



GOVERNANCE

Code of Conduct For Governors

Individual members of the Governing body share equally the responsibilities and accountabilities of the Corporation. Each Governor is asked to subscribe to this Code of Conduct based on the Seven Principles of Public Life (attached).

A governor should:

- (a) Support the aims and objectives of the College and promote the interests of the College and its students in the wider community.
- (b) Work co-operatively with other governors in the best interests of the College.
- (c) Acknowledge that differences of opinion may arise in discussion of issues but, when a majority decision of the governing body prevails, it should be supported.
- (d) Base his or her view on matters before the governing body on an honest assessment of the available facts, unbiased by partisan or representative views.
- (e) Acknowledge that as an individual governor, he or she has no legal authority outside the meetings of the governing body and its committees.
- (f) Understand that an individual governor does not have the right, other than through the chairman and governing body's agreement, to make statements or express opinions on behalf of the governors.
- (g) Resist any temptation or outside pressure to use the position of governor to benefit himself or herself or other individuals or agencies.
- (h) Declare openly and immediately any personal conflict of interest arising from a matter before the governors or from any other aspect of governorship.
- (i) Respect the confidentiality of those items of business, which the governing body decides from time to time should remain confidential.
- (j) Take or seek opportunities to enhance his or her effectiveness as a governor through participation in training and development programmes and by increasing his or her knowledge of the College.
- (k) Give priority, as far as practicable, to attendance at meetings of the governing body and its committees.
- (l) Have regard to his or her broader responsibilities as a governor of a public institution, including the need to promote public accountability for the actions and performance of the governing body.

The Seven Principles of Public Life

Selflessness

Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.