

THE ROLE OF STAFF GOVERNORS

Staff governors are elected by the staff of the school to represent them on the governing body, and bring with them professional experience and knowledge.

They share the views and where, appropriate, the concerns of staff with the governing body and act as a conduit between staff and the governing body.

Staff governors are not delegates and are not obliged to get voting instructions on matters to be decided, nor to vote in accordance with the staff body's views.

It is, however, important that staff governors can give a fair and accurate representation of staff opinion on matters of importance, but that they vote according to their own conscience and with the well being of the school foremost in mind.

In all other respects, staff governors have the same role as every other governor, i.e. together with other members of the governing body, they

- are responsible for the strategic management of the school
- oversee the school's aims, values and ethos
- promote high standards of educational attainment
- set targets for pupil achievement
- ensure compliance with the national curriculum
- take general responsibility for the conduct of the school
- manage the school's budget, including deciding how many staff will work there and their pay
- participate in the appointment of the leadership group
- regulate school conduct and discipline.

Like other governors, staff governors do not have the power to take action on behalf of the governing body unless they have been asked to do so by the governing body.

Most governing bodies keep confidential items to a minimum. However, all governors need to bear in mind that indiscreet talk about what has been said at a governing body meeting can cause problems, and care needs to be taken when reporting back to other members of staff on the outcome of meetings.

In general, just like all governors, staff governors should make sure that they never discuss individual children or adults outside the governing body if they have gained information about them as a result of being a governor.