



## **Job Advert**

# **Clerk to Local Governing Body**

**Required to start ASAP**

**Salary: NJC Grade 7: £14.53 - £15.64 per hour**

Faringdon Learning Trust (FLT) currently have clerk vacancies within some of the Trusts schools and committees. Meetings will be held in person at school premises or via Teams.

The Clerk to the Governing Board has a key role to play in making sure all pupils at a school receive the highest standard of education possible and are able to achieve their full potential. Previous experience and knowledge of the workings of governing boards is desirable but not essential. The successful candidate should have experience in general clerical/administrative work.

The duties of a Trust Clerk include:

- Providing advice to the governing body on governance, constitutional and procedural matters, in line with the Trust's guidance and procedures.
- Providing effective administrative support to the governing body, e.g. preparing agendas, taking minutes, circulating papers, etc.
- Ensuring the governing body is properly constituted.

We are looking for a person who:

- Has strong organisational skills, the ability to prioritise workload and good customer service skills.
- The ability to work on your own initiative as well as a mature and committed approach is essential.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills are required.
- Has excellent IT skills.
- Can work at times convenient to the governing body, (evening work for the actual meeting, day or evening work for the preparation and follow up).

FLT support the professional development of its employees and as a Trust Clerk, you will have opportunity to attend regular support meetings to exchange information and keep clerks updated. You will also have the option to undertake an accredited NGA level 3 certificate in the Clerking of School and Academy Governing bodies.

You will be required to support the agreed number of meetings per year for which you will be remunerated for a minimum of **8 hours per meeting** to support the preparation, attendance of, and follow up.

For more information, including a copy of the job description and application form, please visit our website <https://faringdonlearningtrust.org/work-for-us/application>. Please direct any questions to the Trust Recruitment team at: [Recruitment@faringdonlearningtrust.org](mailto:Recruitment@faringdonlearningtrust.org)

***Faringdon Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and preventing extremism. We expect all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. All post holders in regulated activity are subject to appropriate vetting procedures and a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Enhanced Check. Shortlisted candidates will be subject to online searches for publicly available information.***

***Faringdon Learning Trust is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from a range of backgrounds to represent diversity in line with our schools' community.***



## Job Description and Person Specification

# Clerk to Local Governing Body

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<b>Responsible to:</b>	<b>Grade: 6</b>
<b>Hours:</b> 8 hrs per meeting per school	<b>Duration:</b> Permanent
<b>Main Location:</b> various	

### The purpose of the clerk's role is to:

- Provide advice to the governing body on governance, constitutional and procedural matters, in line with the Trust guidance and procedures.
- Provide effective administrative support to the governing body and its committees.
- Ensure the governing body is properly constituted.
- Manage information effectively in accordance with legal requirements.

### Main responsibilities and tasks

The clerk to the governing body will:

1. Provide advice to the governing body.
  - Advise the governing body on governance legislation and procedural matters where necessary before, during and after meetings.
  - Act as the first point of contact for governors with queries on procedural matters.
  - Have access to appropriate legal advice, support and guidance, and where necessary seek advice and guidance from the Trust Secretary on behalf of the governing body.
  - Inform the governing body of any changes to its responsibilities as a result of a change in school status, Trust direction or changes in the relevant legislation.
  - Offer advice on best practice in governance, including on committee structures and self-evaluation.
  - Ensure that statutory policies are adopted.
  - Advise on the annual calendar of governing body meetings and tasks, as provided by the Trust Board.
  
2. Effective administration of meetings
  - With the chair and head teacher prepare a focused agenda for the governing body meeting and committee meeting.
  - Liaise with those preparing papers to make sure they are available on time, and distribute the agenda and papers as required by legislation or other regulations.
  - Ensure meetings are quorate.
  - Record the attendance of governors at meetings (and any apologies – whether they have been accepted or not), and take appropriate action in relation to absences, including advising absent governors of the date of the next meeting.
  - Draft minutes of governing body meetings, indicating who is responsible for any agreed action with timescales, and send drafts to the chair and the head teacher.

