

## **"THE AUTHORITY GOVERNOR"**

All school governors contribute to the work of the governing body in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by:-

- Setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

As an Authority governor you are representative of the Local Authority. You are not a delegate of the Local Authority and, as such, cannot be mandated to take any particular course of action or vote in a specific way at meetings. Whilst you represent the Local Authority you are not chosen to represent any one political view. You are expected to behave, however, in an appropriate manner and not in any way that might bring the reputation of the Council into disrepute. You must act in the best interests of the school and wider community and cannot be mandated to take a particular stance on issues. Awareness and understanding of council priorities and policies, however, will enable you to inform the debate and priorities at school level.

### **As an effective Authority governor you:**

- support the aims of your school;
- visit and get to know your school;
- work in partnership with the headteacher, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children;
- prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand;
- take responsibility for your own learning and development as a governor including attending training;
- attend full governing body and relevant committee meetings promptly, regularly, and for the full time;
- read briefings and newsletters for governors;
- familiarise yourself with Local Authority views and policies as far as possible;
- promote the interests of the school in the wider community;
- be loyal to the decisions made by the governing body;
- respect the confidentiality of governing body affairs;
- declare an interest and withdraw from any meeting where you, a partner or close relative or associate stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial;
- have regard to the broader responsibilities as a governor of a public institution in regard to promoting accountability for the actions and performance of the governing body.

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