

Data Retention Policy (NS-01)

Ratified by:	Bob Crozier, Chair of Finance & Staffing Committee
Signature:	<i>AWard</i>
Date:	08.02.2022

Committee Responsible:	Finance & Staffing
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Version	Date	Comments	Author
01	20/06/2017	Based on Cumbria County Council Data Retention Policy	AMO
02	01/02/2019	Updates to SEN and Governor sections. Disposal of Records added as appendix.	AMO
03	Dec 2021	Annual Review – Retention Schedule updated in line with Veritau recommendation (IRMS Toolkit for Academies).	AMO

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INTRODUCTION

Cockermouth School recognises that the efficient management of its records is necessary to comply with its legal and regulatory obligations and to contribute to the effective overall management of the school. This document provides the policy framework through which this effective management can be achieved and audited.

This policy applies to all records created, received or maintained by staff at the school in the course of carrying out its functions.

- Records are defined as all those documents which facilitate the business carried out by the school and which are thereafter retained (for a set period) to provide evidence of its transactions or activities. These records may be created, received or maintained in hard copy or electronically.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- The school has a corporate responsibility to maintain its records and record-keeping systems in accordance with the regulatory environment. The Headteacher has overall responsibility for this policy.
- The person responsible for records' management in the school will give guidance for good records' management practice and will promote compliance with this policy so that information will be retrieved easily, appropriately and timely.
- Individual staff and employees must ensure that records for which they are responsible are accurate, and are maintained and disposed of in accordance with the school's records management guidelines.

RELATIONSHIP WITH EXISTING POLICIES

This policy has been drawn up within the context of:

- Freedom of Information Policy;
- Data Protection/Information Policy;
- And with other legislation or regulations (including audit, equal opportunities and ethics) affecting the school.

SAFE DISPOSAL OF RECORDS

Where records have been identified for destruction they should be disposed of in an appropriate way. All records containing personal information or sensitive policy information should be shredded before disposal using a cross-cut shredder or put into confidential waste bins situated around the school (these will be collected at regular intervals using an appropriate confidential waste management company). Any other records should be bundled up and disposed of to a waste paper merchant or disposed of in other appropriate ways. Do not put records in the dustbin or a skip.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the school to maintain a list of records that have been destroyed and who authorised their destruction.

Members of staff should record at least:

- File reference (or other unique identifier).
- File title (or brief description) and number of files.
- The name of the authorising officer and the date action taken.

This Data Destruction Log is kept in an Excel spreadsheet, to which relevant members of staff have access (please see Appendix 1).

TRANSFER OF INFORMATION

Where lengthy retention periods have been allocated to records, members of staff may wish to consider converting paper records to other media. The lifespan of the media and the ability to migrate data where necessary should always be considered.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Should the school close, there will be records that will need to be stored until they work out their statutory retention periods.

It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to manage these records until they have reached the end of their administrative life and to arrange for their disposal when appropriate. There may be a number of different reasons why a school has closed and this may affect where the records need to be stored.

- If the school has been closed and the site is being sold or reallocated to other use then the LA should take responsibility for the records from the date the school closes.
- If two schools have merged onto one site and then function as one school, it is sensible to retain all the records relating to the two schools on the one site.

RETENTION GUIDELINES

The following retention guidelines are based on the IRMS Records Management Toolkit for Academies 2019, as advised by the School's Data Protection Officer (DPO), Veritau Ltd. Some of the retention periods are governed by statute. Others are guidelines following best practice. Every effort has been made to ensure that these retention periods are compliant with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Managing record series using these retention guidelines will be deemed to be 'normal processing' under the legislation mentioned above. If record series are to be kept for longer or shorter periods than laid out in this document, the reasons for this need to be documented.

1. GOVERNANCE, FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MANAGERMENTS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST

Academies are governed by the Academy Trust, which will usually be a company limited by guarantee. The Academy Trust may also be a charitable trust

