

Model policy for the payment of expenses and allowances for governors and associate members

Newton Leys Primary School Governing Body

Introduction

The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013 apply to all maintained schools and came into force on 1 September 2013. The regulations make provision for allowances to be paid to governors or associate members for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the context of carrying out their duties.

Any claim for expenses has to be met from the school's delegated budget.

Paying Allowances

Examples of when a claim may be made for incurred expenses are given below, but it is for each governing body to take account of its individual needs and determine the basis on which a claim can be made and the criteria to be followed. Governing bodies may, for example, wish to consider the inclusion of other criteria such as reimbursement for the provision of equipment and/or support for governors with special needs or where an individual's first language is not English.

Child care or babysitting

Claims for the actual cost of reimbursement to a registered child-minder or babysitter may be made while the governor is attending meetings of the governing body or its committees or other agreed activities, such as training events. Appropriate proof of payment should be submitted. This excludes situations where the individual has a spouse, partner or other responsible adult who normally lives in the family home to care for his/her child(ren).

Care arrangements for an elderly or dependent relative

Costs may be claimed for situations similar to those for child care.

Telephone charges, photocopying, stationery, etc

Where a governor is unable to use the school's facilities for any of the above a claim for reimbursement may be made. Receipts must be kept where appropriate; in all other cases a detailed written record should be made and submitted.

Travel and subsistence

Mileage may be claimed for distances exceeding 10 miles for the purpose of attendance at meetings of the governing body or its committees or other agreed activities. Claims will be reimbursed at the rate of 45p per mile (this must not exceed the maximum level of the rates published by the Inland Revenue for travel and subsistence).

Where public transport is used, the actual cost of the expenditure will be reimbursed, up to standard class rail travel. Where it is not possible to use public transport the actual cost of a taxi fare will be reimbursed. Receipts will be required.

Claims for subsistence allowances, ie for meals that would not otherwise have been purchased or car parking charges that would not otherwise have been incurred, will be reimbursed upon the production of a receipt up to a maximum amount of £5 per each.

Making a claim

Governors should claim in arrears on a termly basis unless the amount to be claimed is substantial.

Claims should be authorised by the Chair of governors and submitted to (school bursar) for payment.

The policy and amounts payable will be reviewed on an annual basis.

This policy applies equally to all categories of governor, including associate members.

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Prepared by Governor Services

