



# Bennerley Fields School

## Governor Allowances

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Review Requirement : 1 Year		



## **Governor Allowances**

### **Bennerley Fields Specialist Speech & Language College**

**September 2016**

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. Bennerley Fields School 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.

From 21<sup>st</sup> February 2012, all governors of Bennerley Fields School will be entitled to claim the actual costs, which they incur as follows:

1. Governors will be able to claim allowances providing the allowances are incurred in carrying out their duties, as a governor or representative of Bennerley Fields School, and are agreed by the Finance committee that they are justified.
2. Governors will be able to claim for the following, on a case-by-case basis and with the prior approval of the Governing Body:
  - Childcare or baby sitting allowances (excluding payments to a current/former spouse or partner);
  - Cost of care arrangements for an elderly or dependent relative (excluding payments to a current/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 45 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 Bennerley Fields School 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, once prior approval has been sought, should complete a claims form (sample claim form attached) 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 for approval by the Chair of Governors or Chair of Finance Committee to be presented to the Finance Committee for final approval.

This policy was adopted by the governing body on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012 *and* will be reviewed annually.



Bennerley Fields School

Governor Expenses Claim Form

Name..... Claim Period.....

Travel to meetings or training courses

Date	Purpose of journey	Miles claimed	Cost per mile	Amount claimed

Claims for other purposes such as child care/babysitting, care arrangements for other dependent relative, telephone charges, postage, photocopying, stationary, other (please specify)

Date	Type of claim (see above)	Breakdown of claim	Amount claimed

Total claimed £.....

Signed ..... Date.....

Countersigned by ..... Date.....

## **DfES Regulations: Paying Allowances to School Governors (September 2003)**

### **Key Messages**

- Governing bodies can continue to choose whether or not to pay allowances to governors. The Department thinks that it is good practice to pay such allowances as governors should not be out of pocket for the valuable work they do. Governors should be able to claim legitimate allowances where governing bodies have set up schemes to make such payments.
- Payments can be made for any expenditure necessarily incurred by individual governors to enable them to carry out governor duties.
- Allowances for travel cannot exceed the Inland Revenue Authorised Mileage Rates. Payments of other allowances must only be made on provision of a receipt. The amount to be paid should be determined by the governing body and be limited to the amount shown on the receipt.
- Governors cannot claim attendance allowances i.e. payment for attending meetings themselves, or for loss of earnings.
- Allowances can be paid to governors serving on temporary governing bodies, and to associate members.
- Governor allowances will continue to be paid from the school's delegated budget.
- In schools without delegated budgets, the LEA may pay governor allowances.

**The Education (Governors' Allowances) Regulations 2003 are available from The Stationery Office (ISBN 0-11-045135-X) or on the Stationery Office's website at:**

**<http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2003/20030523.htm>**

Guidance on the regulations can be found on Governornet:

<http://www.governornet.co.uk/linkAttachments/GovernorAllowancesOct03.pdf>