

LAT GOVERNOR JOB DESCRIPTION

The key purpose of LAT Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) is to help LAT Schools provide the best possible education and opportunities for pupils within the ethos of ‘excellence and equity for all children in a Christian context’. They do this by making decisions collectively, and in collaboration with the LAT Board of Directors, by:

- **Setting the school’s values, vision and strategic aims which involves**
 - agreeing plans and policies,
 - helping to set and maintain the broad framework within which the Headteacher and the staff should run the school, and
 - making creative use of resources;
- **Monitoring and evaluating performance which involves**
 - acting as a critical friend to the Head Teacher, to support and challenge them in managing the school
 - asking the Headteacher and, where appropriate, school staff challenging questions;
- **Ensuring that the school is accountable to the children and parents it serves, to its local community, to those who fund and maintain it, as well as to the staff it employs**
 - When tricky issues arise, the accountability to what is best for the children overrides the other priorities

Local Governing bodies have a strategic remit and their duties are outlined in their Scheme of Delegation. Their duties may include:

- Setting and monitoring the overall budget for the school
- Deciding on the staffing structure to ensure the national curriculum is taught to all pupils
- Setting targets for pupil achievement and attendance
- Publishing national test and exam results
- Comparing the performance of their school to similar schools
- Receiving information about the quality of teaching in the school
- Having a published strategy for dealing with parental complaints and concerns
- Ensuring health and safety issues are addressed
- Asking challenging questions
- Consulting the Head Teacher and LAT Board of Directors when making decisions
- Developing some school policies and procedures
- Considering the repair and maintenance of school buildings
- Considering the use of school premises outside school hours
- Appointing Link Governors to oversee key aspects of the school such as, (but not limited to), a curriculum area, Special Education Needs (SEN), Safeguarding, Attendance, Pupil Premium

Key Skills / Experience / Knowledge Required Within a Local Governing Body

- Ability to work within a team
- Communication skills
- Data analysis
- Financial management / accountancy
- Problem solving
- Knowledge of the local community
- Influencing skills
- Safeguarding
- Handling complaints, grievances or appeals
- Legal
- Experience of governance in any sector
- Self-evaluation
- Staff recruitment
- Performance Management
- Strategic planning
- Risk assessment
- Negotiation and mediation skills
- Special Education Needs
- Teaching & pedagogy
- Procurement / Purchasing

LAT Governors Are:

- **Committed to**
 - raising aspirations, expectations and standards of achievement in LAT schools
 - being available to attend* and contribute to meetings and workings of a LAT school's Local Governing body
 - promoting and supporting equal opportunities for all members of the LAT school community
 - ensuring LAT schools provide pupils with an educational experience that reflects the ethos of 'excellence and equity for all children in a Christian context'
- **Willing to**
 - serve as a governor for a period of up to four years
 - contribute and share specific skills, knowledge and/or experience to help the school provide the best possible education for its pupils
 - oversee a key aspect of the school such as SEN, a curriculum subject, safeguarding etc as a link governor
 - visit the school in their capacity as a link governor, meet with relevant lead manager to develop their understanding of how their 'area' works within the school for the benefit of the pupils and observe the school in action
 - undertake training identified by the local governing body's skills audit and keep themselves up-to-date on educational matters
 - provide objectivity in debate and decision-making
 - add further and different perspectives to LAT school matters

**LAT Governors attendance at meetings will be assessed and reported on at the end of each Academic Year*