

St Gregory's Primary Governing Board Membership and Terms of Reference

Reviewed and Adopted: 25.9.2019

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Governing Board Membership 2019/2020 Academic Year

Foundation (7)	End of Office
Rev Father Cownley	11/04/2023
Collette Lewis	24/04/2023
Aline Scotney	18/10/2021
Kathy McGuinness	25/10/2022
Andrew Potter	20/08/2023
VACANCY	
VACANCY	
Headteacher (1)	
Tom Boodell	01/09/2023
Staff (2)	End of Office
Lorraine Williams	12/09/2022
Chris Hancox	01/07/2023
Parent (2)	End of Office
Michelle Huggins	20/12/2022
Vacancy	

Chair: Andrew Potter

Vice Chair: K McGuinness

Meeting Dates 2019–2020

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Full Governing Board Start: 6pm	Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 6pm Wednesday 4th December 2019 at 6pm	Wednesday 18 th March 2020 at 6pm	Wednesday 8 th July 2020 at 6pm

Provisions Start: 5pm	Wednesday 27 th November 2019	Tuesday 3 rd March 2020 at 5pm	Wednesday 1 st July 2020 at 5pm
Outcomes Start 6.30pm	Wednesday 27 th November 2019	Tuesday 3 rd March 2020 at 6.30pm	Wednesday 1 st July 2020 at 6.30pm
Admissions Start: 8.30am	Wednesday 16 th October 2019 at 8.30am	Wednesday 26 th February 2020 at 8.30am	
Pay Committee Start: 5pm	Wednesday 16 th October 2019 9.30am (1 staff member only)		

Governors Statutory Responsibilities and Functions

In all types of schools, governing boards should have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

- a) **Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction,**
- b) **Holding the executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, the performance management of staff; and**
- c) **Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.** *(Extract from Governance Handbook March 2019)*

Governance Handbook/Competency Framework for Governance

Please refer to the Governance Handbook and Competency Framework for Governance published by the Department for Education. The latest versions are available online below:

[Governance Handbook March 2019](#)

[Competency Framework for Governance January 2017](#)

Academies Financial Handbook

The Academies Financial Handbook sets out the financial management, control and reporting requirements that apply to all academy trusts.

[Academies Financial Handbook 2019](#)

NB: Academy trusts completing financial statements for the period ending 31 August 2019 should refer to the 2018 edition of the handbook.

Review of committees and delegation

The governing board must review the committee structure, terms of reference for each committee and the membership of each committee on an annual basis.

Terms of Reference

The following committees established by the governing board comply with The School Governance (Role, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013.

The head teacher/principal can attend all meetings of any committee established by the governing board but in some instances this may only be in an advisory capacity. When an issue is being discussed which directly affects the head teacher/principal they must, as with any other governor in a similar position, declare an interest and physically withdraw from the meeting.

In maintained schools the quorum for a meeting of the full governing board and for any vote on any matter at such meeting, is one half (rounded up to a whole number) of the membership of the governing board at the time of the meeting **not including any vacant positions**. For academies and free schools refer to their articles of association for the quorum. In the event of equal votes the chair has the casting vote.

Committees

The legal minimum quorum for committee meetings is three voting governors. The quorum for committees will only include associate members where a voting right has been granted by the governing board.

In maintained schools the governing board can appoint associate members to serve on one or more committees of the board. Associate members can attend full board meetings but may be excluded from any part of a meeting where the business being considered concerns a member of school staff or an individual pupil. They can be appointed for a period of between one and four years and can be re-appointed at the end of their term. Associate members are not governors and they are not recorded in the instrument of government (Extracted from Governance Handbook March 2019 – Page 53, paragraph 45).

NB: Associate members are not governors and therefore do not have a vote in full governing board decisions, but may be given a vote on decisions made by committees to which they are appointed.

No vote on any matter can be taken at a committee meeting unless the majority of members present are members of the governing board.

The appointed clerk will undertake the clerking of the committees.

The committee minutes shall be included as an agenda item for consideration/information at the next meeting of the full governing board where appropriate.

