust meetings to develop and share understanding of the Trust and the Academy such as meetings with the DDOE, termly Chairs Check Ins with the governance team and cluster chairs forums
- Be prepared to represent the academy and Trust as part of any external assessment of inspection
- Ensure that matters of governance compliance are completed in a timely manner i.e. completion of training and annual completion of declarations of interest.

Additional information regarding the general role of local governors and the chair of governors can be found on GovernorHub

By signing this I agree to work according to the code and understand that if I breach any points in the agreement I may be removed from my role as a governor by the Trustees.

I understand that a copy of my signed code of conduct will be kept by the school, as part of my governor record, to show that I have agreed to volunteer with the Trust. The signed copy will not be processed for any other purpose.

Signature	Print name	Date