



Bexhill 6th Form College

**CORPORATION
LINKS
POLICY**

POLICY NUMBER: SG4

PURPOSE

- To develop Governors' knowledge of curriculum, business support and other areas of the College's operations.
- To provide opportunities to visit classrooms and other learning environments to see teaching, learning and assessment in action.
- To provide opportunities to talk to staff and students.
- To encourage Governors to use their existing skills and experience to benefit the College.
- To raise the profile of the Corporation by providing opportunities for staff and students to meet informally with Governors.
- To familiarise Governors with the College's physical environment.

STRUCTURE

Members of the Corporation are involved with the day to day operation of the College through Governors' Mornings, attendance at meetings and attendance at College events.

Governors' Mornings

Governors are invited to Governors' Mornings twice per year. Each morning Governors will be linked with different areas of the College. This approach aims to provide Governors with an insight across all areas of the College over a period of time. Areas will be circulated in advance of the mornings. Individual requests to visit specific areas of interest are welcome and will be accommodated where possible.

The Principal will provide suggested areas of focus for the morning however, if there are any particular issues or areas Governors would like to explore, they should inform the Principal who will inform the relevant Manager.

Topics for discussion during link visits might include:

- How the area is meeting the requirements of study programmes.
- How the area promotes high levels of performance and supports student to achieve their target grade.
- What the area is doing to increase value added.
- Pastoral Support for Students.
- Levels of retention, achievement and success.
- Curriculum developments.
- Success stories.
- Quality assurance systems including student feedback and issues being raised in the area.
- Links with community and industry including work experience.
- Management & operational priorities for area.

Governors are reminded that:

- day to day management of the College's operations is the responsibility of the Principal and Senior Leadership Team, working within the strategic framework of policies decided by the Corporation.
- informal discussion issues with staff and students is in no way an alternative to usual management communication channels.
- they should avoid expressing opinions, giving commitments on behalf of the Corporation, or in being drawn into matters of a managerial nature.
- any issues that have been drawn to their attention should be raised with the Principal at the end of the morning who will ensure that any necessary investigations are undertaken and a response made to the individual Governor or the Corporation.

Governors are asked to:

- Attend at least one Governors' Morning during the academic year.
- Provide the Principal and Clerk with a brief report at the end of their visit. This should include feedback on the nature of the visit and key issues discussed including any issues of concern, lessons learnt and any ways the visit could have been improved. A template will be provided (page 3).

Any additional visits with College Managers outside these meetings should be by request to the Principal or the Clerk who will refer the request to the Principal.

Attendance at Meetings

Governors attend some cross College meetings where they are able to provide expertise and support to the College. A report from the meeting is fed back at Corporation meetings.

- Health and Safety (Termly)
- Safeguarding including PREVENT (Termly)
- Equality & Diversity (Twice yearly)

Lead Governors also support the specific areas of the Colleges work:

- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

The Chair and Vice Chair also attend the Self Assessment Panel on an annual basis and one Senior Leadership Team meeting in Term Two.

Attendance at College events

Members of the Corporation are regularly invited to attend exhibitions, concerts and other College events. Information is provided at Corporation meetings through the Principal's reports. Invitations are also sent out by the Principal or the Clerk.

REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

The Clerk will ensure that link activities are appropriately reported.

The Search Committee will review the Corporation Links Policy every two years at its summer term meeting and make recommendations as appropriate to the Corporation.

Governors' Morning Evaluation

Name:

Area visited:

Date of Visit:

Please comment on what went well with your visit today

What did you learn which you didn't know before?

Anything else you would like to have seen in the area you visited?

Any other areas you would like to visit in the College or comments you would like to make?