

## Declaration of pecuniary and personal interest

**Name: Paul Harris**

**School: The Tapscott Learning Trust**

**Position: CEO**

I declare as a member of staff, Trustee or Governor that I hold the following personal and/or pecuniary interest(s):

Pecuniary interests	Please provide details of the interest
Current employment	CEO of the Trust
Businesses (of which I am a partner or sole proprietor)	N/A
Company directorships – details of all companies of which I am a director	N/A
Charity trusteeships – details of all companies of which I am a trustee	The Tapscott Learning Trust – Trustee
Membership of professional bodies, membership organisations, public bodies or special interest groups of which I am a member and have a position of general control or management	National Leader of Education – National Support School – Curwen Primary School NAHT – Branch Treasurer School forum representative LBN – Academies Rep RSHE Partnership – Head teacher Rep Admissions Forum LBN – Academies Rep Covid Reference Group – Academies Rep
Gifts or hospitality offered to you by external bodies while acting in your position as a governor/trustee and whether this was declined or accepted in the last 12 months	N/A
Contracts offered by you for the supply of goods and/or services to the trust/school	N/A
Any other conflict	None

Personal interests	Name	Relationship to me	Organisation	Nature of the interest
Immediate family/close connections to governor/trustee <b>(Please see guidance notes below on Non-pecuniary interests. Please only list family members connected with the school)</b>	Helen Harris	Wife	TTLT	Lead Senco at the TTLT
Immediate family/close connections to other members of TTLT Staff	none			
Company directorships or trusteeships of family/close connections to governor/trustee	none			

**If you are a governor or trustee of any other schools and/or academies, please provide details below:**

**Name of school/academy:**  
**Position held:**  
**Date appointed/elected to post:**  
**Date of termination to post:**

**List of current suppliers**

Please review the accompanying list of current school suppliers and disclose any interest that you have in any of the suppliers or please write "not applicable".

This list can be found attached to this document or alternatively on Trust Governors under the Documents tab titled 'Pecuniary Interest – Suppliers List 2021'.

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To the best of my knowledge the information supplied above is correct and complete. I understand that it is my responsibility to declare any conflict of interest/loyalty, business or personal that relates directly or indirectly, to myself or any relation in any contract, proposed contract or other matter when present at a meeting at the school where such contract or matter comes under consideration. I understand that I must withdraw from any meeting during the discussion of such contract or matter and must not vote in respect of it.

I agree to review and update this declaration annually and give consent for the information provided to be used in accordance with the trust/school's conflicts of interest policy.

**Signed: Paul Harris** .....

**Date: 23/9/21** .....

## **Guidance notes**

Staff, Governors and Trustees have a legal duty to act only in the best interests of their schools. Where a situation arises in which they cannot do this due to a personal interest they have, steps should be taken to identify, prevent and record the conflict. This ensures staff, governors or trustees are acting in the best interests of the school.

In the declaration above, you must provide details relating to:

- Your ownership or partnership of a company or organisation which may be used by the trust/school to provide goods or services;
- Goods or services you offer which may be used by the trust/school;
- Any close relation you have to someone who satisfies either of the above;
- Any close relationship you have to someone who is employed by the trust/school.

Declaring your conflicts of interest is a legal requirement within the School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013 and for academies, in the Articles of Association and Academies Financial Handbook. However, making an annual declaration does not remove your requirement to make an oral disclosure of the interest and temporarily leave the meeting, where the interest is relevant to something being discussed.

### **Pecuniary interests**

Generally, governors should not participate in any discussions in which they may directly or indirectly benefit from a pecuniary interest, except where the relevant authority has authorised this i.e. legislation for maintained schools or articles of association for academies. A direct benefit refers to any personal financial benefit and an indirect benefit refers to any financial benefit you may have by virtue of a relationship to someone who stands to gain from a decision of the governing board. Both direct and indirect interests must be declared.

### **Non-pecuniary interests (Conflicts of loyalty)**

There may be a non-pecuniary interest whereby the governor does not stand to gain any benefit but a declaration should still be made. For example, this might be where a governor has a family member working in the school. While the governor might not benefit personally, their judgment could be impaired if something was brought up that would affect the family member.

### **Handling the conflict**

The governing board must make a decision as to whether or not they should take steps to remove the conflict by:

- Not pursuing the course of action it relates to; or
- Proceeding with it in an alternative way which does not give rise to conflict; or
- Not appointing the governor in question or seeking to secure their resignation.

In the minutes of the meeting, the following should be recorded:

- The nature of the conflict;
- Which governor(s) it relates to;
- Whether a declaration was made in advance of the meeting;

- A brief overview of what was discussed;
- Whether the governor(s) withdrew from the meeting;
- How the governors made the decision in the best interests of the school.

The Academy Trust Handbook 2021 provides for all trusts and schools to keep a register of pecuniary interests for the trustees, governors and staff of schools. The register should be reviewed annually by the clerk to the governing body but any new interest or ceased interest, should be reported to the clerk as and when they occur. Upon completion, this signed form should be given to the clerk of governors whose responsibility it is to keep a register of all interests and review it annually. You can find NGA's model conflict register on the [NGA's website](#).

The Charity Commission has produced [guidance on dealing with conflicts of interests](#) which may be useful, even for schools that do not have charitable status.