



EXETER DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Committed, in partnership with governors and staff, to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people

Appointing Foundation Governors and Directors

Foundation Governors in Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled Schools – Appointment process

The Exeter Diocesan Board of Education (EDBE) is the appointing authority for most foundation governor appointments in VA and VC schools. In a small number of schools where there are external trusts, these trusts appoint a proportion of the foundation governors.

The EDBE wishes to ensure that all schools are well supported by foundation governors who have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities.

Appointment Process

Nominations to the EDBE are sought from the local community, parish and school. The EDBE recognises the need to ensure that all foundation governors appointed have the skills and experience necessary – consultation with the head and chair is helpful.

EDBE will seek to appoint foundation governors who are worshipping members of the local community but will be open to considering appointments from those of other denominations or other faiths who can demonstrate a commitment to a Church of England school without compromising their own faith position. Where the person nominated is not a member of the congregation they will need to have an understanding of what is expected and is willing to make a commitment to the Christian Ethos of the school. In such cases there is a requirement for the applicant to meet with the incumbent to determine their suitability to be nominated as a foundation governor. In all cases a reference is sought as part of the appointment process.

The EDBE will consider all nominations and make an appointment if appropriate. The foundation governor and clerk will receive notification from the EDBE of the appointment,

the term of office and the requirement to attend induction training for church school governors along with all other relevant training

Re-appointment Process

All foundation governors coming to the end of their term of office are required to complete an application form for re-appointment in consultation with the parish and school. The application will be considered by the EDBE and evidence of attending foundation governor training, particularly induction training, will be advantageous. The appointment will be acknowledged in the usual way including a commitment to attend further appropriate training.

Foundation Directors in Church of England Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) - Appointment process

Foundation Directors are appointed by the Foundation Member/s. In the majority of cases this will be EDEN. As part of the appointment process EDEN will want to see evidence and examples of working within these responsibilities either as a Director / Governor or in a professional capacity. It is a requirement on appointment that Foundation Directors undertake initial induction training and ongoing training specific to their role or portfolio.

It is an explicit requirement that all appointed Directors have the skills required to contribute to effective governance and the success of the Trust. Foundation directors need to have a strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children, the inquisitiveness to question and analyse and the willingness to learn.

Foundation directors also need to have a strong commitment to the Christian ethos of all the Church of England schools within the MAT, promote the Christian character of each school and work closely with other foundation directors, local clergy and PCCs.

Parishes need to be mindful of these skills and requirements and encourage and support potential directors working closely with the MAT and members.

In the same way as there are staff employed in church schools that are drawn from all faiths and none and from different backgrounds which provide a stimulating diversity, whilst accepting and supporting a commitment to the Christian foundation, ethos and values this should be extended to foundation directors.

Those nominating non Anglicans for this role must know them well enough so that they can confidently recommend them as a foundation director with the level of commitment to the Christian foundation and ethos that is required. In such cases there is a requirement for the

applicant to meet with the incumbent to determine their suitability to be nominated as a foundation director. In all cases a reference is sought as part of the appointment process.

Appointment Process

Nominations are requested to complete an appointed form that is signed by the EDEN representative and forwarded to the EDBE who on behalf of EDEN will consider all nominations and make an appointment if appropriate. The foundation director and clerk will receive notification from the EDEN of the appointment, the term of office and the requirement to attend induction training for church school directors along with all other relevant training.

Re-appointment Process

All foundation directors coming to the end of their term of office are required to complete an application form for re-appointment in consultation with the parish, the MAT and the members of the MAT. The application will be considered by the EDEN and evidence of attending foundation governor/director training, particularly induction training, will be advantageous. The appointment will be acknowledged in the usual way including a commitment to attend further appropriate training.