

Bramingham Primary School Governing Body



GOVERNORS CODE OF CONDUCT

Adopted 20.11.19

Introduction

This Code of Practice should be read in conjunction with the Introduction to: Statutory framework for School Governance Government legislation and guidance from the National Governors' Association.

This Code sets out the expectations of and commitment required from governors at Bramingham Primary School in order for the Governing Body to carry out its work within the school and the community effectively.

The Purpose of the Governing Body

The Governing Body is the school's accountable body and acts at all times in accordance with the requirements laid down in Acts of Parliament and Regulations. It is responsible for the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards, and is responsible to the wider community for the way in which it carries out its functions. The Governing Body aims to ensure that children are attending a successful school which provides them with a good education and supports their well-being.

The Governing Body:

Sets the strategic direction of the school by:

- Setting the values, aims and objectives for the school
- Agreeing the policy framework for achieving those aims and objectives
- Setting targets
- Agreeing the school improvement strategy which includes approving the budget and agreeing the staffing structure

Challenges and supports the school by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating:

- The implementation and effectiveness of the policy framework
- The progress towards targets
- The implementation and effectiveness of the school improvement strategy
- The budget and the staffing structure
- The school's self-evaluation processes and outcomes

Ensures accountability by:

- Responding to Ofsted reports when necessary
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the performance of the school
- Ensuring parents and students are involved, consulted and informed as appropriate
- Making available information to the community

Appoints and carries out the performance appraisal of the Headteacher who will deliver the aims (through the day to day management of the school, implementation of the agreed policy framework and school improvement strategy, and delivery of the curriculum) and report appropriately to the Governing Body.

The Role of Governor

- Governors will aim to attend all meetings of the Full Governing Body and of any relevant committees.
- Governors will undertake training as required.
- When visiting the school, governors will observe the Governors' Visiting School Policy.
- Governors will be guided by the Nolan seven principles of public life: see Appendix I.
- Governors will operate within the terms of the legislation and guidance from the National Governors' Association.
- Governors recognise that the Headteacher has responsibility for the day-to-day internal organisation, management and control of the school and for advising on, and implementing, the Governing Body's strategic framework; they provide support for her in that work.
- Governors recognise the need for confidentiality where matters are deemed confidential or where they concern specific members of staff or students, both inside or outside school.
- Although appointed through different routes (ie parents, staff, co-opted, member appointed), the overriding concern of all governors has to be the welfare of the school as a whole.
- No governor has the legal authority to act individually, except when the Governing Body has given an individual delegated authority to do so.

Ceasing to be a governor

- We understand that the requirements relating to confidentiality will continue to apply after a governor leaves office.

Breach of the Code of Conduct

- If we believe this code has been breached, we will raise this issue with the Chair and the Chair will investigate; the Governing Body will only use suspension/removal as a last resort after seeking to resolve any difficulties or disputes in more constructive ways.
- Should it be the Chair that we believe has breached this code, another Governing Body member (Vice-chair) or a member of the Local Authority will investigate.

Adopted by the Governing Body on 20th November, 2019

Appendix I: The Seven Principles of Public Life

(originally published by the Nolan Committee: The Committee on Standards in Public Life was established by the then Prime Minister in October 1994, under the Chairmanship of Lord Nolan, to consider standards of conduct in various areas of public life, and to make recommendations).

Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.