1.1 Governance of the Academy Trust (Cockermouth School is a company limited by guarantee)

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
1.1.1	Governance Statement	No		Life of governance statement + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.2	Articles of Association	No		Life of the Academy	
1.1.3	Memorandum of Association	No		This can be disposed of once the Academy has been incorporated	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.4	Memorandum of Understanding of Shared Governance among Schools	No	<i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i>	Life of Memorandum of Understanding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.5	Constitution	No		Life of the Academy	
1.1.6	Special Resolutions to amend the Constitution	No		Life of the Academy	
1.1.7	Written Scheme of Delegation	No	<i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i>	Life of Written Scheme of Delegation + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.8	Directors – Appointment	No		Life of appointment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.9	Directors – Disqualification	No	Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986	Date of disqualification + 15 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.10	Directors – Termination of Office	No		Date of termination + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.11	Annual Report – Trustees Report	No	<i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i>	Date of report + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.12	Annual Report and Accounts	No	<i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i>	Date of report + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.13	Annual Return	No	<i>Companies Act 2006 section 355</i>	Date of report + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.14	Appointment of Trustees and Governors and Directors	Yes		Life of appointment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.15	Statement of Trustees Responsibilities	No		Life of appointment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.16	Appointment and removal of Members	No		Life of appointment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.17	Strategic Review	No		Date of the review + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.18	Strategic Plan/School Development Plan	No		Life of plan + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.1.19	Accessibility Plan	There may be if the plan refers to specific students	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Life of plan + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.2 Board of Directors, Member Meetings and Governing Body					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
Board of Directors:					
1.2.1	Board Meeting Minutes	Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals	Companies Act 2006 section 248	Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meeting	OFFER TO ARCHIVES
1.2.2	Board Decisions	Could be if decisions refer to living individuals		Date of the meeting + a minimum of 10 years	OFFER TO ARCHIVES
1.2.3	Board Meeting: Annual Schedule of Business	No		Current year	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.4	Board Meeting: Procedures for conduct of meeting	No	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date procedures superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Committees: <i>The board can establish any committee and determine the constitution, membership and proceedings that will apply.</i>					
1.2.5	Minutes relating to any committees set up by the Board of Directors	Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals		Date of the meeting + a minimum of 10 years	OFFER TO ARCHIVES
General Members' Meeting:					
1.2.6	Records relating to the management of General Members' Meetings	Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals	Companies Act 2006 section 248	Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meeting <i>(The signed minutes must be kept securely together with the notice and agenda for the meeting and supporting documentation provided for consideration at the meeting. Documentation is generally filed in a dedicated minute book, which is usually in the form of a loose-leaf binder to which additional pages can be easily added)</i>	OFFER TO ARCHIVES
1.2.7	Records relating to the management of the Annual General Meeting <i>Not all Academies are required to hold an Annual General Meeting for the Members – the requirement will be stated in the Constitution.</i>	Could be if the minutes refer to living individuals	Companies Act 2006 section 248	Minutes must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of the meeting	OFFER TO ARCHIVES
Governors:					
1.2.8	Agendas for Governing Body meetings	May be data protection issues, if the meeting is dealing with confidential issues relating to staff		One copy should be retained with the master set of minutes. All other copies can be disposed of	SECURE DISPOSAL <i>In this context, SECURE DISPOSAL should be taken to mean disposal using confidential waste bins or shredding using a cross-cut shredder.</i>
1.2.9	Minutes of, and papers considered at, meetings of the Governing Body and its committees	May be data protection issues, if the meeting is dealing with confidential issues relating to staff			
	Principal Set (signed)			Life of Academy	
	Inspection Copies <i>These are the copies that the Clerk to the Governors may wish to retain, so that requestors can view all the relevant information, without the Clerk needing to print off and collate redacted copies of the minutes each time a request is made.</i>			Date of meeting + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.2 Board of Directors, Member Meetings and Governing Body					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
1.2.10	Reports presented to the Governing Body	May be data protection issues, if the report deals with confidential issues relating to staff		Reports should be kept for a minimum of 6 years. However, if the minutes refer directly to individual reports, then the reports should be kept for the life of the Academy	SECURE DISPOSAL or retain with the signed set of minutes
1.2.11	Meeting papers relating to the annual parents' meeting held under Section 33 of the Education Act 2002	No	Education Act 2002, Section 33	Date of the meeting + a minimum of 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.12	Trusts and Endowments managed by the Governing Body	No		PERMANENT	
1.2.13	Records relating to complaints dealt with by the Governing Body	Yes		Date of the resolution of the complaint + a minimum of 6 years then review for further retention in case of contentious disputes	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.14	Annual Reports created under the requirements of the Education (Governor's Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002	No	Education (Governor's Annual Reports) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 SI 2002 No 1171	Date of report + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Statutory Registers: <i>Academies are required by law to keep specific records, collectively known as statutory registers or the statutory books. The registers record information relating to the Academy's operations and structure, such as the current directors. Records should be kept up-to-date to reflect any changes that take place.</i>					
1.2.15	Register of Directors	Companies Act 2006		Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.16	Register of Directors' interests [this is not a statutory register]			Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.17	Register of Directors' residential addresses	Companies Act 2006		Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.18	Register of gifts, hospitality and entertainments	Companies Act 2006		Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.19	Register of members	Companies Act 2006		Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.20	Register of secretaries	Companies Act 2006		Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.21	Register of Trustees interests			Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.2.22	Declaration of Interests Statements [Governors] [this is not a statutory register]			Life of the Academy + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.3 Funding and Finance					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
Strategic Finance:					
1.3.1	Statement of financial activities for the year	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.2	Financial planning	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.3	Value for money statement	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.4	Records relating to the management of VAT	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.5	Whole of government accounts returns	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.6	Borrowing powers	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.7	Budget plan	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.8	Charging and remissions policy	No		Date policy superseded + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Audit Arrangements:					
1.3.9	Audit Committee and appointment of responsible officers	No		Life of the Academy	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.10	Independent Auditor's report on regularity	No		Financial year report relates to + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.11	Independent Auditor's report on financial statements	No		Financial year report relates to + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Funding Agreements:					
1.3.12	Funding Agreement with Secretary of State and supplemental funding agreements <i>Where there is multi-Academy governance.</i>	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.13	Funding Agreement – Termination of the funding agreement <i>Either party may give not less than 7 financial years' written notice to terminate the Agreement, such notice to expire on 31 August. Or, where the Academy has significant financial issues or is insolvent, the Agreement can be terminated by the Secretary of State to take effect on the date of the notice.</i>			Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.14	Funding Records – Capital Grant	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.15	Funding Records – Earmarked Annual Grant (EAG)	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.16	Funding Records – General Annual Grant (GAG)	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.3 Funding and Finance					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
1.3.17	Per pupil funding records	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.18	Exclusions agreement <i>The Academy can enter into an arrangement with a Local Authority (LA), so that payment will flow between the Academy and the LA, in the same way as it would do were the Academy a maintained school.</i>	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.19	Funding records <i>Funding agreement which says that the Academy can receive donations and can only charge where the law allows maintained schools to charge - see Charging and Remission Policy.</i>	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.20	Gift Aid and Tax Relief	No		Date of last payment of funding + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.21	Records relating to loans	No		Date of last payment on loan + 6 years if the loan is under £10,000 or date of last payment on loan + 12 years if the loan is over £10,000	SECURE DISPOSAL
Payroll & Pensions:					
1.3.22	Maternity pay records	Yes	Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations 1986 (SI1986/1960), revised 1999 (SI1999/567)	Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.23	Records held under Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995	Yes	Regulation 15 Retirement Benefits Schemes (Information Powers) Regulations 1995 (SI 1995/3103)	From the end of the year in which the accounts were signed for a minimum of 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.24	Management of the Teachers' Pension Scheme	Yes		Date of last payment on the pension + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.25	Records relating to pension registrations	Yes		Date of last payment on the pension + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.26	Payroll records	Yes		Date payroll run + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Risk Management & Insurance:					
1.3.27	Insurance policies	No		Date the policy expires + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.28	Records relating to the settlement of insurance claims	No		Date claim settled + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.29	Employer's Liability Insurance Certificate	No		Closure of the school + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Endowment Funds & Investments:					
1.3.30	Investment policies	No		Life of the investment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.31	Management of Endowment Funds	No		Life of the fund + 6 years	

