

4. Governors and Governing Boards



What are the roles and responsibilities of **all** governors?

Governing Bodies are the guardians of a school's ethos. The three core functions set out by the Department for Education (**DfE**) are:

- **Setting vision, ethos and strategic direction.**
- **Holding head teachers to account for teaching, achievement, behaviour and safety ... and challenging and strengthening their leadership.**
- **Ensuring finances are managed well leading to probity, solvency and effective use of resources.**

... and, while head teachers and staff may leave, the governing body as a corporate body **remains in perpetuity** as the accountable body to ensure the school delivers the education its pupils deserve.

VA and VC Schools

A **voluntary aided school (VA school)** is a state-funded school in England and Wales in which a **foundation or trust** (usually a religious organisation – needs to have a majority of / 2 more foundation governors than the rest of the governors added together), contributes to building costs and has a substantial influence in the running of the school.

A **voluntary controlled school (VC school)** is a state-funded school in England and Wales in which a **foundation** or trust (usually a Christian denomination – needs to have at least 2 / 25% foundation governors) has some formal influence in the running of the school.

Both VA and VC schools have an **Instrument of Government** – this document sets out the constitution of the governing board and term of office for each category of governor as well as the ethos

Examples of Instruments;

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT: VOLUNTARY AIDED CE SCHOOLS

1. The name of the school is ...School.
2. The school is a voluntary aided school.
3. The name of the governing body is "The governing body of... School".
4. The Governing Body shall consist of:
 1. 2 parent governors

2. 1 local authority governor
 3. 2 staff governors (including the head teacher)
 4. 7 foundation governors
5. Total number of governors is 12.
6. The foundation governors shall be appointed by the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education in consultation with the Parochial Church Council of the parishes or ecclesiastical district in the area served by the school.
7. a) The holder of the following office shall be a foundation governor ex-officio: the principal officiating minister.

**INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT:
VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED CE SCHOOLS**

1. The name of the school is ...School.
2. The school is a voluntary controlled school.
3. The name of the governing body is "The governing body of ... School".
4. The governing body shall consist of:
 - 4 parent governors
 - 1 local authority governor
 - 2 staff governors (including the head teacher)
 - 1 co-opted governor
 - 3 foundation governors
5. The total number of governors is 11.
6. The foundation governors shall be appointed by the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education in consultation with the Parochial Church Council of the parishes or ecclesiastical district in the area served by the school.
7.
 - a. The holder of the following office shall be a foundation governor ex-officio:
 - The principal officiating Anglican Minister of the parish
 - b. The Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry in which the school is situated shall appoint a foundation governor to act in the place of the ex-officio foundation governor whose governorship derives from the office named in 6 (a) above, in the event that the ex-officio governor is unable or unwilling to act as a foundation governor, or there is a vacancy in the office by virtue of which his/her governorship exists.
8. The Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry in which the school is situated shall be entitled to request the removal of any ex-officio governor whose governorship derives from the office named in 6 (a) above and to appoint a substitute governor.

Academy Schools


Academy schools are state-funded schools in England which are directly funded by the Department for Education and independent of local authority control. The terms of the arrangements are set out in individual Academy Funding Agreements. They do not unless stated in the documents below have an Ex officio foundation governor or an LA governor.

The structure of the academy will be set out in :-

Articles of Association

Scheme of Delegation

What does it mean to be a foundation governor?



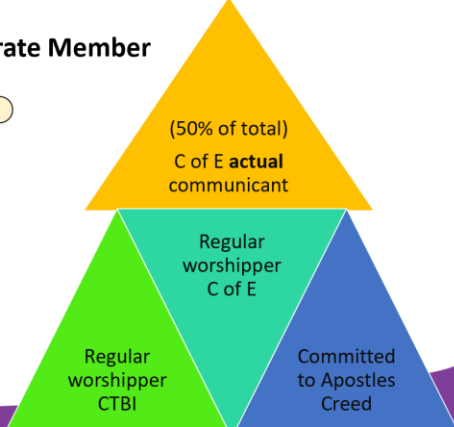
SDBE Foundation Governance Appointment Policy

- For **V.A.** and **V.C.** schools, the policy embeds the relationship between Chair of Governors and the Chair of the **P.C.C.**
- Operated for **MATs** and **SATs** through the **SDBE Corporate Member**


Some Crucial Aspects;

- Compulsory attendance on training reflects the expectations of the role
- Expectation that **half** of the total number of foundation governors will be actual communicants in a Church of England setting

All applications are now online!





Living Out God's Transforming Presence



Foundation Governors including Ex Officio Foundation Governors

In most ways Foundation Governors are the same as other governors and **they have the same roles and responsibilities as all other governors.**



However Foundation Governors must also:

- Show and encourage an interest in the school's Religious Education.
- Be familiar with the school's provision for Collective Worship.
- Ensure that the school understands the importance of the SIAMS inspection process and hold the school to account (i.e. support and challenge the school) for the impact of its distinctiveness work.
- Encourage the school to develop in accordance with its Church of England foundation, taking into account the needs and circumstances of the pupils.