

Parent Governor role information and eligibility

Trust Information

Parent Governors are elected by parents/guardians of our students and serve for 2 years. Members of the Local Governing Body of the Sixth Form Colleges Trust. Members of the LGB are both governors and charity trustees, and, collectively they are responsible for developing the strategic priorities of the College and for promoting high standards of educational achievement. The management of the college is the responsibility of the Principal and the Senior Management Team. Governors work closely with senior managers in the best interests of the College.

The Sixth Form Colleges Trust has ultimate responsibility for the College and it is the responsibility of the Trustees to ensure that the Trust achieves its mission and vision. The Local Governing Body (LGB) for The Sixth Form College, Colchester, is a committee of the Trust. The Trust was newly formed (September 2024).

The LGB is made up of up to 20 members, including parent, community, student and staff representatives. They come from a variety of backgrounds with the skills and expertise required to ensure that the LGB functions as effectively as possible and in the best interests of the College and its stakeholders.

Members of the LGB are also charity trustees and have six main duties under charity law. These are to;

- ensure the LGB carries out its purpose for the public benefit
- comply with the LGB's Scheme of delegation document and other laws and regulations that apply to the Trust
- act in the LGB/Trusts best interests
- ensure the College's resources are managed responsibly
- act with reasonable care and skill
- ensure the LGB/Trust is accountable

The **core functions** of the LGB include:

- Developing the strategic priorities of the College, which will be in alignment with the shared vision, ethos and overall strategy of the Trust
- Quality of educational provision and performance
- Oversight of College leadership and management
- Local financial and resource management
- Community engagement
- Safeguarding

In addition, governors also commit to follow the Nolan '**7 principles of public life**' Which are the ethical standards expected of people in public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

Currently the LGB operates a system of 'Lead Governors' where governors focus on key areas of responsibilities which cover all aspects of college life such as;

- Safeguarding including child protection
- Health and Safety

- Finance
- Curriculum, Data and Educational Quality
- Pastoral incl. Special Educational Needs (SEND)
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Strategy and Skills
- Equality, Diversity, Inclusion
- Careers and Destinations

Appointment

Parent Governors serve a term of 2 year and will be required to confirm their eligibility to be a governor and trustee. You only need to be a parent at the time of election and may continue to serve even if your child/ren leave the college during your term of office. All governors, are expected to abide by governance policies and rules relating to confidentiality and data protection.

The Role of a Parent Governor

Parent governors are there to bring a parental/carer perspective to the issues discussed (you are not there to speak 'on behalf' of the parent body). Parent Governors play a very important role in helping to ensure that the parent view is considered and heard at the heart of the Trusts decision-making process. are no different from other governors in terms of voting or other rights

Parent Governors are full members of the LGB and are expected to participate as follows:

- Attending LGB meetings
- Reading meeting papers and reports in advance of meetings, treating them as confidential
- Taking link Governor roles as appropriate
- Putting forward their views as a parent at the College,

LGB meetings

The LGB currently meets 7 times per year. These take place on site (with the option of remote connection) as follows

- 3 in Autumn term
- 2 in Spring Term
- 2 in Summer Term

In addition, governors are expected to attend the college for Governor Visit days of which there are currently 2 per year.

Eligibility criteria.

Governors will need to meet the following eligibility criteria.

- agree to and have a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check (organised by the Clerk to the Governors once a governor is elected)
- not be disqualified from working with children or be barred from any regulated activity relating to children

- agree to declare any relevant pecuniary/financial interests to ensure impartiality
- not have been declared bankrupt
- not be the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order
- not have been disqualified from holding office as a governor
- not have been disqualified from being a company director and/or a charity trustee
- not have been removed as a trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement in administration of the charity
- not have been convicted of a criminal offence (excluding any spent convictions, or any offences for which the maximum sentence was a fine).

Support for Governors

All governors are supported by the Clerk to the LGB and managers in the collage. Induction and introduction to the College and work of the Corporation will be given to the elected parent governor. This is an unpaid, voluntary role but Governors are able to claim appropriate expenses