

Governing body profile

The size of the governing body can range from a minimum of 9 to a maximum of 20 (this can vary for voluntary aided schools). Within this range each governing body can adopt the model of their choice, provided it complies with the guiding principles for their category of school.

These principles prescribe which categories of governor must be represented on the governing body and what the level of representation is for each category.

Categories of Governors

- **Parent governors:**
 - Parents, including carers, of registered pupils at the school are eligible to stand for election for parent governorship at the school.
 - Parent governors are elected by other parents at the school.
 - If a parent works in the school for more than 500 hours in a school year, they are not eligible to be parent governors.
 - If insufficient parents offer themselves to fill the number of parent governor vacancies, the governing body may appoint any parent of a child under compulsory school leaving age
- **Staff governors:**
 - teaching and support staff paid to work at the school are eligible for staff governorship
- **LA governors:**
 - appointed by the LA (Local Authority)
- **Community governors:**
 - appointed by the governing body to represent community interests

NB Associate members are appointed by the governing body. They have no voting rights (unless the governing body chooses to grant them for committee meetings only)

The Instrument of Government is the document that records the name of the school and the constitution of the governing body

Selection criteria for becoming a Governor

I declare that I am aged 18 or over and the following statements are true:

1. I do not already hold a governorship at the same school;
2. I am not liable to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
3. I am not a member of the governing body of more than two schools (excluding ex-officio governors, temporary governors, or additional governors at schools causing concern);

4. I am not an ex-officio governor specified in the instrument of government of more than two schools;
5. I am not a bankrupt or subject to a disqualification order under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986;
6. I have not been removed from the office of a charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commissioners or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement or, under section 7 of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
7. I am not included in the list (List 99) of teachers and workers with children or young persons whose employment is prohibited or restricted;
8. I am not disqualified from being the proprietor of any independent school or for being a teacher or other employee in any school;
9. I have not, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, received a sentence of imprisonment, suspended or otherwise, for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine;
10. I have not, in the twenty years prior to becoming a governor, been convicted as aforesaid of any offence and has had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than two and a half years;
11. I have not, at any time, had passed on me a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than five years;
12. I have not been fined, in the five years prior to becoming a governor, for causing a nuisance or disturbance on education premises;
13. I am not subject to a disqualification order under the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000.

In making decisions on the appointment of LA Governors the following criteria needs to be met:

- Has a commitment to, and an interest in, education
- Has a desire to support the school concerned
- Has a willingness to serve the local community
- Has skills and experience which will support the work of the school
- Has the ability to work as a member of a team
- Is able to arrange their commitments to fit in with membership of a governing body
- Will respect the Council's views on education matters at governing body meetings