



SPARKEN HILL
ACADEMY

Governors Code of Conduct

Adopted: December 2015

Reviewed: Annually

Reviewed: June 2022

The Principal and Governing Body of Sparken Hill Academy take very seriously their responsibilities and we have agreed the following Governor Code of Conduct.

At Sparken Hill Academy, we recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, the Principal, staff and the wider school community including the Governing Body. As a partnership, our governors understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. We continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school and their child's education, and governors to work in supportive partnership with the school.

The purpose of the Governor Code of Conduct is to provide a common understanding of broad principles and procedures by which the Governing Body and individual governors will operate.

This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Main Roles of the Governing Body

We expect governors to: -

- **Provide a strategic view**

The Governing Body should help to set and keep under review, the broad framework within which the Principal and staff should run the Academy.

- **Act as a critical friend**

The Governing Body should provide the Principal and staff with support, advice and information, drawing on its members' knowledge and experience.

- **Ensure accountability**

The Governing Body is responsible for ensuring good quality education in the Academy. The Principal and staff report to the governing body on the school's performance. The Governing body has a right to discuss, question and refine proposals – while always respecting the professional roles of the Principal and other staff, and their responsibilities for the management of the Academy. In its turn, the governing body are accountable to parents and the wider local community for the school's overall performance.

The Governing Body are a group. Individual governors have no power except where the whole Governing Body have delegated a specific power to that individual or in special cases where emergency action is needed.

Relationship with the Principal

The Governing Body has a general responsibility for seeing that the Academy is run effectively acting with the framework set by legislation. However, the day to day management of the Academy is the Principal's responsibility. The Principal will discuss all the main aspects of school life with the governing body and expect them to offer general guidance.

Information through committee and full meetings of the Governing Body ensure governors have enough information to fulfil their responsibility for deciding strategy, making sure that good quality education is provided and acting as a "critical friend".

Expected Governor Conduct

Any Code of Practice adopted by the Governing Body should be fully discussed by, and in the ownership of all members of the Governing Body.

Accepting office as a governor involves serious commitment and a fair share of responsibility.

Governors will get to know the school well; develop effective working relationships with each other, the Principal, staff and parents; and will strive to work as a team.

All governors have equal status (although appointed by different groups); have no authority to act individually (unless given delegated powers to do so by the full governing body). The governing body is a corporate body.

Confidentiality regarding all matters deemed to be confidential by the governing body will be observed; and prudence observed if a potentially contentious issue affecting the school arises outside of the governing body.

Any person wishing to make a complaint will be referred to the complaints procedure as set out in the Academy.

We recognise that the Principal is responsible for the internal management and control of the school; for advising on and implementing the governing body's strategic framework.

Our visits to school will be undertaken within the framework established by the governing body, in agreement with the Principal and staff.

We recognise that the role of the governing body is to take a largely strategic role in the running of the school; including setting up a strategic framework, setting its aims and objectives; setting policies and targets for achieving the objectives and the monitoring and reviewing thereof.

An Induction Process will be implemented for all new governors and an experienced governor will act as a mentor.

We will respect each other's views and allow all to speak within the meeting;

working together for the good of the school, pupils, staff and the wider community; mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop both the reputation and ethos of Sparken Hill Academy.

Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents, staff and governors at the school on Facebook or other social media sites will not be tolerated.

We trust that all parents and carers will support the governing body with the implementation of this code and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

The Governor Code of Conduct was approved at a full Governing Body meeting and signed by the Principal and Chair of Governors.

Following approval by The Governing Body, the policy will be included on the school website and in the School's Policies, Procedures and Plans folder held in the school's main entrance or office. It is available on request from the office.

Signed: Principal

Signed: Chair of Governors

Date of Review