GOVERNOR SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

Date: 10/11/2026 School: Bleasby C of E Primary

The trustees of the Minster Trust for Education are committed to fully supporting the outstanding provision for its pupils, staff and wider learning community. Each governor sitting at local governing body level is expected to make a commitment in support of those aims and as such there are certain skills and attributes which it would be highly desirable for potential governors to be able to demonstrate.

This document should help potential governors consider if they have the skills, attributes and commitment needed to make a valuable contribution to the governing body of their school.

ESSENTIAL QUALITIES AND PRINCIPLES

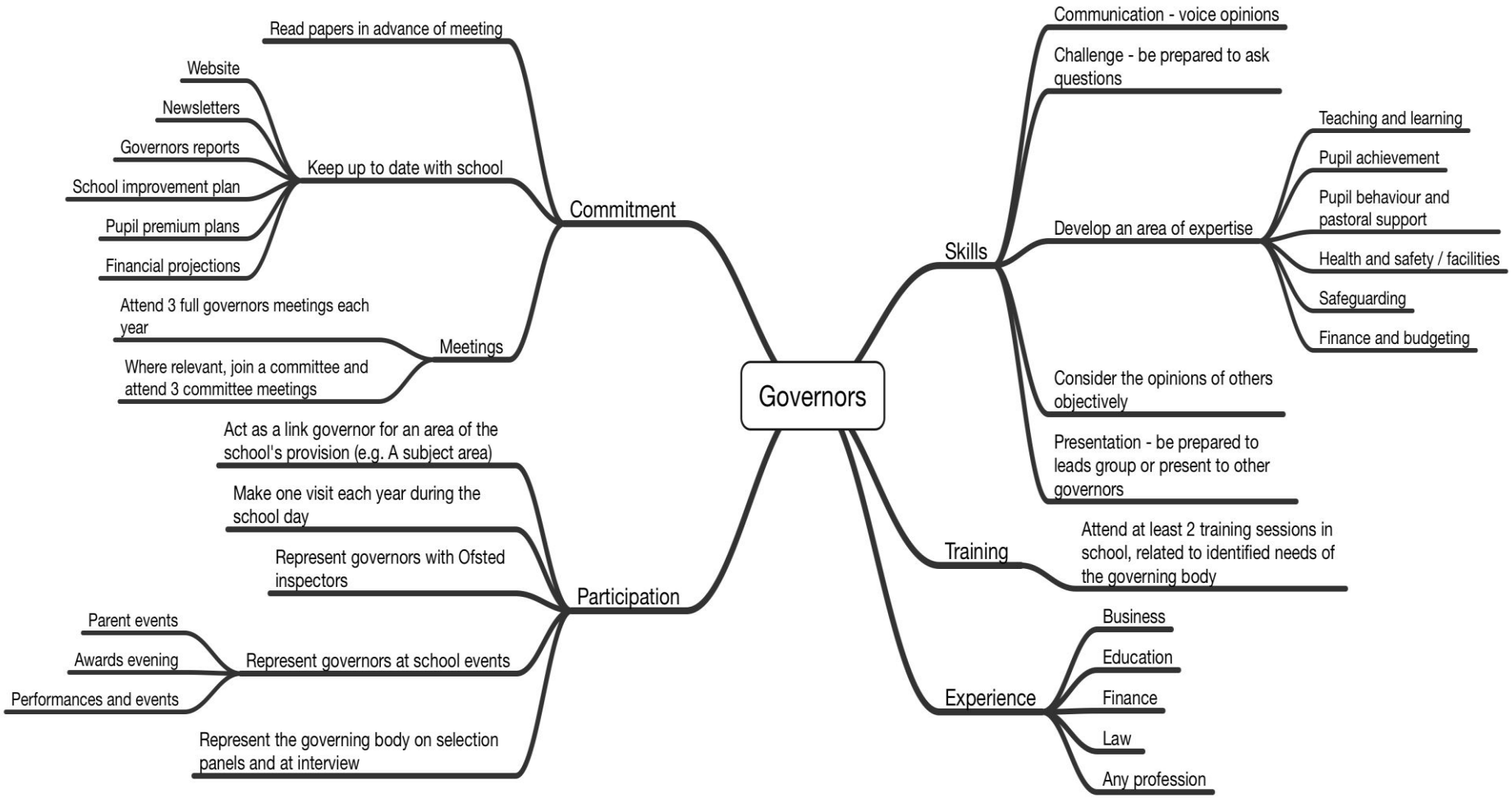
Potential candidates for governor should have:

- An interest in/knowledge of educational matters;
- A commitment to achieving and maintaining excellence;
- A commitment to working in partnership with the Head Teacher and the whole governing body;
- A knowledge of the school and/or its catchment area;
- A commitment to attend governors' meetings and other events;
- A commitment to developing an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the governing body and the school, fully supporting its distinctive ethos and values;
- A commitment to upholding the principles of those in public life and our governor code of conduct.

SPECIFIC SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

MITRE undertakes a skills audit for all its local governing bodies on an annual basis to identify any potential skill gaps. Where a gap is identified, and a governor vacancy becomes available, specific skills will be sought from any potential candidate.

All governors are expected to have the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake the role of a school governor, making a commitment to undertake training in support of this aim. Further details of the nature of the role, potential tasks to be undertaken and the extent of commitment as a governor are detailed over the page.


Governors
Commitment
Read papers in advance of meeting
Keep up to date with school
Website
Newsletters
Governors reports
School improvement plan
Pupil premium plans
Financial projections
Meetings
Attend 3 full governors meetings each year
Where relevant, join a committee and attend 3 committee meetings
Participation
Act as a link governor for an area of the school's provision (e.g. A subject area)
Make one visit each year during the school day
Represent governors with Ofsted inspectors
Represent governors at school events
Parent events
Awards evening
Performances and events
Represent the governing body on selection panels and at interview
Skills
Communication - voice opinions
Challenge - be prepared to ask questions
Develop an area of expertise
Teaching and learning
Pupil achievement
Pupil behaviour and pastoral support
Health and safety / facilities
Safeguarding
Finance and budgeting
Consider the opinions of others objectively
Presentation - be prepared to leads group or present to other governors
Training
Attend at least 2 training sessions in school, related to identified needs of the governing body
Experience
Business
Education
Finance
Law
Any profession