

QUALIFICATIONS and DISQUALIFICATIONS

A Parent Governor must be a parents or carer of a child registered at the school, aged 18 or over at the time of their election or appointment and no current student of the UTC shall be a Governor.

The Department for Education handbook for governors says that all governors should demonstrate the following competences:

- A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children
- The inquisitiveness to question and analyse
- The willingness to learn
- Good inter-personal skills
- Appropriate levels of literacy in English
- Sufficient numeracy skills to understand basic data

Governors should also be aware of and accept the seven principles of public life, as set out by Lord Nolan and applying to anyone, locally and nationally, who is elected or appointed as a public office-holder. They are

- Selflessness - Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.
- Integrity - Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.
- Objectivity - Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
- Accountability - Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.
- Openness - Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.
- Honesty - Holders of public office should be truthful.
- Leadership - Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

A person is disqualified from being a Governor if the following apply:

- A governor shall cease to hold office if he or she becomes incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing or administering his or her own affairs
- A governor shall cease to hold office if he or she is absent without the permission of the Governing Body from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Governing Body resolve that his or her office be vacated

- A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if:
 - His or her estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced; or
 - He or she is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order
- A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor at any time when he or she is subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)
- A Governor shall cease to hold office if he or she ceases to be a Governor by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act 2006 or is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision)
- A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if he or she has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which he or she was responsible or to which he or she was privy, or which he or she, by his conduct contributed to or facilitated
- A person shall be disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a Governor at any time when he/she is:
 - a) included in the list kept by the Secretary of State under section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1999; or
 - b) disqualified from working with children in accordance with Section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; or
 - c) barred from regulated activity relating to children (within the meaning of section 3(2) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006)
- A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor where he or she has at any time, been convicted of any criminal offence, excluding any that have been spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as amended, and excluding any offence for which the maximum sentence is a fine or a lesser sentence except where a person has been convicted of any offence which falls under section 178 of the Charities Act 2011
- A Governor shall be disqualified if they have been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on education premises during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a Governor
- A Governor shall cease to hold office if he/she refuses a request by the clerk to the Governor to make an application for a Disclosure and Barring Service certificate.