All decisions made by committees with delegated powers should be reported to the next full meeting of the governing board. If the minutes are not finalised a brief statement of the conclusions reached should be given.

The chair of the committee will be appointed at the first full governing board/committee meeting of the academic year. Governors who are employed by the school are not eligible to be appointed as chair.

Committees will have delegated powers to approve policies as relevant to that committee.

The governing board cannot delegate any functions relating to:

- The constitution of the governing board (unless otherwise provided by the constitution regulations),
- The appointment or removal of the chair and vice chair/clerk,
- The appointment or removal of governors,
- The suspension of governors,
- The delegation of functions and establishment of committees,
- Change of school name or status,
- Salary range for the head teacher/principal & deputy/vice principal.

Provisions Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

Finance:

- Review/approve all policies relevant to finance and roles of the committee.
- Approve the annual budget and present it to the full governing board for ratification.
- Review the actual expenditure and monitoring statements at least once a term.
- Receive & review financial projections.
- Approve expenditure and virements of sums over **£1,000**, sums below that amount are delegated to the Head Teacher/Principal.
- Conform to the Schools Financial Value Standards in Schools (maintained schools only).
- Assess the financial progress towards achieving the objectives in the school improvement plan.

- Review of leases and contracts – including traded services.
- Ensure Best Value principles apply.
- Review the financial implications on the budget of the pay and conditions document.
- Receive the annual accounts and certificate of audit of the school fund account and other voluntary funds held within school.
- Assess the schools insurance cover to ensure that it provides adequate protection against risks.
- Review and approve internal financial procedures.
- Ensure LA/academy financial procedures are complied with. This is to include:
 - Account Summary Report (or equivalent)
- Ensure requirements for the tendering process are followed and comply with the EU Procurement Threshold. The tender limit for the European Threshold currently being £181,302 for supplies and services, and £4,551,413 for works.
- Obtain quotations with a view to placing contracts/orders, once the relevant committee has drawn up a specification.
- Writing off bad debts. (Academies only)
- Disposal of fixed assets. (Academies only)
- Approval of in year budget changes. (Academies only)
- Ensure requirements for the tendering process are followed and comply with the EU Procurement Threshold. The tender limit for the European Threshold currently being £181,302 for supplies and services, and £4,551,413 for works.
- Obtain quotations with a view to placing contracts/orders, once the relevant committee has drawn up a specification.

Staffing:

- Review/approve all policies relevant to staffing and roles of the committee.
- Consider applications from staff for variation to contract (secondments, early retirements, leave of absence, reduced working hours etc).
- Ensure all personnel records are held securely.
- Review the staffing structure of the school annually ensuring that it meets the requirements of the curriculum and is in line with the school improvement plan.
- Review staff work/life balance, working conditions and well-being, including the monitoring of absence.
- Implement the appraisal policy and monitor teacher appraisal process.
- Equal Opportunities.
- Establish and maintain rolling programme for Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) Checks.
- Staff training and CPD.

Premises Health & Safety:

- Review the health and safety policy on an annual basis, amend, develop and review any other health and safety related policies or procedures.
- Establish and review an accessibility plan.
- Review e-safety policy and procedures.
- Receive Health and safety audit, and monitor any action plans that come out of the audit.
- Receive a regular report on accident statistics, near misses, incidents of violence or aggression and any RIDDOR incidents.
- Consider any reports provided by inspectors of the enforcing authority under Health and Safety at work Act or any other relevant enforcement authority.
- Comply with current fire safety legislation and regulations: 'level one' fire risk assessment should be carried out by the school on an annual basis; 'level 2' or technical fire risk assessment is reviewed annually.
- Ensure risk assessments are carried out and reviewed on a regular basis.
- Review and approve upcoming offsite activities, ensuring that health and safety planning and risk assessments have been undertaken for them.
- Ensure Fire risk assessment is carried out and reviewed annually, and any recommendations identified will be transferred to an actions plan, which will be monitored by governors to ensure completion.
- Ensure fire log book is maintained and updated.
- Inspect the school site and buildings to enable maintenance and improvement, including security (Site visit). The inspection to be documented any actions monitored.
- Ensure building related maintenance checks have been carried out at appropriate intervals and actions are monitored until completion. This will include but not limited to:
 - Electronic testing – PAT testing
 - Asbestos (where applicable)
 - Annual gas service
 - Glassing risk assessment
 - Ladder log
 - Playground equipment and gym inspection
 - Lifting equipment
 - Local exhaust ventilation (where applicable)
 - Legionella risk assessment and relevant checks
- Ensure premise log book is being maintained and the premise manager and deputy have attended relevant health and safety training.
- Governors need to be satisfied that contractors do not pose a health and safety risk whilst on the school premise and should therefore have a system in place to ensure contractors are managed whilst carrying out work on the school premise. The system should identify relevant health and safety information required prior to a contractor

