



## FEDERATION OF SAVILE TOWN CE (C) & THORNHILL LEES CE(VC) INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S PARTNERSHIP POLICY 2023

*'At our school we celebrate our faith diversity and provide a safe environment where our children are happy to learn. We are kind, caring and respectful to others. We aim to inspire future generations of our school and community to become lifelong learners.'*

### **Introduction:**

The governing body of The Federation of Savile Town & Thornhill Lees Infant and Nursery Schools work in partnership with schools' aims to have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the schools.

### **Principles and Procedures:**

#### **General**

- We have responsibility for determining: monitoring and keeping under review the broad policies, plans and procedures within which the school operates.
- We recognise that the headteacher is responsible for the implementation of policy, day- to day management of the school and the implementation of the curriculum.
- We accept that all governors have equal status, and although appointed by different groups (i.e. parents, staff, LA) our overriding concern will be the welfare of the school as a whole.
- We have no legal authority to act individually, except when the governing body has given us delegated authority to do so.
- We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice, and in so far as we have responsibility for staff, we will fulfil all that is expected of a good employer.
- We will encourage open discussion and shall be seen doing so.
- We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect other schools.

#### **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 regularly, and accept our fair share of responsibilities, including being part of committees or working groups.
- We will get to know the school well and respond to opportunities to involve ourselves in school activities when possible.
- We will consider our individual and collective needs for training and development.

#### **Relationships**

- We will strive to work as a team
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the head, staff and parents, the LA and other relevant agencies and the community.

#### **Confidentiality**

- We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings, but accept collective responsibility for all decisions made by the governing body or its delegated agents. This means that we will not speak against majority decisions in public or private outside the governing body.
- We will only speak or act on behalf of the governing body when we have been specifically authorised to do so, eg. If approached by the media, this will then be the Chair of Governors or nominated representative.

- In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school we will follow procedures established by the governing body.
- Our visits will be undertaken within the framework established by the governing body and agreed with the headteacher.
- In discharging our duties we will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our school.

### **Committee Structure**

The following matters may NOT be delegated:

- Appointment of the Head and Deputy Head
- Holding a meeting at least once a term
- Co-opting or appointing governors
- Agreement of targets for different phases
- Electing the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson
- Ensuring the provision of RE and daily collective worship
- Setting a policy on charges and remissions
- Agreeing the general principles of pupil behaviour
- Approving the budget
- Appointment and terms of reference of the committees

Even for those items, a group may still consider the issues and make recommendations. The full Governing Body must, however, make the decisions.

To ensure the efficient and effective governance, the Governing Body has delegated some responsibilities to committees. Each committee has a particular composition and remit, with clear purposes and procedures. They will either take decisions as and when appropriate or make recommendations to the full Body for them to accept or reject.

The Governors' legal duties and responsibilities are covered by the committees.

(For further details see relevant sections in the School Development Plan three year summary and the Terms of Reference agreed for each committee).