

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the East Sussex Governors Forum (ESGF) and the East Sussex Local Authority (LA)

Introduction

The East Sussex Governors' Forum (ESGF) is an elected, independent, body. It aims to:

- i) Provide a vehicle for seeking and expressing the collective views of governors through governing bodies, and make appropriate representations to the National Governors' Association, East Sussex County Council and other relevant bodies.
- ii) Foster good practice among East Sussex governing bodies and exchange ideas within the County.
- iii) Act as a 'fast response' consultative and policy formulation governor group for the Local Authority or other organisations.
- iv) Be non-party political and non-sectarian.

The independent governor group represents important stakeholders and is uniquely placed to facilitate communication between the LA and governance. This memorandum sets out how the relationship between the ESGF and the Local Authority will work.

The Local Authority

The Local authority acknowledges the role of ESGF and its importance as an independent body and will recognise the ESGF as a formal consultative Body on matters affecting school governance by:

- Facilitating communication between the ESGF and governors in East Sussex schools for the purpose of consultation on key issues.
- Notifying the ESGF of relevant new developments.
- Using the views of governors, as communicated by the ESGF, to develop its policies, procedures and customer focus with schools

The ESGF

The ESGF recognises the role of the LA as a body that can support governors to secure the best education possible for children and young people in East Sussex and will take an active interest in consultations by the LA about its services by:

- Providing constructive challenge to the LA on the development of policies for school improvement.
- Working with the LA to ensure that all governors understand, and have an opportunity to respond to, consultations on policy and practice.
- Approving Governors to the Schools Forum if there are more applicants than vacancies.
- Working with the LA to support effective governance practice across all East Sussex schools.

Review Period

This framework will be reviewed every 12 months

Signed

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Chair of ESGF

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Director of Children's Services

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Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

Date: