

Wells Schools Federation

Governors' Allowances Policy

This policy statement has been developed in accordance with the Education (Governors' Allowances) Regulations 2003. These regulations give Governing bodies the discretion to pay allowances from the school's annual budget allocation to governors for certain allowances which they incur in carrying out their duties. The Wells Schools Federation 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.

All governors of the Wells Schools Federation 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 The Wells Schools Federation, and are agreed by the FPP 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 prior approval of the Governing Body:
 - Childcare or babysitting allowances (excluding payments to a current or former spouse or partner)
 - Cost of care arrangements for an elderly or dependent relative (excluding payments to a current or 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 a rate of twenty four pence per mile which does not exceed the specified rates for school personnel
 - Travel and subsistence costs, payable at the current rates specified by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, associated with attending national meetings or training events, unless these costs can be claimed from the LEA or any other source
 - Telephone charges, photocopying, stationery, postage etc.
 - Any other justifiable allowances.

The Governing Body of the Wells Schools Federation 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 should complete a claim form (obtainable from the School Office) attaching receipts where possible, and return it to the school within two weeks of the date when the allowances were incurred, when they will be submitted, on the first occasion, for approval by the Chair or Vice chair of Governors and subsequently by the School Business Manager.

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.