

THE ROLE AND DUTIES OF GOVERNORS

All members are full members of the Corporation, and are expected to act in the best interests of the Corporation at all times. The Governors operate full collective responsibility and all members are expected to adhere to this principle. In order for the Governors to perform their role effectively, the composition of the Board will, as far as possible, ensure a wide spread of experience in a range of sectors, reflect the geographical catchment area of the College, and be representative of the diverse community served by the College.

The broad responsibilities of the Corporation and the Principal are laid down in the College's Instrument and Articles of Government. The Articles state that the Corporation shall be responsible for:

- the determination and periodic review of the educational character and mission of the College, and for oversight of its activities
- approving the quality strategy of the institution
- the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the College and for safeguarding of its assets
- approving annual estimates of income and expenditure
- the appointment, grading, suspension, dismissal and determination of the pay and conditions of the holders of senior posts and the Clerk to the Corporation
- setting a framework for the pay and conditions of service for all other staff

Within this framework, the role of the Governors, both individually and collectively, is to

- provide a commitment to supporting the College in its mission
- supply a broad perspective to assist in the College's strategic development
- represent the local and wider community in setting the direction for the College
- supply the insight and experience from a range of backgrounds for the benefit of the College's activities
- set goals for the College and monitor their achievement

In practical terms, these formal descriptors can be widened to include

- provision of leadership, direction and supervision of the organisation
- ensuring financial integrity and management accountability
- appointment of the Principal and senior staff
- determining a framework for the pay and conditions of employment for all staff
- complying with the legal liabilities of the employer, including Health and Safety and Equality and Diversity Legislation
- setting academic direction and targets
- reviewing achievements against objectives
- approving capital expenditure on buildings and equipment
- maintaining a public profile for the College and representing the College within the community
- reviewing the Board's own composition, profile and performance

Governors are non-executive and while the Principal will consult with the Corporation on issues such as educational strategy, the mission of the College and the annual estimates of income and expenditure, the Principal as Chief Executive is responsible for the day to day management and running of the College.