



Code of Conduct – Governors

Contents

- 1. The seven principles of public life**
- 2. General principals**
- 3. Commitment**
- 4. Relationships**
- 5. Confidentiality**
- 6. Conduct**
- 7. Suspension and removal**
- 8. Declaration (to be signed)**

The Seven Principals of School Life

In 1994, at the request of the Prime Minister, the Nolan Committee set out seven principles of public life. These principles require public servants such as school Governors to ensure the highest standards of propriety in their public life. These principles provide the context of this Code of Conduct. They are as follows;

1. Selflessness
2. Integrity
3. Objectivity
4. Accountability
5. Openness
6. Honesty
7. Leadership

At Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery school the Governing Body set out the following policy based on these principles.

General Principles

As Governors at Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School we;

1. Strive to ensure that all our decisions are focused upon what are the best interests of the pupils and the school and be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of the school.
2. Recognise that the Headteacher is responsible for the implementation of policy, day to day management of the school and the implementation of the curriculum and respect this role.
3. Accept that all Governors have equal status and a common purpose.
4. Understand that no Governor has the legal responsibility to act individually, except when the Governing Body has given specific delegated authority to do so, and observe collective responsibility by supporting the corporate decisions of the Governing Body
5. Have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice in all areas of our work and to demonstrate a commitment to equality of opportunity in principle, policy and practice.
6. Have a duty to be mindful of any individual conflict of interest and ensure that we act in accordance with regulation and in a fair and objective manner.
7. Encourage open government and will observe proper protocols and procedures to achieve this.
8. Will, where appropriate, seek and consider information, advice and guidance to inform our decision making.
9. Will abide by and actively encourage all policies that safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

Commitment

- We acknowledge that accepting office as a Governor involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy.
- We will each involve ourselves actively in the work of the Governing Body, attend meetings regularly and accept our fair share of responsibilities, including service on committees and working groups.
- We will get to know the school well and take opportunities to involve ourselves in the life of the school.

- When we visit the school on Governing Body business we will agree visits in advance , ensure they have an agreed focus and comply with the Governor's visit policy and protocols the Governing Body has adopted.
- We will seek and participate in appropriate training and development activities and ensure that we develop and maintain our skills and knowledge.

Relationships

- We will strive to work co-operatively as a team, expressing views openly, courteously and respectfully.
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the Headteacher, staff, parents, local authority, other relevant agencies and the wider community.
- In so far as we have direct or delegated responsibility for staffing matters we will strive to fulfill all reasonable expectations of a good employer.

Confidentiality

- We will observe complete confidentiality in any matters where the Governing Body decides that it is necessary and in accordance with good governance, and specifically in respect of complaints and similar processes in order not to taint any investigation.
- We will exercise caution if a discussion of a potentially contentious issue affecting the school arises outside the Governing Body.

Conduct

- We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings.
- We will only speak or act on behalf of the Governing Body when we have been specifically authorised to do so. We recognise the need for the Chair to act on behalf of the Governing Body in urgent situations under the rules and protocols applying the Chair's action.
- We will ensure that our behavior and conduct outside the Governing Body , both personally and within our communities, will not bring the school into disrepute.

Suspension and Removal

- Suspension is considered as a last resort after seeking to resolve any difficulties or disputes in more constructive ways. We understand that any allegation of a material breach of this code of practice by any Governor shall be raised at a meeting of the Governing Body.
- If substantiated by the majority of Governors the breach of the code of practice shall be minuted and can lead to consideration of suspension from the Governing Body.

The Governing Body of Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School adopted this Code of Practice in June 2015. Each member of the Governing Body will be required to read and sign this document, typically on appointment. It will become part of the school policy review cycle and such will be reviewed at least every three years if not sooner if deemed necessary.

Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School
Governing Body
Code of Practice Declaration

I have read and understood the Governing Body Code of Practice document and make the following declaration;

As a member of the Governing Body at Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School I will always have the well – being of the children and the reputation of the school at heart. I will do all I can to be an ambassador for the school, publically supporting its aims, values and ethos. I will never say or do anything publically that would embarrass the school, the Governing Body, the Headteacher or the staff. I understand that a DBS check will be carried out every three years during my term of office.

Signed_____

Print name_____

Date_____

This declaration is valid during the Governors term of office and will be kept on file by the Clerk to the Governing Body.