



THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE PRINCIPAL POLICY

The performance of the school depends significantly on the effectiveness of this relationship and as such a positive, productive working relationship must be developed and maintained. The board and the principal form the leadership team and as such clear role definitions have been developed. The Responsibilities of the Principal and Responsibilities of the Board policies along with the board's agreed Code of Behaviour should be read alongside this policy.

1. This relationship is based on mutual respect, trust, integrity and ability.
2. The relationship must be professional.
3. The principal reports to the board as a whole rather than to individual trustees.
4. Day to day relationships between the board and the principal are delegated to the chair.
5. All reports presented to the board by the staff (unless specifically requested by the board) arrive there with the principal's approval and the principal is accountable for the contents.
6. There are clear delegations and accountabilities by the board to the principal through policy.
7. The two must work as a team and there should be no surprises.
8. Neither party will deliberately hold back important information.
9. Neither party will knowingly misinform the other.
10. The board must maintain a healthy independence from the principal in order to fulfil its role.
11. The board is there to critique and challenge the information that comes to it, acting in the best interests of students at the school.
12. The principal should be able to share their biggest concerns with the board.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CHAIR AND THE PRINCIPAL POLICY

The chair is the leader of the board and works on behalf of the board on a day to day basis with the principal.




The relationship principles are to be read in line with the following:

1. The board's agreed governance and management definitions
2. The board's Roles and Responsibilities Policy
3. The Responsibilities of the Principal Policy
4. The Chair's Role Description Policy
5. The Trustees' Code of Behaviour Policy

Relationship principles:

1. A positive, productive working relationship between the principal and the chair is both central and vital to the school.
2. This relationship is based on mutual trust and respect.
3. The two must work as a team and there should be no surprises.
4. The relationship must be professional.
5. Each must be able to counsel the other on performance concerns.
6. The chair supports the principal and vice versa when required and appropriate.
7. There is understanding/acceptance of each other's strengths and weaknesses.
8. Each agree not to undermine the other's authority.
9. There is agreement to be honest with each other.
10. Each agree and accept the need to follow policy and procedures.
11. Agree not to hold back relevant information.
12. Agree and understand the chair has no authority except that granted by the board.
13. Understand that the chair and principal should act as sounding boards, both supporting and challenging in order to hold the school to account for achieving the goals and targets that have been set.





Review schedule: Annually