coming on site and the process to be followed whilst on site. There should be a procedure for commissioning contractors.

- Consideration should be given to any health, safety and welfare implications posed by new equipment or circumstances.
- Receive reports and audits from health and safety representatives (to include caretaking and cleaning), actions identified should be monitored to completion.
- Health and safety self-monitoring return.
- Monitor the health and safety training that staff and governors have undertaken and plan any future training required.
- Monitor all safeguarding procedures.
- Keep up to date on any changes in health and safety legislation that may have an impact for the school.
- Review communications and publicity relating to health and safety in the school and where necessary recommend any improvements or changes, how information is communicated and made available within the school.

Any item referred by the full governing board

Membership

K McGuinness, A Scotney, Father Cownley, M Huggins, C Keane, A Potter and T Boodell

Chair of Committee

C Keane

Clerk

Catherine Evans

Outcomes Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

- Review/approve all policies relevant to the curriculum and roles of the committee

Achievement:

- Review information on school performance to include ASP & OFSTED data dashboard.
- Monitor and review school targets.
- Monitor and review in year progress for all year groups and all groups of pupils.
- Compare school performance against national data.
- Reporting to parents according to statutory requirements.
- Monitor achievement for all groups of pupils (inc. pupil premium).
- Monitor pupils work and carry out pupil conversations.
- Monitor school target setting systems and how this is reported to parents.

Teaching and Learning:

- Review data published by DfE ensuring the school is meeting standards.

- Ensure support & action plans are in place for all teachers who are not at least good.
- Monitor and review quality of teaching across the school.
- Monitor teaching for groups of pupils (inc. pupil premium).
- Monitor intervention groups for all groups of pupils.
- Monitor homework arrangements.

Curriculum:

- Ensure the school is meeting national curriculum requirements and review the curriculum policy statement ensuring it meets pupils' needs.
- Monitor and review the curriculum with a focus on basic skills.
- Monitor skills coverage of curriculum in all subjects.
- Parental engagement.
- Review and update SEF (self-evaluation form).
- Monitor and review school improvement plan.
- Monitor how school are developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Behaviour and attendance:

- Review behaviour and attendance polices.
- Monitor school behaviour
- Review and monitor attendance data against school and national targets.

Any item referred by the full governing board

Membership

A Scotney, L Williams, Father Cownley, C Hancox, A Potter and T Boodell

Chair of committee

TBC

Clerk

Catherine Evans

Admissions

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

- Determine offers of places for the annual admissions round as per the school's admissions policy.
- Determine offers of places to 'mid-term' applicants as per the school's admissions policy.

- Review the governing board’s admissions rules and make any recommendations for change to the whole governing board.
- Ensure publication of the school’s admissions arrangements in the school prospectus.

