

STANMORE COLLEGE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION

GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY

This policy applies to all staff and governors of Stanmore College Further Education Corporation (SCFEC).

Staff and governors are required to exercise discretion before accepting gifts or hospitality which could be construed as having or seeking to have undue influence on the integrity or impartiality of recipients in the discharge of their professional duties.

Suppliers of goods/services

All staff and governors are required to declare, in a written register maintained in the Principal's Office, any personal gifts or hospitality of estimated value in excess of £25 received from persons or parties connected with SCFEC which could be construed as being given as a result of their position within the organisation. This includes gifts from suppliers, students or parents.

Accepting or refusing gifts

In the case of staff, gifts and hospitality in excess of £25 may not be accepted without the written agreement of the Principal (or in the event that the Principal is the potential recipient, the Chair of the Board of Governors). In the case of governors, written agreement is required from the Chair through the Clerk to the Board, or in the event that the Chair of Governors is the potential recipient, the Vice-Chair.

In order to maintain ethical standards, there must be no question of the gift/hospitality being interpreted as unduly influencing the individual concerned. The Principal or Chair/Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors may decide to return the gift or to treat it as a donation to the College, as he/she sees fit depending on his/her judgement of the circumstances. The acid test to inform the Principal's or the Chair/Vice-Chair's judgement with gifts and hospitality will be whether or not there are sound business reasons for accepting them.

David Knowles
Clerk to the Board of Governors
November 2005