

‘How to be an Effective Chair’ – presentation notes

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How often do we feel like this? – ‘I’m a governor get me out of here!’

No mandatory training

Context is key

This session touches on 10 different topics, more detail is available through support from an NLG and many other sources, details at the end.

- Clear Expectations
- Induction
- Job Descriptions
- Code of Conduct
- Terms of reference for committees
- Training
- Honest and open behaviour and relationships
- Don’t impose your point of view
- Listen
- Reputation has to be earned
- Fairness, integrity and honesty
- Martin Mc Guinness and Ian Paisley begin power sharing on Northern Ireland

Relations with HT

Partnership

Mutual trust and respect

Let them know when you disagree

Open and honest

Admit when you don’t know

Double act with different but complementary roles

Pull in the same direction

Different functions within the partnership

Relations with GB

First among equals

Work as a team

Say thank you and encourage

Empower

Delegate

Vice Chair and committee chairs – rotate and allow to lead

Make people feel valued

Succession planning

Spread the workload

Everyone is a leader
Govs expect to be told what to do. Give them responsibility

Training

Everybody's job
Stay current
Youi don't know what you don't know
Some training is the same for everyone, other is bespoke
Play to people's strengths
Get info from lots of different sources

Communication

Don't assume anything
People hear and understand in different ways
Have difficult conversations in person
Communication between different levels of governance in MATS is key
Engagement with stakeholders – staff, parents, Trust, LA, Diocese

Patrick Stewart as Charles Xavier in X Men. Using Cerebro made him telepathically connected to everyone on the planet

Look outside the school

Support is strength not weakness
NLG
Work with other GB's
Communicate with other schools in and outside trusts
It might be scary at first but you will have lots of interesting experiences

Plan ahead

Deliberate and proactive
Set direction
Use existing timelines eg academic, calendar and financial year
Efficient working
Training plan
Monitoring plan
Policy update plan
Meetings schedule
Financial planning
Data scrutiny
Effective clerking

Where are you going in 2018?
What help do you need to get you and your team to that goal?
The journey is important as well as the destination.

Get support

Help and Support:

- www.nlgnortheast.co.uk
- millard_julia@yahoo.co.uk
- LA
- MAT
- Diocese
- NGA
- The Key
- Internet
- Schools North East
- Teaching Schools
- Hubs
- RSC/DfE
- Gov.uk
- NCTL