



THE GOVERNING BODY OF DARRICK WOOD SCHOOL

OUR PROTOCOL FOR WORKING TOGETHER

We accept responsibility for:

- determining the aims and values of the School;
- monitoring and keeping under review the broad policies, plans and procedures within which the School operates.
- ensuring local accountability, and
- insisting that the best interests of all pupils, students and staff are central to our decision-making.

Our Common Purpose

This is expressed in our support for the School's mission statement and its corporate goals:

- To provide the highest quality of teaching and learning.
- To be a school which children and their parents are eager to choose (customer goal).
- To provide all pupils with the appropriate qualifications, skills and values to equip them for life (curriculum goal).
- To take pride in the School and feel responsible for its success (community goal).
- To strive for the highest possible standards in all aspects of school life (quality goal).

General

- We recognise that the Head Teacher is responsible for the implementation of policy, day-to-day management of the School and the implementation of the curriculum.
- We recognise and value the different perspectives of Governors. We accept that all Governors have equal status and are representatives, not delegates, of different interest groups. These groups have a shared concern; the welfare of all the pupils and students in the School.
- With the exception of the Chair when urgent action is required, we have no legal authority to act individually, except when the Governing Body has given delegated authority to do so.
- We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice, for example with regard to differences in ethnicity, religion and cultural background, and in so far as we have responsibility for staff, we will fulfil the expectations of a good employer.
- We recognise that we are accountable and will encourage open governance and effective communication.
- We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect other schools.

Commitment

- We acknowledge that accepting office as a Governor involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy.
- We will each involve ourselves actively in the work of the Governing Body, attend regularly and accept our fair share of responsibilities, including service on committees or working groups.
- We will get to know the School well and respond to opportunities to involve ourselves in School activities.
- We will consider seriously our individual and collective needs for training and development.

Relationships

- We will strive to work as a team.
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the Head Teacher, staff and parents, the LEA and other relevant agencies and the local community.

Confidentiality

- We will observe confidentiality when required to do so by the Governing Body, especially regarding matters concerning individual staff or students.
- We recognise that some information we receive as Governors is not confidential but may be sensitive. We will abide by the proper means of disseminating this information to the School community.
- We will exercise the greatest prudence if a discussion of a potentially contentious issue affecting the School arises outside the Governing Body.

Conduct

- We will encourage the open expression of views at meetings, but accept collective responsibility for all decisions made by the Governing Body or its delegated agents. This means that we will not speak out against majority decisions in public or private outside the Governing Body.
- We will only speak on behalf of the Governing Body if we have been specifically authorised to do so.
- In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the School we will follow the procedures established by the Governing Body.
- Our visits to School will be undertaken within the framework established by the Governing Body and agreed with the Head Teacher.
- In discharging our duties we will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of our School.