

Annual Report

Search & Governance Committee

September 2020

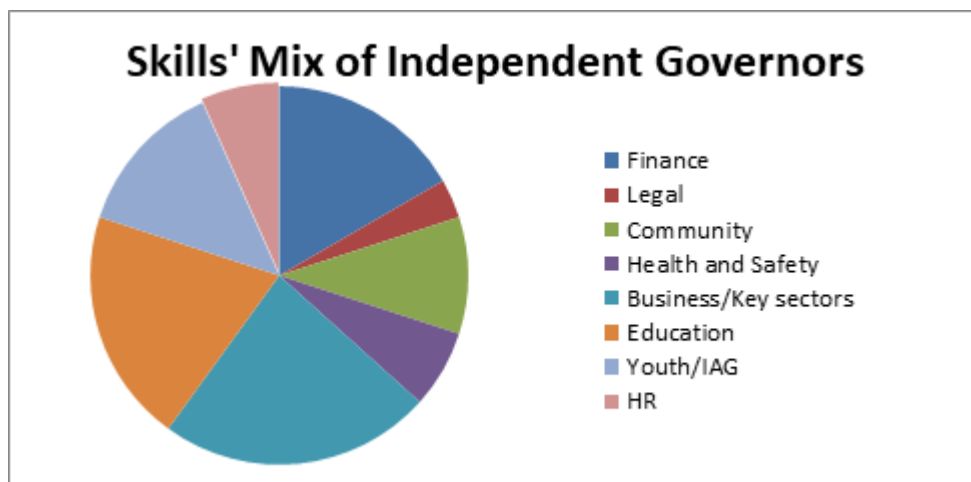
Introduction

The yearly review of Board membership is an expectation of best practice in governance and demonstrates that the make-up of the Board is given regular and serious consideration.

Overview of Membership

Both Chair and Vice Chair were re-appointed by the Board for a further 2-year term of office in February 2020.

There is a sound skills base to the Board, encompassing knowledge and expertise considered necessary for good governance. Some governors bring expertise from more than one area.



Staff governor positions bring in-house teaching experience and experience of quality management.

Gender balance has improved from 30% in 2018 to 46% start of 2020. It should be noted that the two District Council areas that the College serves are in the top five district Councils in England for rates of White British Residents at 97.6% and 97.3% (Census 2011), which impacts on the potential to attract ethnic minority representation to the Board.

Attendance

Attendance figures are published in the annual financial statements. In 2019-20, overall attendance reached 82% slightly below the national benchmark of 83.7%, with Board attendance sitting at 79.5%.

Annual Questionnaire

In an annual, anonymous questionnaire, no issues of concern arose. The Board felt that the Chair and the Clerk were effective and relationships with the Executive were good.

Training

Most governors participate in training, or in working groups providing greater detail into specific areas. Training in finance; in safeguarding and in T Quals took place in 2019-20 and Governors attended parents evening in December and online training and conferences after the pandemic.

Standing Orders

These are refreshed on an annual basis and set out the delegations to working groups, committees and the Principal, and the Code of Conduct by which the Board agrees to abide. The standing orders are published on the website.