

## **POLICY ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE TO THE BOARD**

The means through which the Board ensures that the Director of Governance to the Board is independent of the management of the Group, has sufficient expertise and support to undertake the role and is able to provide the Board with independent advice, including independent legal advice, are as follows:

1. The Board has approved a clear job description for the Director of Governance to the Board in which independence is identified.
2. The job description specifies that the Director of Governance is directly responsible to the Board. The Director of Governance does not hold any other role in the College.
3. The Director of Governance completes an annual declaration of interest.
4. The Chair undertakes the Director of Governance's appraisal and, when the appraisal has taken place, this is reported to the Board.
4. The Board requires of and receives from the Director of Governance advice and guidance directly to itself and its Committees on all aspects of governance and related issues.
5. The Director of Governance has direct and regular access to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board, Chairs of Committees and individual governors.
6. The Director of Governance is authorised to take direct legal and professional advice for and on behalf of the Board.
7. The Director of Governance is authorised to seek confidential advice from the College's internal auditors subject to the reporting of this to the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Principal, the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee at the earliest opportunity.
8. The Board requires the Director of Governance to undertake training and development opportunities such that it may satisfy itself by way of an annual report that the training and development needs of the Director of Governance are being met. The training and development of the Director of Governance is included in the Annual Report.

<b>Updates</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Date of approval</b>
Policy consideration and approval – no changes	SGR Committee	SGR Committee – 02.06.2025

Policy on the Independence of the Director of Governance to the Board drafted	S&G Committee	S&G Committee – 14.05.2024
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