1.3 Funding and Finance					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
Accounts & Statements:					
1.3.32	Annual accounts	No		Current year + 6 years	STANDARD DISPOSAL
1.3.33	Loans and grants managed by the school	No		Date of last payment on the loan + 12 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.34	Student Grant applications	Yes		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.35	All records relating to the creation and management of budgets, including the Annual Budget statement and background papers	No		Life of the budget + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.36	Invoices, receipts, order books and requisitions, delivery notices	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.37	Records relating to the collection and banking of monies	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.38	Records relating to the identification and collection of debt	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Contract Management:					
1.3.39	All records relating to the management of contracts under seal	No	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 12 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.40	All records relating to the management of contracts under signature	No	Limitation Act 1980	Last payment on the contract + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.41	Records relating to the monitoring of contracts	No		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
Asset Management:					
1.3.42	Inventories of furniture and equipment	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.43	Burglary, theft and vandalism report forms	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.44	Records relating to the leasing of shared facilities, such as sports centres	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.45	Land and building valuations	No		Date valuation superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.46	Disposal of assets	No		Date asset disposed of + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.47	Community School leases for land	No		Date lease expires + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.48	Commercial transfer arrangements	No		Date of transfer + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.49	Transfer of land to the Academy Trust	No		Life of land ownership then transfer to new owner	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.50	Transfers of freehold land	No		Life of land ownership then transfer to new owner	SECURE DISPOSAL

1.3 Funding and Finance					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
	School Fund:				
1.3.51	School Fund – Cheque books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.52	School Fund – Paying in books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.53	School Fund – Ledger	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.54	School Fund – Invoices	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.55	School Fund – Receipts	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.56	School Fund – Bank statements	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.57	School Fund – Journey books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
	School Meals: <i>Unless it would be unreasonable to do so, school lunches should be provided when they are requested by, or on behalf of, any student. A school lunch must be provided free of charge to any student entitled to free school lunches. From September 2014, free school lunches must be provided to all KS1 students.</i>				
1.3.58	Free school meals registers	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.59	School meals registers	Yes		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.3.60	School meals summary sheets	No		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

As a charity, an Academy is not permitted to trade and make a profit. It is, however, possible to set up a subsidiary trading company, which can sell products or services and Gift Aid profits back to the Academy. If the Academy operates a subsidiary company, it is expected that these records will be managed in line with standard business practice.

