

SCHOOL REORGANISATION

Briefing Note



SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Amalgamations or mergers of community schools require both schools to be discontinued (closed) by the City Council on a given date and a new school to be established (opened) by the Council the following day. This means that the terms of office of each and every governor of the two schools would cease on that date.

An Interim Governing Body (IGB) for the new school would be established by the City Council as soon as a final decision had been reached on the amalgamation proposal. The IGB would plan and determine all aspects of the new school up to the point where it opens for business and a new governing body takes over. This would include appointing a Headteacher and setting a new and appropriate staffing structure. It would have the powers and duties of a permanent governing body in advance of the new school opening and up to the time a new governing body for the new school is established.

As individual governors, those already serving on the governing bodies of the two schools and appointed to the IGB would have a dual role in overseeing the running of the existing schools up to the point where they would close, as well as helping to move the reorganisation of the two schools forward to the point where a new school opens for business and a new governing body takes over. It would be an important and demanding role.

The main tasks for the IGB to undertake in the first instance would be to appoint a Headteacher to the new school and then, together with the Head-designate, appoint staff in accordance with a staffing structure that the IGB would determine.

Reorganisation is not a single event, rather it is a process that takes place over a period of time, often in advance of the completion of any building project related to the reorganisation. It is highly desirable to start reorganising at the earliest opportunity once a final decision to reorganise has been taken. Therefore, in line with DfE guidance on the composition of governing bodies, the City Council would appoint an IGB of 12 persons, comprising:

- 4 parent governors nominated by the two schools (2 each)
- 2 staff governors nominated by the two schools (1 each)
- 2 community governors nominated by the two schools (1 each)
- 1 Headteacher-designate
- 3 persons appointed by the City Council