



The Local Governing Body agree to abide by the following principles;

Role & Responsibilities

- We have read and understand the roles and responsibilities of the LGB and the Headteacher as set out in both the United Learning Scheme of Delegation and LGB Handbook.
- We will fulfil our role and responsibilities as set out in our scheme of delegation.
- We accept that we have no legal authority to act individually and therefore we will only speak on behalf of the LGB when we have been specifically authorised to do so.
- We accept that our role is strategic and so will focus on our core functions rather than involve ourselves in day-to-day management.
- We accept collective responsibility for all decisions made by the LGB. This means we will challenge constructively during discussion and debate, but once a decision is made we will support the collective position of the LGB.
- We have a duty to act fairly and without prejudice.
- We will encourage open government and will act appropriately.
- We will consider carefully how our decisions may affect the community.
- We will always be mindful of our responsibility to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of United Learning and our school. Our actions within the school, the local community and on social media will reflect this.
- In making or responding to criticism or complaints affecting the school we will follow the procedures established by United Learning and the school. We will not become involved in the investigation of individual complaints, staff matters or pupil issues except where this forms part of our formal governance role.
- We will actively support and challenge the Headteacher.
- We will place the educational outcomes, safety, wellbeing and life chances of pupils at the centre of our decision making.
- We recognise safeguarding as everyone's responsibility and will maintain an appropriate understanding of safeguarding responsibilities, undertaking required training and seeking assurance that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place.
- We will have regard to our responsibilities under The Equality Act and will work to advance equality of opportunity for all.
- We will actively promote a culture of dignity, respect, inclusion and belonging across the school community.
- We will seek assurance through evidence, data and stakeholder engagement, and will base our decisions on the information available rather than personal opinion or anecdote.
- We will act as positive advocates for the school and United Learning.
- We will work in line with agreed United Learning (school) policies and procedures – paying particular note of data processing and cyber security policies.

Commitment



- We acknowledge that accepting office as an LGB Member involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy.
- We will be actively involved in the work of the LGB by accepting our fair share of responsibilities, including designated roles and/or service on committees.
- We will make full efforts to attend all meetings or tender apologies in a timely fashion. If we fail to attend regularly, undertake required training or engage effectively with the work of the LGB we will reflect on whether they can continue to fulfil the role.
- We will get to know the school well and respond to opportunities to involve ourselves in school activities.
- We will visit the school, where/when possible, within the protocols established by the LGB and agreed with the Headteacher.
- We will attend meetings having prepared by reading all papers in advance, ready to make a positive contribution.
- We will consider seriously our individual and collective needs for training & development and will undertake mandatory training as necessary.

Relationships

- We will work as a team in which constructive working relationships are actively promoted.
- We will not discriminate against anyone and will work to advance equality of opportunity for all.
- We value diversity of experience, background and perspective and will create an environment where all members can contribute fully to governance discussions.
- We will express views openly, courteously and respectfully in all our communications including with other LGB Members and members of school staff.
- We will support the chair in their role of always ensuring appropriate conduct at meetings.
- We are prepared to answer queries from other LGB members in relation to delegated functions and consider any concerns expressed, and we acknowledge the time, effort and skills that have been committed to the delegated function by those involved.
- We will contribute positively, listen actively, respect differing viewpoints and seek consensus wherever possible.
- We will seek to develop effective working relationships with the Headteacher, staff and parents, United Learning central team, trustees, the local authority, other relevant agencies and the community.
- We will observe the expectations outlined in annual staff/student relationship letter to schools in all our dealings with young people.
- We will champion the voices of our school community and stakeholders.

Confidentiality

- We will conscientiously observe complete confidentiality for LGB matters at all times and in all circumstances while supporting appropriate openness and transparency in governance.
- We will exercise the greatest prudence when discussions regarding school business arise outside LGB meetings.
- We will ensure all LGB papers are accessed and disposed of appropriately.
- We will not reveal the details of any LGB vote.
- We will use social media responsibly, avoiding comments or actions that may undermine the reputation of the school, trust, staff, pupils or fellow governors, and will not engage in online disputes relating to school matters.
- We will maintain confidentiality even after we leave office.

Conflicts of interest

- We will avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest, orally declaring any conflict of interest or loyalty at the start of any meeting should the situation arise.

- We will not accept benefits from third parties.
- We will declare interest in proposed transactions or arrangements by declaring and recording any pecuniary or other business interest including our employment (and any interest related to people with whom we are connected) in the Register of Business Interests as per United Learning policy.
- if any such conflicted matter arises in a meeting, we will offer to leave the meeting for the appropriate length of time and will not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter.
- We will act in the best interests of the school as a whole and not as a representative of any group, even if elected to the LGB by that group.
- We accept that in the interests of open governance, our full names, date of appointment, terms of office, roles on the LGB, attendance records, relevant business and pecuniary interests, category of governor (Community, Parent, staff) and the body responsible for appointing us (Trust/LGB) will be published on the school's website.
- We accept that information relating to LGB members will be collected and recorded on the EIP and for Academies on the DfE's national database GIAS.

Breach of this code of conduct

- We understand that potential or perceived breaches of this code will be taken seriously and that a breach could lead to formal sanctions including suspension/ removal from the LGB.
- If we believe this code has been breached, we will raise this issue with the chair and the chair will investigate, with advice from the centre. Whilst Suspension may be appropriate during a period of investigation, removal is used as a last resort after seeking to resolve any difficulties or disputes in more constructive ways.
- Should it be the chair that we believe has breached this code, the LGB will raise the matter with the Head of Local Governance for investigation.

The Nolan Principles:

The Seven Principles of Public Life

(Originally published by the Nolan Committee: The Committee on Standards in Public Life was established by the then Prime Minister in October 1994, under the Chairmanship of Lord Nolan, to consider standards of conduct in various areas of public life, and to make recommendations).

Selflessness - Holders of public office should act 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 seek to 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.