

Birmingham City Council – Model Code of Conduct

Old model – September 2015

New model – September 2016

Changes

Old one - To keep the Governing Body refreshed and revitalised BCC supports strict enforcement of the NGA position that **all governors should be restricted to two terms of office (eight years) at the same school**. It encourages long serving governors to use their skills and experience to support other schools and will not nominate individuals to serve as Local Authority governors on governing bodies where they have served for eight years or more.

New one - BCC agrees with the Department for Education (DfE) that with effective succession planning in place, it can be beneficial for strong governors and chairs in particular to move on to another school after a reasonable time (e.g. two terms of office). It encourages governing boards to adopt the position of the NGA that all governors should be restricted to two terms of office (eight years) at the same school. BCC will only nominate individuals to serve as Local Authority governors on governing boards where they have served for eight years or more when the governing board has demonstrated that there are exceptional circumstances.

Old one - BCC supports strict enforcement of the position taken by the NGA that **the Chair should hold office for no more than six years at the same school**.

New one - BCC encourages governing boards to adopt the position taken by the NGA that **the Chair should hold office for no more than six years at the same school**.

Old one - 3.4) Remain focused on our three core strategic functions of:

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction by:

- setting the vision, values, and objectives for the school;
- agreeing the school improvement strategy with priorities and targets;
- meeting statutory duties.

Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff by:

- appointing the Headteacher;
- monitoring progress towards targets;
- performance managing the Headteacher;
- engaging with stakeholders;
- contributing to school self-evaluation.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent by:

- setting the budget;
- monitoring spending against the budget;
- ensuring value for money is obtained;
- ensuring risks to the organisation are managed

New one - 3.4) Remain focused on our three core strategic functions of:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school.

□ Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Old one - 3.10) Abide by majority decisions, except those that conflict with the Nolan principles of public office, the three core functions of a governing body or its role in ensuring the safety of pupils

We acknowledge that differences of opinion may arise in discussion of issues but when a majority decision of the Governing Body prevails, it should be accepted. At the same time we will confront malpractice by speaking up against and bringing to the attention of the relevant authorities those decisions and actions that conflict with the Nolan principles of public office, the three core functions of the Governing Body and its role in ensuring the safety of pupils.

New one - 3.10) Acknowledge majority decisions, except those that conflict with the Nolan principles of public office, the core functions of the governing board and which may fail to ensure the safety of pupils

We will confront malpractice by speaking up against and bringing to the attention of the relevant authorities' decisions and actions that conflict with the Nolan principles of public office and place pupils at risk.

Old one - 3.11) Observe confidentiality

When asked to do so by the Governing Body, especially in relation to matters concerning individual staff, pupils or parents. Although decisions reached at Governing Body meetings are normally made public through the minutes, the discussions on which decisions are based should be regarded as confidential, therefore we will exercise caution at all times when discussions regarding school business arise outside Governing Body meetings.

New one - 3.11) Respect the duty of confidentiality to the school, any member of staff or pupil at the school

When asked to do so by the Governing Board especially in relation to matters concerning individual staff, pupils or parents.