- Circulate the reviewed draft to all governors (members of the committee), the head teacher (if not a governor) and other relevant body, such as the local authority/diocese/foundation/trust as agreed by the Trust and within the timescales laid down in the clerks' handbook.
- Follow-up any agreed action points with those responsible and inform the Chair of progress.

### 3. Membership

- Advise governors and appointing bodies in advance of the expiry of a governor's term of office, so that elections or appointments can be organised in a timely manner in line with Trust guidelines.
- Chair that part of the meeting at which the chair is elected, giving procedural advice concerning conduct of this and other elections.
- Maintain a register of governor pecuniary interests and ensure the record of governors' business interests is reviewed biannually and lodged within the school; ensuring they are published on the school website.
- Maintain a record of training undertaken by members of the governing body.
- Maintain governor meeting attendance records and advise the chair of potential disqualification through lack of attendance.
- Advise the governing body on succession planning (of all roles, not just the chair).
- Send new governors induction materials and ensure they have access to appropriate documents, including the Code of Conduct.
- Contribute to the induction of governors taking on new roles, in particular chair or chair of a committee.
- Ensure New Governor form is completed and sent to the Trust Secretary.
- Conduct skills audits and advise on training requirements and the criteria for appointing new governors relevant to vacancies.

### 4. Manage Information

- Maintain up to date records of the names, addresses and category of governing body members and their term of office, and inform the governing body and the Trust Secretary of any changes to its membership.
- Maintain copies of current Instrument of Government, terms of reference and membership of any committees and working parties and any nominated link governors e.g. Child-protection, SEND, Safeguarding.
- Maintain a record of signed minutes of meetings in school, and ensure copies are sent to relevant bodies on request and are published on the school website as agreed at meetings.
- Maintain records of governing body correspondence.
- Ensure copies of statutory policies and other school documents approved by the governing body are kept in the school and published as agreed, for example, on the website.
- Ensure the LGB is compliant with GDPR.
- Ensure the governors page on the school website is current and in line with DfE guidelines.

### 5. Personal Development

- Undertake appropriate and regular training and development to maintain his/her knowledge and improve practice.
- Keep up-to-date with current educational developments and legislation affecting school governance.
- Participate in regular performance management.

### 6. Additional Services

The clerk may be asked to undertake the following additional duties:

- Clerk panels, in line with Trust Policy and Procedure.
- Assist with the elections of parent and staff governors.
- Participate in and contribute to the training of governors in areas appropriate to the clerking role.
- Maintain a file of relevant Department for Education and Science (DfES), local authority and church authorities (if appropriate) guidance documents.
- Maintain archive materials.
- Prepare briefing papers for the governing body, as necessary.
- Perform such other reasonable tasks as may be determined by the governing body from time-to-time.

### Qualifications and Experience

Qualities	Essential/ Desirable
<b>Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General clerical/administrative/financial work</li> </ul>	E
<b>Qualifications &amp; Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NVQ 2 or equivalent qualification or experience in relevant discipline</li> <li>• Good numeracy/literacy skills, ideally including Minute-taking</li> <li>• Be able to demonstrate a willingness to attend appropriate training and development</li> </ul>	D E E
<b>Knowledge &amp; Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective use of ICT packages including MS Office software</li> <li>• Use of relevant equipment/resources</li> <li>• Good keyboard skills</li> <li>• Knowledge of relevant policies/codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation</li> <li>• Work constructively as part of a team, understanding school roles and responsibilities and your own position within these</li> <li>• Ability to identify own training and development needs and cooperate with means to address these.</li> <li>• Knowledge of GDPR</li> </ul>	E E E E E E E
<b>Personal Attributes</b> The clerk should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be a person of integrity</li> <li>• be able to maintain confidentiality</li> <li>• Be able to remain impartial</li> <li>• have a flexible approach to working hours</li> <li>• have good interpersonal skills</li> </ul>	E E E E E
<b>Special Requirements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to work at times convenient to the governing body, including evening meetings</li> <li>• Able to travel to meetings</li> <li>• Available to be contacted at mutually agreed times</li> </ul>	E E E