

Appendix B

Foundation Governor Role Description

‘We invite you to share the vision, making education that is deeply Christian, serving the common good, a priority now and in the years to come’.

The Church of England Vision for Education 2016

All governors in a Church of England school are responsible for ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by:

- setting the school’s Christian vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding the headteacher to account for the flourishing and educational performance of the school and its pupils
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

However, Foundation Governors are also valuable and important to the ministry of the Church, providing the links between the parish, school and diocese and have a specific legal obligation to promote the Christian character of the school and ensure nothing is done to weaken or undermine it.

Specific responsibilities of the role:

- To be committed to the dignity and ultimate worth of each person rooted in each being created in the image of God and loved by God.
- To serve on the governing body for a term of four years or, where stipulated in the school’s instrument of government, three years, once appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education.
- To complete recommended Diocesan training to be equipped for the role.
- To encourage healthy partnerships between the school and the Diocesan Board of Education.
- To actively promote the church and school as hospitable communities to sustain mutually supportive links between the school, local church, and the wider community. This could include inviting the head teacher to speak to the PCC/MC regarding school life/needs/issues as well as having a dedicated section in parish magazine about the school or how the church can deliver support to schools or activities to engage with families and young people such as after school clubs.
- To report regularly to the PCC/Mission Community on the life of the school and ask that they are regularly prayed for by the church/mission community.

Appendix B (cont...)

- To put forward a Christian perspective in discussions during governing body meetings. This includes actively promoting guidance documents produced by the Diocesan Board of Education to support both schools and governance.
- To be active in monitoring Collective Worship to ensure it takes place daily, is Christian in nature, invitational, engaging for and regularly led by pupils.
- To understand the requirements for Religious Education in a Church of England school.
- To become familiar with SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) and be willing to contribute during the inspection process.
- To ensure any 'areas for development' resulting from inspection are addressed.
- To keep abreast of up to date national and local church school guidance, policy and practice.
- To ensure there is at least one Foundation governor on any committee, including dealing with head teacher performance management. Where the school is a VA school, Foundation governors should normally be the majority on committees.
- To ensure Foundation governor representation on head teacher recruitment panels. Where the school is a VA school these should be the majority.