1.4 Policies, Frameworks and Overarching Requirements					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
1.4.1	Data Protection Policy, including data protection notification	No		Date policy superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.2	Freedom of Information Policy	No		Date policy superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.3	Information Security Breach Policy	No		Date policy superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.4	Special Educational Needs Policy	No		Date policy superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.5	Complaints Policy	No		Date policy superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.6	Risk and Control Framework	No		Life of framework + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.7	Rules and Bylaws	No		Date rules or bylaws superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.8	Home School Agreements <i>(This should be drawn up in consultation with parents and should apply to all students.)</i>	No		Date agreement revised + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
1.4.9	Equality Information and Objectives (public sector equality duty) Statement for publication	No		Date of statement + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

2. HUMAN RESOURCES

2.1 Recruitment

Academies do not necessarily have to employ people with qualified teacher status; only the SEN and designated LAC teacher must be qualified.

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
2.1.1	All records leading up to the appointment of a new Headteacher	Yes		Date of appointment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.2	All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – unsuccessful candidates	Yes		Date of appointment of successful candidate + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.3	All records leading up to the appointment of a new member of staff – successful candidate	Yes		All relevant information should be added to the Staff Personal File (see below) and all other information retained for 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.4	Pre-employment vetting information – DBS Checks <i>Academies are bound by the legislation that applies to independent schools NOT maintained schools.</i>	No	DBS Update Service Employer Guide June 2014	The organisation should take a copy of the DBS certificate when it is shown to them by the individual and should be added to the Staff Personal File	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.5	Proofs of identity collected as part of the process of checking “portable” enhanced DBS disclosure	Yes		Where possible, these should be checked, and a note kept of what was seen and what has been checked. If it is felt necessary to keep copy documentation, then this should be added to the Staff Personal File	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.6	Pre-employment vetting information – Evidence proving the right to work in the United Kingdom <i>Employers are required to take a “clear copy” of the documents which they are shown as part of this process.</i>	Yes	An employer’s guide to right to work checks [Home Office May 2015]	Where possible, these documents should be added to the Staff Personal File, but if they are kept separately, then the Home Office requires that the documents are kept for termination of employment plus not less than 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.7	Records relating to the employment of overseas teachers	Yes		Where possible, these documents should be added to the Staff Personal File, but if they are kept separately, then the Home Office requires that the documents are kept for termination of employment plus not less than 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.1.8	Records relating to the TUPE process	Yes		Date last member of staff transfers or leaves the organisation + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

2.2 Operational Staff Management					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
2.2.1	Staff Personal File, including employment contract and staff training records	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Termination of employment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.2	Timesheets	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.3	Annual appraisal/assessment records	Yes		Current year + 5 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.4	Records relating to the agreement of pay and conditions	No		Date pay and conditions superseded + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.2.5	Training needs analysis	No		Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL

2.3 Management of Disciplinary and Grievance Processes					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
2.3.1	Allegation which is child protection in nature against a member of staff, including where the allegation is unfounded <i>This review took place when the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse was ongoing. In light of this, it is recommended that all records relating to child abuse are retained until the Inquiry is completed. This section will then be reviewed again to take into account any recommendations the Inquiry might make concerning record retention.</i>	Yes	“Keeping children safe in education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges September 2021”; “Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children July 2018”	Until the person’s normal retirement age or 10 years from the date of the allegation, whichever is longer, then REVIEW <i>(Keep records for life pending outcome of Goddard Inquiry)</i>	SECURE DISPOSAL These records must be shredded
2.3.2	Disciplinary Proceedings	Yes			
	• Oral warning			Date of warning* + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL†
	• Written warning – level 1			Date of warning + 6 months	SECURE DISPOSAL†
	• Written warning – level 2			Date of warning + 12 months	SECURE DISPOSAL†
	• Final warning			Date of warning + 18 months	SECURE DISPOSAL†
	• Case not found			If the incident is child protection related, then see above; otherwise, dispose of at the conclusion of the case	SECURE DISPOSAL
* Where the warning relates to child protection issues, see above. If the disciplinary proceedings relate to a child protection matter, please contact your Designated Safeguarding Lead for further advice. †If warnings are placed on personal files, then they must be weeded from the file.					

2.4 Health and Safety					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
2.4.1	Health and Safety policy statements	No		Life of policy + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.2	Health and Safety risk assessments	No		Life of risk assessment + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.3	Records relating to accident/injury at work	Yes		Date of incident + 12 years In the case of serious accidents, a further retention period will need to be applied	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.4	Accident reporting	Yes	Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979 Regulation 25. Social Security Administration Act 1992 Section 8. Limitation Act 1980	The official Accident Book must be retained for 3 years after the last entry in the book. The book may be in paper or electronic format. The incident reporting form may be retained as below.	
	• Adults			Date of incident + 12 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
	• Children			Date of birth of the child + 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.5	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)	No		Current year + 10 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.6	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with asbestos	No		Last action + 40 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.7	Process of monitoring of areas where employees and persons are likely to have come into contact with radiation	No		Last action + 50 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.8	Fire precautions log books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.9	Fire risk assessments	No	Fire Service Order 2005	Life of the risk assessment + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
2.4.10	Incident reports	Yes		Current year + 20 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3. MANAGEMENT OF THE ACADEMY

