

Guidelines for the Appointment of Foundation Governors

Listed below are some brief guidelines that schools and PCCs should consider when discussing the nomination of foundation governors. These guidelines may be used to frame the conversation with prospective foundation governors as set out in the [Diocese of Gloucester Foundation Governor Appointment and Re-appointment Process](#).

Please note these guidelines apply to foundation governors being nominated to serve on maintained school governing boards, academy trust boards and academy trust local governing boards.

- A regular worshipper at either the local parish church or another Christian church
- Able to support the principles underlying the trust deed and Christian distinctiveness of the school in accordance with the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Acknowledges the responsibility to uphold the faiths and beliefs of the Church of England within the school
- Understands the purpose of the role is to secure that the religious character of the school is preserved and developed as set out for maintained schools in the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 Part 2 Regulation 9 and for academies in the academy trust's articles of association
- Has the skills and experience to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school
- Has an interest in the school and the welfare of the pupils and staff
- Is able to understand and consider issues facing the school without bias
- Is able to separate the affairs of the parish from the affairs of the school
- Is able to observe confidentiality
- Is willing to make the responsibility of being a governor of the school a priority
- Has the capacity to attend governors' meetings, serve on committees and undertake monitoring activities
- Is willing to keep informed and up-to-date by visiting the school, reading reports and by undertaking training

With high aspiration for excellence, we are passionate for all within our family of schools to experience God's love in a culture of care, dignity and hope.

Please also note:

- Foundation governors must be at least 18 years old at the time of appointment – this is a legal requirement.
- There is no upper age limit for appointment.
- The applicant must not be disqualified under any of the points detailed on the declaration of eligibility – this is a legal requirement and is detailed on all foundation governor application forms.
- Unless in exceptional circumstances, no spouse of another governor at the school should be appointed as foundation governor. If there is an exceptional circumstance, please discuss with the Diocesan Education Team's Principal Advisor for Governance.
- No employee of the school will be appointed as foundation governor. The appointment panel will not appoint any person employed at the school within a six-month period prior to a vacancy for a foundation governor arising.
- The appointment panel will not appoint a member of clergy who has recently been employed in the parish within a six-month period prior to a vacancy for a foundation governor arising.