



# Governor Expenses Policy 2019-20

**Purpose:** The Governing Body recognises that while school funds must be used to achieve the best educational outcomes for the school's pupils, there are occasional circumstances when governors may need to claim expenses in the execution of their duties. The school believes that including certain expense payments for governors is important in ensuring equality for all governing members of our community and is, therefore, an appropriate use of our annual budget

**Status: Recommended**

**What was consulted?** The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended) and DfE Governors' Handbook 2017

**Relationship to other policies/procedures:** This policy should be read in conjunction with the finance policy.

**Roles and responsibilities of headteacher, other staff, governors.**

Once an expense claim has been approved by the Chair of Governors (or Chair of the Finance Committee) and the Headteacher, the Headteacher will arrange for the expenses to be paid on production of the relevant receipts.

The Headteacher and the Finance Officer will ensure that the school budget is adjusted to reflect these costs.

**Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

A report will be given to the next meeting of the Finance Committee of the governing body after the payment of expenses to any governor.

That governor will report to the appropriate Committee of the governing body, or to the full governing body, on the conference, seminar or meeting which they attended on behalf of the school to ensure that the school derives best value for money.

# Avenue Junior School Governor Expenses Policy

## 1. School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended)

- 1.1. Under these regulations, schools may decide to provide payments to governors in order to cover costs for expenses paid whilst fulfilling their roles.
- 1.2. There are, however, restrictions on the circumstances under which governors can receive payments from the school. Governors must not receive any reimbursement for loss of earnings due to attendance at meetings or a payment allowance for attendance.
- 1.3. The circumstances in which governors will receive payments must be agreed by the governing board in advance, and be authorised by submitting a claim form.
- 1.4. Any payments to governors must only be authorised if the governing board has deemed the circumstances beneficial to the school.
- 1.5. Any travel expenses must be returned at a rate not exceeding the HM Revenue and Customs approved mileage rates.
- 1.6. Other approved expenses will only be granted upon provision of a receipt, and for only the amount shown on the receipt.

## 2. What can governors claim expenses for?

- 2.1. Governors will be able to claim expenses in the following instances, on a case-by-case basis and with prior approval from the governing board:

### Travel:

- Claims for expenses may be made for travel between the governor's household and an external event conference etc, (i.e. not the school) outside Greater Norwich at the level of mileage rates published by HM Revenue and Customs (45 pence per mile).
- The nature of the visit must be related to the work of the governing board, e.g. governors' meetings, training courses, etc.
- Payments will be reimbursed for use of public transport or taxis, upon production of a valid receipt.
- The costs of parking for business away from the school, where necessary, will be returned upon production of a valid receipt.

### Childcare:

This Governor Expenses Policy was reviewed during the Spring Term 2019 by the Governors' Resources Committee and was approved by the full Governing Body 25 February 2019 Review: 2/20

- In cases where a governor does not have a spouse or family member to care for a child/children when the governor must attend meetings relating to the work of the governing board, expenses may be returned for the cost of childcare or a babysitter.
- Allowances will also be reimbursed for the cost of care for elderly or dependant relatives where the governor must be absent due to their governing duties.

### **Specific needs:**

- Governors may claim allowances for expenses relating to specific needs, incurred when carrying out approved duties.
- The circumstances in which governors can claim expenses for specific needs may include: taxi fares, audio equipment or support from a signer, braille transcription, etc.

### **Telephone charges, photocopying, stationery, etc.**

- Claims for reimbursements can be made where a governor is unable to use the school's facilities for any of the above.
- Allowances will be returned upon production of a valid receipt, where appropriate. In all other cases, a full written report must be submitted.
- This list is not exhaustive and the school may decide to reimburse in other instances; however, this must be discussed by the governing board.

### **3. How are expenses claimed?**

- 3.1. Governors should claim expenses on a termly basis, unless the amount to be claimed is substantial and/or urgent.
- 3.2. Claims should be made using a claim form, and submitted to the school Administration Officer via the school office.
- 3.3. Any claims will not be reimbursed unless authorised by the headteacher.
- 3.4. All claims will be subject to independent audit. If claims appear to be too frequent or excessive, the chair of governors may ask for further details.

Claims can be made using the form in Appendix A.

### **4. Review**

This Governor Expenses Policy was reviewed during the Spring Term 2019 by the Governors' Resources Committee and was approved by the full Governing Body 25 February 2019 Review: 2/20

This Governor Expenses Policy was reviewed during the Spring Term of 2019 by the Governors' Resources Committee and was approved by the full Governing Body 25 February 2019 Review date: February 2020.

# Appendix A – Governors’ Allowance Claim Form

This claim form consists of two sections. Section two must only be completed when payment has been made to another party, e.g. child carer.

## Section one

Name of governor:		Date:
Date of expenditure:	Details of expenditure:	Claim:
Total claim:		£

*[To be completed once authorisation of the claim has been approved.]*

I certify that the above expenses are actual and necessary, and confirm that cash/cheque has been received.

Signature of governor:		Date:
Signature of headteacher:		Date:
Reimbursed by (name):		Date:

## Section two

Duty of service, e.g. childcare:	
Name:	
Amount received (£):	
Signature:	
Date:	