3.1 Admissions

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
3.1.1	All records relating to the creation and implementation of the School Admissions' Policy	No	School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Life of the policy + 3 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.1.2	Admissions – if the admission is successful	Yes	School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Date of admission + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.1.3	Admissions – if the appeal is unsuccessful	Yes	School Admissions Code Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Resolution of case + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.1.4	Register of admissions	Yes	School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014	Every entry in the admission register must be preserved for a period of 3 years after the date on which the entry was made. <i>School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014 p6.</i>	REVIEW Schools may wish to consider keeping the admission register permanently, as often schools receive enquiries from past students to confirm the dates they attended the school
3.1.5	Admissions – Secondary Schools – Casual	Yes		Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.1.6	Proofs of address supplied by parents as part of the admissions process	Yes	School Admissions Code: Statutory Guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels December 2014	Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.1.7	Supplementary information form, including additional information such as religion and medical conditions	Yes			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For successful admissions 			This information should be added to the student file	SECURE DISPOSAL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For unsuccessful admissions 			Until appeals process completed	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.2 Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
3.2.1	Log books of activity in the school maintained by the Headteacher	There may be data protection issues if the log book refers to individual students or members of staff		Date of last entry in the book + a minimum of 6 years then REVIEW	These could be of permanent historical value and should be offered to the County Archives Service, if appropriate
3.2.2	Minutes of Senior Leadership Team meetings and meetings of other internal administrative bodies	There may be data protection issues if the minutes refers to individual students or members of staff		Date of the meeting + 3 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.2.3	Reports created by the Headteacher or the Leadership Team	There may be data protection issues if the report refers to individual students or members of staff		Date of the report + a minimum of 3 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.2.4	Records created by Head Teachers, Deputy Headteachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	There may be data protection issues if the records refer to individual students or members of staff		Current academic year + 6 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.2.5	Correspondence created by Headteachers, Deputy Head Teachers, heads of year and other members of staff with administrative responsibilities	There may be data protection issues if the correspondence refers to individual students or members of staff		Date of correspondence + 3 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.2.6	Professional Development Plans	Yes		Life of the plan + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

3.3 Operational Administration					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
3.3.1	Management of complaints	Yes		Date complaint resolved + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.2	Records relating to the management of contracts with external providers	No		Date of last payment on contract + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.3	Records relating to the management of software licences	No		Date licence expires + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.4	General file series	No		Current year + 5 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.5	Records relating to the creation and publication of the school brochure or prospectus	No		Current year + 3 years	STANDARD DISPOSAL
3.3.6	Records relating to the creation and distribution of circulars to staff, parents or students	No		Current year + 1 year	STANDARD DISPOSAL
3.3.7	Newsletters and other items with a short operational use	No		Current year + 1 year	STANDARD DISPOSAL
3.3.8	Visitors' books and signing in sheets	Yes		Current year + 3 years then REVIEW (InVentry)	SECURE DISPOSAL
3.3.9	Records relating to the creation and management of Parent Teacher Associations and/or Old Students Associations	No		Current year + 6 years then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL

4. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

This section covers the management of buildings and property

4.1 Property Management

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
4.1.1	Title deeds of properties belonging to the school	No		These should follow the property, unless the property has been registered with the Land Registry	
4.1.2	Plans of property belonging to the school	No		These should be retained whilst the building belongs to the school and should be passed onto any new owners if the building is leased or sold	
4.1.3	Leases of property leased by or to the school	No		Expiry of lease + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.1.4	Records relating to the letting of school premises	No		Current financial year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.1.5	Business continuity and disaster recovery plans	No		Date the plan superseded + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

4.2 Maintenance

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
4.2.1	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by contractors	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.2.2	All records relating to the maintenance of the school carried out by school employees, including maintenance log books	No		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

4.3 Fleet Management					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
4.3.1	The process of acquisition and disposal of vehicles through lease or purchase, e.g. contracts/leases, quotes, approvals	N	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Disposal of the vehicle + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.3.2	The process of managing allocation and maintenance of vehicles, e.g. lists of who was driving the vehicles and when, maintenance	N	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Disposal of the vehicle + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.3.3	Service logs and vehicle logs	N	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Life of the vehicle, then either to be retained for 6 years by school or to be returned to lease company	SECURE DISPOSAL
4.3.4	GPS tracking data relating to the vehicles	N	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of journey + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

5. STUDENT MANAGEMENT

This section includes all records that are created during the time a student spends at the school. For information about accident reporting, see under Health & Safety above

5.1 Student's Educational Record

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
5.1.1	Student's Educational Record required by The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005	Yes	The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 SI 2005 No. 1437		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary 			Retain whilst the child remains at the primary school	File should follow the student to: another primary school; a secondary school; a pupil referral unit. If the student dies whilst at primary school, return to the LA to be retained for the statutory retention period. If the student transfers to an independent school, transfers to home schooling or leaves the country, the file should be returned to the LA to be retained for the statutory retention period.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary 		Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
5.1.2	Records relating to the management of exclusions	Yes		Date of birth of the pupil involved + 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
5.1.3	Management of examination registrations	Yes		The examination board will usually mandate how long these records need to be retained	
5.1.4	Examination results – student copies	Yes			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public 			This information should be added to the student file	All uncollected certificates should be returned to the examination board
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal 			This information should be added to the student file	

