

The Co-opted Governor Category & Recruitment Guidance

Under the 2012 Constitution Regulations the Co-opted Governor became a category of Governor serving on Maintained School Governance Boards.

The number of Co-opted Governors who can serve on a board is specified in the Instrument of Government for the School. In Academy Trusts most Articles of Association will also allow for the appointment of Co-opted Governors and again the number will be specified.

Co-opted Governors are people who, in the opinion of the Governance Board, have the skills to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. If a board needs to recruit Co-opted Governors, we recommend that they jointly identify skills gaps within the current structure, followed by a targeted recruitment campaign. For example, if finance skills are required the Board could contact local Banks, Building Society or Financial Advisory Businesses to see if a member of staff might be interested in becoming a school governor.

Once a suitable candidate has been identified and given the opportunity to speak to the Chair and/or a member of the board, they would then be invited to attend a Full Governing Body meeting, where the board will vote on their appointment as a Co-opted Governor. The Clerk should then minute the appointment and update the SSE website governance module (if the school or academy has purchased the relevant package for the academic year) or send details to SSE Governance via sgs@somerset.gov.uk.