

Holycroft Primary School **Governors' Allowances Policy**

This policy statement has been developed in accordance with the School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013. These regulations give Governing Bodies the discretion to pay allowances from the school's annual budget allocation to governors for certain allowances which they necessarily incur in carrying out their duties. The Governing Body believes that paying governors' allowances, in specific categories as set out below, is important in ensuring equality of opportunity to serve as governors for all members of the community and so is an appropriate use of school funds. The specific items allowable reflect this objective.

From 1 September 2013, all governors of Holycroft Primary School will be entitled to claim the actual costs, which they incur as follows:

Governors will be able to claim allowances providing the allowances are incurred in carrying out their duties, as a Governor or representative of Holycroft Primary School, and are agreed by the Finance Committee that they are justified before any reimbursable costs are incurred.

Governors will be able to claim for the following, on a case-by-case basis and with the prior approval of the Governing Body:

- Childcare or baby sitting allowances (excluding payments to a current/former spouse or partner);
- Cost of care arrangements for an elderly or dependent relative (excluding payments to a current/former spouse or partner);
- The extra costs they incur in performing their duties either because they have special needs or because English is not their first language;
- The cost of travel relating only to travel to meetings/training courses at the rate specified by HM Revenue and Customs at the date of the expenditure;
- Travel and subsistence costs, payable at the current rates specified by HM Revenue and Customs associated with attending national meetings or training events, unless these costs can be claimed from the LA or any other source;
- Telephone charges, photocopying, stationery, postage etc;
- Any other justifiable allowances.

The Governing Body acknowledges that:

- Governors may not be paid attendance allowance;
- Governors may not be reimbursed for loss of earnings.

Governors wishing to make claims under these arrangements, once prior approval has been sought, should complete a claims form (obtained from the School Office), attaching receipts and return it to the School within two weeks of the date when the allowances were incurred, when they will be submitted for approval by the Chair of Governors or Finance Committee (which meets at least once per half-term) for final approval.

Claims will be subject to independent audit and may be investigated by the Chair of Governors (or Chair of Finance in respect of the Chair of Governors) if they appear excessive or inconsistent.

No payment of expenses, apart from for travel by private vehicle, may be paid without production of a receipt for the relevant amount.

Agreed by the Governing Body on:

Signed Chair:

To be Reviewed by the Governing Body on:

Governor's Allowances Claim Form

Holycroft Primary School

Governor Name:	
Address:	
Post Code	Claim Period:

I claim the total sum of £..... for governor expenses as detailed below. I have attached relevant receipts to support my claim.

Signed _____

	£	p
Child care/Babysitting expenses		
Care arrangements for an elderly or dependent relative		
Support for governors with special needs		
Support for governors whose first language is not English		
Travel to meetings/training courses		
Travel/subsistence to national meetings or training events		
Telephone Charges		
Postage		
Photocopying		
Stationery		
Other (please specify)		
TOTAL EXPENSES CLAIMED		

This form should be submitted to:

Key Messages

- Governing bodies can continue to choose whether or not to pay allowances to governors. The Department thinks that it is good practice to pay such allowances as governors should not be out of pocket for the valuable work they do. Governors should be able to claim legitimate allowances where governing bodies have set up schemes to make such payments.
- Payments can be made for any expenditure necessarily incurred by individual governors to enable them to carry out governor duties.
- Allowances for travel cannot exceed the HM Revenue and Customs Authorised Mileage Rates. Payments of other allowances must only be made on provision of a receipt. The amount to be paid should be determined by the governing body and be limited to the amount shown on the receipt.
- Governors cannot claim attendance allowances i.e. payment for attending meetings themselves, or for loss of earnings.
- Allowances can be paid to governors serving on temporary governing bodies, and to associate members.
- Governor allowances will continue to be paid from the school's delegated budget.
- In schools without delegated budgets, the LA may pay governor allowances.