

Lion Academy and Lion Education

Parental Advisory Board – Code of Conduct

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Document author	Justin James
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Lion Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales

(Company number 08171341)

Registered Office: Lion Academy Trust, 155 Canterbury Road, Canterbury Road, Leyton, London. E10 6EJ.

www.lionacademytrust.net

1. Introduction

It is important that confidence in the good governance and probity of the Board of the Trust is maintained. In order to assist the Board of Trustees (the **Board**) achieve this, each Academy in the Trust has adopted this code of conduct for parental advisory body (**PAB**) members who make up the local PABs (the **code**).

The PAB is the Academy's accountable body responsible to the Trust for the conduct of the Academy and for promoting high standards. The PAB aims to ensure that pupils are attending a successful school, which provides them with, and outstanding education and supports their well-being.

The PAB is responsible to the Trust for its actions and is expected to follow the expectations of Trustees as laid down by the Trust. These expectations mirror those, which apply to the board of Trustees of the Trust, as follows:

The Academy:

- Aims to establish a PAB that is competent, accountable, independent and diverse and that promotes best practice in governance;
- Aims to make sure that its members of each PAB promote and uphold high standards of conduct, probity and ethics; and
- Requires its members to act in accordance with the Trust's Articles of Association and the scheme of delegation (the **articles**) and the code.

The Trust shall use the *The Good Governance Standard for Public Services* as a guide to help the PAB achieve good governance but also as a tool to regularly assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Academy's governance practice and to improve it. Each member of the PAB will uphold the seven principles of public life as identified by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life (May 1996). Each member shall obey the articles and decisions taken by the Board and PAB in accordance with the articles.

2. The Good Governance Standard for Public Services

The standard prepared by The Independent Commission for Good Governance in Public Services in 2005 comprises six core principles of good governance, each with its supporting principles. Set out below is an extract of these core principles:

Good governance means focussing on the organisation's purpose and on outcomes for citizens and service users.	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be clear about the Academy's purpose and its intended outcomes for citizens and pupils; • Make sure that pupils receive a high quality education; • Make sure that tax-payers receive high value for money
Good governance means performing effectively in clearly defined functions and roles.	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be clear about the functions of the PAB; • Be clear about the responsibilities of the non-executives and the executive, and making sure that those responsibilities are carried out; • Be clear about relationships between members of PABs and the public.
Good governance means promoting values for the whole organisation and demonstrating the values of good governance through behaviour	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put organisational values into practice; • Behave in ways that uphold and exemplify effective governance.
Good governance means taking informed, transparent decisions and managing risk.	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be rigorous and transparent about how decisions are taken; • Have and use good quality of information, advice and support; • Make sure that an effective risk management system is in operation.
Good governance means developing the capacity and capability of the governing body to be effective.	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that appointed and elected members of the PAB have the skills, knowledge and experience they need to perform well; • Develop the capability in people with governance responsibilities and evaluate their performance, as individuals and as a group; • Strike a balance, in the membership of the Board between continuity and renewal.
Good governance means engaging with stakeholders and making accountability real.	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand formal and informal accountability relationships; • Take an active and planned approach to dialogue with and accountability to the public; • Take an active and planned approach to responsibility to staff;

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- Engage effectively with institutional stakeholders and responsible bodies.

3. Nolan Principles

The Board expects each member of a PAB to uphold the following principles based on the Nolan Committee's work:

- **Selflessness** – take decisions based solely on the vision and values of the Trust;
- **Integrity** – not to be compromised in carrying duties by outside organisations or personal interest;
- **Objectivity** – remain impartial and ensure choices are made on merit alone;
- **Accountability** – be responsible for decisions and actions;
- **Openness** – give reasons for actions wherever possible and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands this;
- **Honesty** – declare any private interests and take steps to resolve conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest; and
- **Leadership** – promote these principles by example.

Additionally, the Board expects members of PABs to promote equality and diversity in all aspects of the Academy's governance and when carrying out any of their functions.

4. Duties and Responsibilities

Members of the PAB will:

- Fulfil their responsibilities and duties in good faith and:
 - In the best interests of the Academy;
 - Secure the proper and effective use of the Academy's property;
 - Act personally in all respects;
 - Act with the scope of any authority given to them by the Board or PAB by law, by regulations or by the articles; and
 - Use the reasonable skill and care when making decisions.
- Act in accordance with the articles from time to time;
- Be committed to the Trust's values and objectives (including equal opportunities), to contribute to and share responsibility for the PABs decisions, to read PAB papers and attend meetings, training sessions and other relevant events;
- Declare all interests they have as required by the articles and the general law and to comply with any rules requiring withdrawal from a meeting where this is required because of an interest;
- Respect the confidentiality of information that they have access to as a member of the PAB and to keep these matters confidential;
- Inform the Clerk of the PAB as soon as possible should any changes to their circumstances occur during their term as a governor, including if:
 - There are any changes to the interests which have been declared;

- They become, or cease to be, a company director, board member or trustee of another company or charity;
- Their occupation changes;
- They move house; or
- They become employed by the Academy.

5. Breaches of the Code

Every member of the PAB is under a duty to report any breach of this code or any grounds for believing a breach of the code has occurred to the PAB Chair (and if the allegation is about the Chair, to the Vice-Chair). Failing to report a breach of the code is itself a breach of the Code. Any breach of the code will be treated extremely seriously by both the PAB and the Academy and may result in suspension or removal from the PAB. In the event of a breach of this code, each member of the PAB agrees to participate fully in any investigation procedure instigated by the PAB or the Trust and to abide by any sanction that may be imposed on them by the Trust or PAB for such breach.

6. Review

The Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Trust Board on a regular basis.

I, the undersigned, hereby agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as a member of the Parental Advisory Body for <<INSERT NAME OF ACADEMY HERE>>.

Name	Signature
Date	