

Member of the Governing Body – Role Description

Purpose of the Role

To contribute to the strategic leadership and effective governance of the school as a member of the Local Governing Body (LGB). A Governor works collectively with fellow governors and in partnership with the headteacher to ensure high standards of education, robust accountability, and strong compliance with statutory responsibilities.

Governors operate within the vision, values and framework of the BOA Trust and work collaboratively with Trustees, executive leaders and other constituent academies to support the success of all pupils.

Key Responsibilities

1. Strategic Governance

- Contribute to setting and reviewing the school's vision, ethos and strategic priorities in alignment with BOA Trust's mission.
- Support the monitoring and evaluation of the school development plan and agreed priorities.
- Ensure that decision-making remains strategic rather than operational.
- Uphold collective responsibility for all decisions made by the LGB.
- Act as an ambassador for the school within the community.

2. Accountability and School Improvement

- Hold school leaders to account for educational performance, pupil outcomes and staff performance management.
- Review and challenge performance data, safeguarding information and other key reports.
- Ensure that appropriate support and challenge is provided to the headteacher and senior leaders.
- Contribute to inspection readiness, including understanding the board's role during inspections by Ofsted.

3. Financial and Resource Oversight

- Ensure that resources are used effectively and in line with the Trust's financial framework.
- Review budget information and understand how funding impacts educational outcomes.
- Seek assurance that risks are identified and managed appropriately.

4. Safeguarding and Statutory Compliance

- Ensure the school meets its statutory responsibilities, including safeguarding and equality duties.
- Monitor that key policies are up to date and compliant with requirements set by the Department for Education.
- Undertake link governor responsibilities where assigned (e.g., safeguarding, SEND, curriculum).

5. Participation in Governing Board Business

- Attend and contribute actively to LGB and committee meetings.
- Prepare thoroughly by reading papers and asking informed questions.
- Participate in panels (e.g., complaints, exclusions, disciplinary matters) as required.
- Engage in training and ongoing development to strengthen governance effectiveness.
- Support a culture of respect, inclusion and constructive challenge.

Person Specification

1. Essential Attributes

- Commitment to the school's vision, values and inclusive ethos.
- Integrity, objectivity and confidentiality.
- Willingness to offer constructive challenge and ask probing questions.
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a team.
- Sound judgement and professional discretion.

2. Skills and Experience

- Strategic thinking and the ability to focus on long-term improvement.
- Ability to understand and interpret performance data (training can be provided).
- Good listening, communication and interpersonal skills.
- Organisational skills and reliability in fulfilling commitments.
- Professional expertise (e.g., education, finance, HR, legal, safeguarding, marketing or community engagement) is desirable but not essential.

No prior governance experience is required; induction and training will be provided.

Collective Responsibilities of All Governors

- Adhere to the LGB Code of Conduct.
- Declare and manage conflicts of interest appropriately.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times.
- Participate in annual self-evaluation of governance effectiveness.
- Act in the best interests of the school and its pupils.

Time Commitment

The role requires a consistent commitment across the academic year, including:

- Attendance at full governing board meetings (typically 3–6 per year).
- Participation in at least one committee or link governor role (where applicable).
- Preparation time for meetings (reading reports and data).
- Attendance at training sessions and occasional school events.

Accountability

A Standard Governor is accountable collectively to the Local Governing Body and operates within the governance framework of the BOA Trust.

Governors serve the school by providing strategic oversight, support and challenge to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.