Taken from Schools Admissions Code – statutory guidance 2014:

*Admission authorities **must** allocate places on the basis of their determined admission arrangements only, and a decision to offer or refuse admission **must not** be made by one individual in an admission authority. Where the school is its own admission authority the whole governing body, or an admissions committee established by the governing body, **must** make such decisions.*

Membership

K Mcguinness, Father Cownley, A Scotney, T Boodell

Chair

TBC

Clerk

Catherine Evans

Staffing Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board for hearing:

- Staff grievance and discipline (in line with school policies)
- Staff dismissal, redundancy and redeployment
- Staff capability/management of absence

Membership

- To be made up of members who have no awareness of the original incident and are not known personally to the member of staff

Minimum of three members required

Chair of Committee

To be elected at each meeting

Clerk

Pupil Discipline Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

- Review the use of exclusions within school, including exclusions of more than 15 school days and exclusions which would result in a pupil missing the opportunity to take a public exam
- Receive and consider any representations lodged by parents of pupils who have been excluded for a fixed term or permanently
- Comply with exclusion procedures in accordance with the LA & DfE guidance

Any item referred by the full governing board

Membership

- To be made up of members who have no awareness of the original incident and are not known personally to the appellant parents or pupils

Minimum of three members required

Chair of Committee	To be elected at each meeting
Clerk	

Complaints Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

- At the relevant stage hear any complaint made under the school complaints procedures

Any item referred by the full governing board

Membership

- To be made up of members who have no awareness of the original incident and are not known personally to the complainant

Minimum of three members required

Chair of Committee	To be elected at each meeting
Clerk	

Appeals Committee

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board for hearing appeals with regard to:

- Pay
- Redundancy
- Staff grievance
- Leave of absence – if appropriate
- Staff dismissal
- Any Item referred by the full governing board

When dealing with an appeal the committee should be equal to or greater than the original committee that made the decision

Membership

- To be made up of members who have no awareness of the original incident and are not known personally to the appellant

Minimum of three members required

Chair of Committee	To be elected at each meeting
Clerk	

Pay Committee (can be delegated to a relevant committee)

The committee has responsibility delegated by the governing board to:

- Undertake functions in relation to appraisal and pay progression as determined in the pay policy

Committee to meet once per year in the autumn term

Membership

K McGuinness, Father Cownley and A Potter

Chair of Committee	K McGuinness
Clerk	C Evans

Special Responsibility Governors

Safeguarding/Child Protection/Prevent Governor *	Mrs Lewis
SEND Governor	A Scotney
Target Setting Governor	Mr Potter
Safer Recruitment Governor	Father Cownley/Mrs McGuinness

R.E.	Mrs McGuinness
Pupil/PE Governor	VACANT
English Governor	Mr Potter
Maths Governor	Father Cownley
Parent Engagement Co-Ordinator	Mrs Williams
Health and Safety Governor	VACANT
SMSC	Father Cownley
Curriculum & Standards Governor	Mr Potter
E-Safety/Social Media Governors	Mrs Lewis/Mr Potter

**In accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019 and Working together to safeguard children 'Governing bodies and proprietors should have a senior board level (or equivalent) lead to take leadership responsibility for their schools or college's safeguarding arrangements.' The DfE have confirmed that this can be a member of staff, but that person must be a member of the board as well (for example, the headteacher or a staff governor) and that this must be a separate person from the DSL, in order to ensure there is sufficient challenge to the organisation's safeguarding arrangements and performance.*

Items Delegated to an Individual(s)

Delegation of expenditure and virements

That sums below £5,000 be delegated to the head teacher/principal.

Disposal of surplus stock

Delegated to Head Teacher/Principal with the approval of the chair of the governing board.

Delegation of Suspension

That suspension be delegated to the chair in instances where the head teacher/principal is the person in question or involved in the case. That the chair be given delegated powers to lift the suspension after taking advice from LA Human Resources or any other organisation providing the service to the school.

Approval for Expenditure

The chair of governors or chair of finance committee be given approval for expenditure above the set limit prior to the finance committee meeting – **only in cases of emergency**

Appointment of Staff (ensure no appointment is carried out by one person alone)

Lunchtime/Cleaning/Administration Support Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher • SCOS Board member
Educational Support Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher • Post Line Manager
Office Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher • 2 Governors • Member of the MAC Board
Teaching Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher • 1 Governor
Senior Leadership Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher • 2 Governors • Member of the MAC board
Middle Leaders & Site Manager <i>* Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher appointments must be ratified by the relevant body.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher • 1 Governor