5.1 Student's Educational Record					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
	This review took place when the Independent Inquiry on Historical Child Sexual Abuse was ongoing. In light of this, it is recommended that all records relating to child abuse are retained until the (Goddard) Inquiry is completed. This section will then be reviewed again to take into account any recommendations the Inquiry might make concerning record retention.				
5.1.5	Child protection information held on student file	Yes	"Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges September 2021"; "Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children July 2018"	No child protection records are held in the general student file; please see below	Not Applicable
5.1.6	Child protection information held in separate files (refers to paper CP records held by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and CPOMS)	Yes	"Keeping children safe in education Statutory guidance for schools and colleges September 2021"; "Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children July 2018"	Date of birth of the child + 25 years then REVIEW This retention period was agreed in consultation with the Safeguarding Children Group on the understanding that the principal copy of this information will be found on the LA Social Services record	SECURE DISPOSAL – these records MUST be shredded or electronically deleted

Retention periods relating to allegations made against adults can be found in the Human Resources section of this retention schedule.

5.2 Attendance					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
5.2.1	Attendance registers	Yes	School attendance: Departmental advice for maintained schools, Academies, independent schools and local authorities October 2014	Every entry in the attendance register must be preserved for a period of 3 years after the date on which the entry was made	SECURE DISPOSAL
5.2.2	Correspondence relating to authorised absence		Education Act 1996 Section 7	Current academic year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

5.3 Special Educational Needs					
	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
5.3.1	Special Educational Needs files, reviews and Individual Education Plans	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of birth of the pupil + 25 years	REVIEW NOTE: This retention period is the minimum retention period that any student file should be kept. Some authorities choose to keep SEN files for a longer period of time in order to defend themselves in a "failure to provide a sufficient education" case. There is an element of business risk analysis involved in any decision to keep the records longer than the minimum retention period – this should be documented
5.3.2	Statement maintained under section 234 of the Education Act 1990 and any amendments made to the statement	Yes	Education Act 1996 Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 1	Date of birth of the student + 25 years (This would normally be retained on the student file)	SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold
5.3.3	Advice and information provided to parents regarding educational needs	Yes	Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 2	Date of birth of the student + 25 years (This would normally be retained on the student file)	SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold
5.3.4	Accessibility strategy	Yes	Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 Section 14	Date of birth of the student + 25 years (This would normally be retained on the student file)	SECURE DISPOSAL, unless the document is subject to a legal hold

6. CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

6.1 Statistics and Management Information

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
6.1.1	Curriculum returns	No		Current year + 3 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
6.1.2	Examination results (school's copy)	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
	SATs records –	Yes			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results 			The SATS results should be recorded on the pupil's educational file and will therefore be retained until the pupil reaches the age of 25 years The school may wish to keep a composite record of all the whole year SATs results. These could be kept for current year + 6 years to allow suitable comparison	SECURE DISPOSAL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination papers 			The examination papers should be kept until any appeals/validation process is complete	SECURE DISPOSAL
6.1.3	Published Admission Number (PAN) reports	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
6.1.4	Value added and contextual data	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
6.1.5	Self-evaluation forms	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

6.2 Implementation of Curriculum

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
6.2.1	Schemes of work	No		Current year + 1 year	It may be appropriate to review these records at the end of each year and allocate a further retention period, or, SECURE DISPOSAL
6.2.2	Timetable	No		Current year + 1 year	
6.2.3	Class record books	No		Current year + 1 year	
6.2.4	Mark books	No		Current year + 1 year	
6.2.5	Record of homework set	No		Current year + 1 year	
6.2.6	Students' work	No		Where possible, work should be returned to the student at the end of the academic year. If this is not the school's policy, then current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL

7. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

7.1 Educational Visits outside the Classroom

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
7.1.1	Records created by schools in order to obtain approval to run an educational visit outside the classroom – Primary schools	No	Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance website http://oeapng.info specifically Section 3 – "Legal Framework and Employer Systems" and Section 4 – "Good Practice".	Date of visit + 14 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.1.2	Records created by schools in order to obtain approval to run an educational visit outside the classroom – Secondary schools	No	Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance website http://oeapng.info specifically Section 3 – "Legal Framework and Employer Systems" and Section 4 – "Good Practice".	Date of visit + 10 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
7.1.3	Parental consent forms for school trips where there has been no major incident <i>One-off or blanket consent: The Department for Education (DfE) has prepared a one-off consent form to be signed by the parent on enrolment of their child in a school. This form is intended to cover all types of visits and activities where parental consent is required. The form is available on the DfE website for establishments to adopt and adapt, as appropriate, at www.gov.uk/government/publications/consent-for-school-trips-and-other-off-site-activities.</i>	Yes		Conclusion of the trip	Although the consent forms could be retained for date of birth + 25 years, the requirement for them being needed is low and most schools do not have the storage capacity to retain every single consent form issued by the school for this period of time
7.1.4	Parental permission slips for school trips – where there has been a major incident	Yes	Limitation Act 1980 (Section 2)	Date of birth of the pupil involved in the incident + 25 years. The permission slips for all the students on the trip need to be retained to show that the rules had been followed for all students	
7.1.5	Records relating to residential trips	Yes		Date of birth of youngest pupil involved + 25 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

