



REGISTER OF BUSINESS INTERESTS OF HEADTEACHER AND GOVERNORS POLICY

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GOVERNORS' AND HEADTEACHER REGISTER OF BUSINESS INTERESTS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Every governing body is required to establish and update a register of governors' business interests. This means that governors and headteachers must register and declare business interests that might relate to their duties. The principle behind this arrangement is that neither governors, headteachers, or their spouses, partners, businesses or employers, should benefit financially from the involvement of governors or headteachers in decisions taken by a governing body or one of its committees. The register ensures that a system exists for governors to declare and register interests to ensure that decisions are always taken in the best interests of the school or the public funds that finance it.

WHAT GOVERNORS AND HEADTEACHERS SHOULD REGISTER AND DECLARE

As a general principle Governors and the Headteacher should register and declare anything which a member of the public might reasonably think puts them at risk of being biased by putting private considerations above the public interest or seeking preferential treatment for themselves or people/bodies with whom they are connected.

Governors and the Headteacher should register all interests and personal circumstances which could give rise to an interest in a contract or other matter coming before the governing body. An interest is anything that might influence a governor/headteacher to take into account some factor other than the interests of the school and can be divided into pecuniary and non-pecuniary.

Pecuniary interests are those where an item under discussion may have a financial benefit to the individual governor or their spouse or partner. An example could be the discussion of a contract to be let by the school, which might profit that governor. Teachers must be able to fulfil their role as elected representatives of the teaching staff, but the teacher must not have a personal interest that is different from the teaching staff as a whole.

Non-pecuniary interest can be defined as any factor, which would cause an intelligent observer to think that the judgement of a governor/headteacher is biased. Most often this will be a case of knowing someone who has a financial interest in the decision being made or being related to someone who is, or has applied to be, employed at the school.

In order to put this policy into practice, each member of the Governing Body will complete and sign a Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest at the beginning of each Governing Body meeting. This will always be an agenda item.

Once complete, the Declaration will be published on the school website under the Governor banner.