



Role of the Co-Opted School Governor

Crawley Ridge Junior School has co-created and joins the The Alliance Multi-Academy Trust [TAMAT] on 1st April 2018, a partnership of 5 local and like-minded primary-level schools. TAMAT Board is legally responsible for governance at the schools, this will largely be achieved by the delegation of many aspects of governance to the LAB. It is the strong desire of all schools that governance and local governors continue to be as close to each school as possible.

The role of the school governor is to contribute to the work of the Local Academy Board [LAB] and the TAMAT Board in ensuring high standards of achievement for all pupils in the school by:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The role of governor is Non-Executive. Governors should be as flexible as possible in executing their responsibilities and duties, ensuring that their oversight of the school does not interfere with the day-to-day operational management of the school, which is the responsibility of the Head Teacher. Governors are required to monitor school performance by agreeing targets and key performance indicators. Each governor is responsible for a specific area within the School Development Plan. He or she is required to work closely with the school on that specific topic in order to understand it fully and ensure that agreed action plans are carried out.

School governors are volunteers and do not receive remuneration. They are appointed on the basis of their relevant skills and experience. The term of office for a governor is four years. However, governors are entitled to resign from the post early and some choose to stay for more than one term of office.

What is the time commitment required?

Accepting office as a governor involves the commitment of time and energy. All governors are expected to attend following LAB Meetings:

- 2 * LAB meetings per term – one with a business focus and one with an educational focus
- A further LAB meeting with a focus on planning will be held at the start of the autumn term.

Depending on skills, participation in occasional working parties, created to discuss and work on specific topics.

Meetings are held mostly in the evenings and last no longer than 2 hours. The full time commitment for each meeting is approximately 4 hours, which includes preparation for the meeting and taking follow up actions. Monitoring responsibilities might mean that occasional daytime meetings with the school team would be helpful, but we recognise this can be challenging, so will do our best to ensure governance responsibilities are manageable for each individual.

Once per year, usually in the spring term, governors spend a full day at the school on Governors' Day to give children and governors a chance to get to know each other better.

In addition to the meetings, governors might be required to attend panels which are organized as needed, for example interviews and disciplinary matters.

Governors are requested to attend governor training to meet the specific requirements of their role, either provided by a governance training organisation or directly by the School. Training is essential to help governors build their knowledge and keep abreast of changes in governance and education in general.

Legal matters

Please note that under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003, the following people cannot take on the role of a school governor:

- anyone under the age of 18;
- anybody detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 during your period of office;
- anybody subject to a bankruptcy restriction order or an interim order;
- anybody who has had their estate sequestrated and the sequestration order has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- anyone subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Act 1986, a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 492(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order);
- anyone removed as a charity trustee, or trustee for a charity, by an order made by the Charity Commissioner or the High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of a charity;
- anyone included on the *list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children. (*the list kept for the purposes of regulations made under Section 218(6) of the Education Reform Act 1988);
- anyone who is disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under section 142 of the Education Act 2002;
- anyone who is disqualified from registration for childminding or providing day care;
- anyone who is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;
- anyone who, in the last five years, has had passed on him a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than 3 months (without the option of a fine);
- anyone who has had received a prison sentence of 2.5 years or more in the last 20 years;
- anyone who has received a prison sentence of 5 years or more;
- anyone who has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the previous five years;
- anyone who refuses to an application being made to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate.

All governors are asked to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check as part of the appointment process. This service is free of charge.