7.2 Walking Bus

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
7.2.1	Walking bus registers	Yes		Date of register + 3 years. This takes into account the fact that, if there is an incident requiring an accident report, the register will be submitted with the accident report and kept for the period of time required for accident reporting	SECURE DISPOSAL [If these records are retained electronically any back-up copies should be destroyed at the same time]

8. IT NETWORK RECORDS

8.1 System/Back-up Files

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
8.1.1	Email	Yes		System: 10 Years, Backup: 1 Year (inc all data)**	
8.1.2	Staff Documents	Yes		System: 10 Years, Backup: 1 Year (inc all data)**	
8.1.3	Student Documents	Yes		System: 10 Years, Backup: 1 Year (inc all data)**	
8.1.4	SIMS	Yes		System: 10 Years, Backup: 1 Year (inc all data)**	
8.1.5	Finance (Sage)	Yes		System: 10 Years, Backup: 1 Year (inc all data)**	

9. CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL AUTHORITY (LA)

This section covers records created in the course of interaction between the school and the LA

9.1 Local Authority

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
9.1.1	Secondary transfer sheets (Primary)	Yes		Current year + 2 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
9.1.2	Attendance returns	Yes		Current year + 1 year	SECURE DISPOSAL
9.1.3	School census returns	Yes		Current year + 5 years	SECURE DISPOSAL

9.2 Central Government

	Basic File Description	Data Protection Issues	Statutory Provisions	Retention Period (operational)	Action at end of Administrative Life
9.2.1	OFSTED reports and papers	No		Life of the report then REVIEW	SECURE DISPOSAL
9.2.2	Returns made to central government	Yes		Current year + 6 years	SECURE DISPOSAL
9.2.3	Circulars and other information sent from central government	No		Operational use	SECURE DISPOSAL

Name of Information Asset	Asset Owner's Job Title	Description of information (what was purpose etc)	Format (electronic / paper etc)	Date Information Created (or range of dates)	Retention Period according to Retention Schedule	Date Destroyed	Method of Destruction	Name (and job title) of staff member who deleted data	Authorised by Information Asset Owner?	Comments/Notes
<i>eg. Student paper files</i>	<i>Head of Year</i>	<i>eg. Students' education records including correspondence, progress, behaviour records</i>	<i>Paper</i>	<i>Sept 2003 - July 2008</i>	<i>DOB + 25 years</i>	<i>31-Aug-16</i>	<i>Confidential shredding</i>		<i>Y</i>	<i>Destroyed in line with Data Retention Policy</i>

A copy of the Data Destruction Log is held in the Data Protection folder on Google Drive. Access is given to relevant staff by the Data Manager.

Admissions Policy

Academies are their own admission authority (although the LA or another organisation can be contracted to carry out the tasks associated with the role). The Admissions Policy must comply with the requirements of the admission code and must be reviewed and adopted annually, irrespective of any changes. A formal consultation for a period of at least six weeks between 1 October and 31 January must be carried out where any changes are required. Admissions-related information should be uploaded to the academy website.

Accessibility Plan

A plan or strategy must be put into place, setting out how disabled students can participate in the curriculum and associated services, thereby maximising access to both the physical environment and written information provided to students.

Annual Report and Accounts

It is a condition of the funding agreement that Academy accounts must be produced for the 12-month accounting period ending on 31 August. The Annual Report and Accounts must be filed with Companies House by 31 May and should include the following elements:

Reports:

- A trustees' report;
- A governance statement;
- A statement on regularity, propriety and compliance;
- A statement of trustees' responsibilities;
- An independent auditor's report on the financial statements; and
- An independent auditor's report on regularity.

Financial statements:

- A statement of financial activities;
- A balance sheet;
- A cash-flow statement; and
- Notes which expand on the statements, including a note on the Academy trust's accounting policies.

Annual Return

Every Academy must file a completed annual return at Companies House each year.

Articles of Association

The Articles of Association prescribe the internal management, decision-making and running of the Academy trust as well as its liability. The DfE has model documentation which schools are expected to adopt.

Annual Report – Trustees'/Directors' Report

The Directors of the Academy are responsible for the preparation of a Trustees'/Directors' report which supports the financial statements. The report fulfils the requirements for a Directors' report, as set out in ss. 415–419 CA 2006, as well as a Trustees' report under charity law, as set out in the Charities' SORP. The main objective is to supplement financial information with such further information as necessary for a full appreciation of the company's activities. The report describes what the Academy is trying to do and how it is going about it, demonstrates whether and how the Academy has achieved its objectives during the year, and explains its plans for the future.

