

Number of local authority governors

Currently the size of the governing body ranges from a minimum of 9 to a maximum of 20¹. Within this range each governing body can adopt the model of their choice, provided it complies with the guiding principles for the category of school. The guiding principles for the appointment of local authority governors are:

Category of school	Principle for the appointment of LEA governors
Community	One fifth
VC	Up to and including one fifth
VA	Up to and including one fifth
Foundation	At least one and no more than a fifth

Academies

Membership of academy governing bodies should include at least two parents and the Principal; other appointments including a local authority governor are discretionary. The constitution and method of election/appointment is determined through the articles of association.

Appointment of local authority governors

Local authority governors are appointed by the LEA. Local authorities can appoint any eligible person as an LEA governor. Local authorities are encouraged to appoint high calibre governor candidates to schools that need most support and to appoint candidates irrespective of any political affiliation or preferences.²

The role of local authority governors

A governing body is a corporate body. Although some LA governors may represent particular constituencies they are not delegates of that group, they are representatives of the local area rather than the authority. LA governors are not expected to bring political views to the governing body; their role does not require them to undertake a stance on behalf of the local authority or indeed to report back to them. As with all governors whoever they represent, they are their to bring their knowledge, skills and point of view to the governing body, to listen to other views, to seek further information and advice where necessary, and take part in the broad, balanced and strategic decision making process.

6.—(1) In these Regulations “LEA governor” means a person who is appointed as a governor by

¹ This may be above 20 in the case of federations

² **Statutory Guidance on the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007**
Reference number: 00453-2007DOM-EN