



Role Description: Governor

Main purpose of the role

As a member of the Governing Body to:

- determine the College's mission, educational character and long term aims
- approve the College strategy, financial plans and targets
- monitor performance
- provide support, guidance and challenge in the development and implementation of the College's strategy

Key responsibilities

- Enable the College to meet fully its statutory requirements in respect of:
 - setting budgets, approving strategies and policies
 - monitoring performance against targets
 - maintaining the solvency of the College
 - reporting to funding bodies
 - conducting business in accordance with its Instrument and Articles
- Follow the highest standards of corporate governance in line with the Members' Code of Conduct
- Establish strong, open, supportive, challenging and effective relationships with other governors, the Chief Executive & Principal and the Strategic Leadership Team
- Actively participate in the Governing Body's work and College activities (including establishing a link with an individual area of the College's work)
- Regular attendance at College events
- Keep informed of developments within the sector including attendance at relevant workshops and regional committees
- Act in an ambassadorial role and seek at all times to promote the best interests of the College and its students

Relationships

- The Chief Executive & Principal, Director of Governance, Strategic Leadership Team and wider College teams
- Students
- Governors

Membership of committees

- At least one Governing Body committee
- Ad hoc committees or working groups as may be necessary

Skills, experience and personal qualities

- Passion and commitment to lifelong learning
- Successful experience at a senior level with leadership, strategic and operational responsibilities in a respected public or private sector organisation (or be able to demonstrate the skills and experience in another way)
- Sound interpersonal skills and ability to build strong working relationships (encouraging, supportive and challenging) with people across a wide range of professional, stakeholder and community backgrounds
- Ability to think strategically
- Commitment to promoting equality and diversity
- Commitment to continuous quality improvement.
- Skills to analyse complex issues and solve problems creatively
- Good communication and questioning skills at all levels, and an ability to listen positively and appraise critically
- Ability to make reasoned decisions and to act honestly, diligently and in good faith in the best interests of the College
- Willingness to promote the College within the community
- Ability to recognise and respect confidential/sensitive issues
- Absence of commitment to any competing third party organisation
- Keen interest in the further and higher education sector

In addition, *one or more* of the following attributes would be desirable:

- Understanding of the national context in which further education operates
- Knowledge of other aspects of education and training provision
- Interest in the voluntary/community sector

Eligibility

- A person is ineligible to be a Governor if they are an un-discharged bankrupt or have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months within the past 5 years, or a period of not less than two and half years within the past 20 years
- Staff or students of the College may not be appointed as members of the Governing Body except as Staff or Student Governors

Other requirements

- Observe the Code of Conduct for Governing Body members

- Complete and keep up to date a declaration of interests for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests, which is open for public inspection on request
- Commitment to a four-year term of office
- Disclosure and Barring Service Check

The annual time commitment is around 9 days per year on and off site, daytime and evenings.