Charging and Remissions Policy

An Academy is treated in the same way as a maintained school in respect of charging, particularly in relation to charges, regulations about information about charges and school hours, voluntary contributions, recovery of sums as civil debt, interpretation regarding charges, and the obligation to enter students for public examinations. The terms also place an obligation on an Academy to have a Charging and Remissions policy.

The Education Act 1996 provides that parents and students cannot be charged for any activity unless there is a policy in place. Charges per student cannot exceed the actual costs incurred, so that no extra cost can be charged to cover students who cannot afford the activity or in order to make a profit.

Charges for activities taking place during the normal school day can only be on the basis of voluntary contributions and students will be treated no differently whether they pay the contribution or not.

Directors – Appointment

The method of appointment will depend on the category of Director and the terms of the Articles. However, there must be at least two parent governors and no more than a third of Directors – including the Headteacher – can be Academy staff. Directors are generally appointed for a term of 4 years.

Directors – Disqualification

The Company Directors' Disqualification Act 1986 grants the court power to make an order disqualifying a person from promoting, forming or taking part in the management of a company without the leave of the court. There are numerous grounds for disqualification and the model articles set out specific instances which will be regarded as disqualification.

Directors – Termination of Office

Generally, Directors are appointed for a fixed term of office, which in the model articles is set at 4 years. A Director may resign by giving written notice to the clerk at any time, although the articles provide that this will only be valid if there are at least three Directors remaining in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect.

The Companies Act 2006 provides that a “company may by ordinary resolution at a meeting remove a director before the expiration of his period of office, notwithstanding anything in any agreement between it and him”. This very wide provision is slightly tempered by the model articles, which state that Directors can generally be removed from office by the person or persons who appointed them. This means that where Directors are appointed by the members they can be removed from office, following a member resolution, by written notice to the clerk. Elected Directors cannot be removed in this way.

Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State

The Funding Agreement is effectively the contract by which the Academy agrees to provide educational services in exchange for funding provided by the DfE. There are model versions of the Funding Agreement, but these have been updated over time to reflect changes in policy and legislation. The DfE does not expect schools to deviate from the model documents.

Funding Records – Capital Grant

Specific prior written agreement by the Secretary of State must be obtained prior to incurring any capital expenditure on which capital grant payments are sought. Capital expenditure may include costs for building new premises or for substantially refurbishing existing premises.

Funding Records – Earmarked Annual Grant (EAG)

The EAG may be paid for either recurrent expenditure or capital expenditure for such specific purposes as have been agreed between the Secretary of State and the Academy. EAG may only be spent in accordance with the terms, conditions and scope of the grant, which are set out in the relevant funding letter.

Funding Records – General Annual Grant (GAG)

The GAG will be paid to cover the normal running costs of the Academy, such as salary and administration costs. The funding is equivalent to that which would be received by a maintained school with similar characteristics, together with an additional element for functions which would be carried out by the LA if the Academy were a maintained school.

General Members' Meetings

Meetings of the members are known as General Meetings. Apart from any specific requirement to call an Annual General Meeting, the Articles contain no specific obligations with regard to holding General Meetings. This means that it is feasible for long periods of time to pass without any meetings being held, since all resolutions are passed using the written resolution method! Members' meetings are closely regulated and the Companies Act 2006 has a whole chapter (Part 13, Chapter 3) dedicated to the requirements. This can be contrasted with Board Meetings, which have very little in the way of formal requirements.

Governance Statement

Academies are recipients of public funding and so must prepare a Governance Statement – this is a requirement by HM Treasury for all public bodies. It must be signed by the Chair and Accounting Officer on behalf of the board.

Memorandum of Association

Document confirming the three 'subscribers' who wish to form the Academy and become its members. The memorandum has no ongoing significance once an Academy has been incorporated.

Rules and Bylaws

The Directors are entitled to make “such rules or bylaws as they may deem necessary or expedient or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Academy” in connection with matters that are “commonly the subject matter of company rules”, such as in connection with meetings or members.

Special Educational Needs

The Academies Act 2010 provides that academies must have regard to the SEN Code of Practice. Published by the DfE, the Code of Practice includes adoption of a policy on SEN, which sets out the approach to meeting students' special educational needs whether with or without a statement.

Strategic Review

Academies are now required to produce a strategic report, which must contain a fair review of the Academy's business as well as a description of the principal risks and uncertainties it faces. It will specifically include the following: achievements and performance; financial review; plans for future periods; and funds held as a custodian trustee on behalf of others. The Directors/Trustees must include a clear statement that they are approving the strategic report in their capacity as Company Directors.

Written Scheme of Delegation

The board can delegate any power or function to an individual Director, a committee, the principal or any other holder of an executive office. That person must report to the board when that authority has been exercised and any action taken, or decision made.

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Headteacher:
Mr R J King BSc

Chair of Governors:
Mr A Ward

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