



SCHEME OF DELEGATION - FOR GOVERNANCE AND DECISION-MAKING: JANUARY 2022 UPDATE

The Scheme of Delegation is designed to clarify the lines of responsibility and accountability in terms of governance and decision-making in the Trust so that everyone understands their roles.

It is important to note that it is the Trust which is the legal entity and not each school (or academy). Therefore, the Board of Directors (Trustees) is accountable in law for all decisions about its schools. Many of these decisions are delegated to the CEO and the Trust Committees and some to a school's Local Advisory Board (LAB).

The CEO is also the Accounting Officer and therefore has overall responsibility for the Trust's financial effectiveness and stability, reporting directly to the Trust Board.

The CEO delegates some functions and decisions to the Headteacher (HT), mainly in terms of the strategic leadership and operational management of the school but all HTs, whilst retaining considerable independence, are expected to play a full part in developing collaborative working across all the schools and promoting the positive values and objectives of the Trust. Unilateral decision-making is discouraged if it potentially affects other schools and may lead to Trust intervention if schools stray too far away from agreed and shared policy and practice. The HT is expected to consult fully with the CEO and further with the Local Advisory Board (LAB) if in place and as appropriate.

The general mechanism for approval by the CEO of any school-based matters is via a formal meeting – normally:

- Operational Meeting (OM) for each school
- MAT Leadership Group (MLG)

Should a quicker response be necessary, then direct communication can take place at other times, but all decisions should be formally recorded.

The general mechanism for approval by Trustees is via a formal meeting (The Board or one of its formal Committees; e.g. Finance and Resources Committee, Audit and Risk Committee, Pay Committee) with reports and/or requests for approval made by the CEO. Should a quicker response be necessary, then the CEO will request *Chair's action* for the decision and retrospective reporting to the Board. As far as possible, the number of decisions involving Chair's action should be kept to a minimum.

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KEY:

- √ indicates responsibility for the final decision
 - Other roles include: recommend, consult, review, comply and report.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THIS DOCUMENT:

The document is reviewed at least annually. The main current additions are:

- 2d appointment of auditors
- 2p approval of formal Trust acquisition or merger
- 6c approval of financial authority and spending limits



1 GOVERNANCE - PEOPLE

	ACTION and DECISION:	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
1a	MEMBERS: appoint and remove	√	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
1b	ROLE DESCRIPTIONS OF MEMBERS: approve	√	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
1 C	TRUSTEES: appoint and remove	√	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
1d	CHAIR OF BOD: appoint as Trustee	V	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
1e	BOD CHAIR: elect annually	N/a	√	N/a	N/a	N/a
ıf	COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS (INCLUDING LABs): appoint and remove	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
1 g	COMMITTEE MEMBERS (INCLUDING LABs): appoint and remove	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
1h	ROLE DESCRIPTIONS OF TRUSTEES, CHAIRS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS (INCLUDING LABs): approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
1i	CLERKS TO BoD AND COMMITTEES (INCLUDING LABs): appoint and remove	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with CEO re clerk to LAB	N/a
1j	ACCOUNTING OFFICER: αppoint and remove	N/a	√	N/a	N/a	N/a
1k	COMPANY SECRETARY: appoint and remove	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a

2 GOVERNANCE - SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES

	ACTION and <i>DECISION</i> :	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
2a	ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION: approve	√	Recommend to Members	Recommend to Members	N/a	N/a
2b	TRUST GOVERNANCE AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: approve	N/a	V	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
20	TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES (INCLUDING LABs): approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
2d	AUDITORS:	√	Recommend to Members	Recommend to Members	N/a	N/a
20	SKILLS AUDIT AND RECRUITMENT: ensure	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with CEO re LAB	Recommend to LAB



2f	Bod and committee PERFORMANCE (EXCLUDING LABs): self-review	Review	√	N/a	N/a	N/a
2g	LAB PERFORMANCE: self-review	N/a	Review	Recommend to BoD	√	N/a
2h	CONTRIBUTIONS BY TRUSTEES, CHAIRS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS (INCLUDING LABs): review	N/a	√	Consult with BoD	Consult with CEO and HT	Consult with CEO
2i	TRUST SUCCESSION PLAN: αpprove	Review	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
2j	ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS FOR TRUST BOARD: approve	N/a	V	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
2k	ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS FOR LAB: approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with CEO	Consult with CEO
2	TRUSTEE AND LOCAL ADVISER TRAINING: approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and recommend to BoD	C onsult with LAB and CEO
2m	EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF THE SCHOOL: approve	N/a	Review	√	Consult with HT	Consult with CEO and LAB
2n	TRUST'S VISION, ETHOS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION: approve	Review	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
20	NEW SCHOOLS JOINING THE TRUST: approve	Review	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
2р	FORMAL TRUST ACQUISITION OR MERGER: approve	√	Recommend to Members	Recommend to Members	N/a	N/a

3 GOVERNANCE - REPORTING

	ACTION and DECISION:	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
3а	GOVERNANCE DETAILS ON TRUST AND SCHOOLS' WEBSITES: ensure	N/a	V	Comply	Comply	Comply
3p	REGISTER OF ALL INTERESTS including business, pecuniary, loyalty and connected parties: ensure	N/a	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Comply	Comply	Comply
3c	ANNUAL REPORT ON TRUST PERFORMANCE TO ESFA: ensure	Review annually and publish	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
3d	ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS including accounting policies, signed statement on regularity, propriety and compliance, incorporating governance statement demonstrating value for money: ensure	Review annually and publish	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Comply and report to BoD	N/a	N/a
3е	ANNUAL REPORT ON WORK OF LAB: ensure	N/a	Review and publish	Recommend to BoD	√	Consult with LAB



3f	ANNUAL REPORT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY: ensure	Review annually and publish	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and report to CEO	Consult with LAB and report to EH
39	ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILD SAFEGUARDING: ensure	Review annually and publish	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and report to CEO	Consult with LAB and report to EH

4 GOVERNANCE - STRATEGY

	ACTION and DECISION:	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES	CEO	LAB (school level)	HEADTEACHER
			(Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	(Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	(Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
4a	TRUST VISION AND STRATEGY - key priorities and KPIs to measure progress: <i>approve</i>	Review	V	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Recommend to CEO following consultation with LAB
4b	SCHOOLS' VISION AND STRATEGY - key priorities and KPIs to measure progress: approve	N/a	Review	V	Consult with HT and CEO	Recommend to LAB and CEO
4C	PERFORMANCE OF SCHOOLS: review	Review annually and publish	√ Qu of Ed Committee	Review and report to BoD	Review and report to CEO	Review and report to CEO
4d	PERFORMANCE OF THE TRUST AS A WHOLE: review	Review annually and publish	√	Review and report to BoD	Review and report to CEO	Review and report to CEO
4e	THREE YEAR TRUST IMPROVEMENT PLAN: approve	Review	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
4f	SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: approve	N/a	Review Qu of Ed Committee	Review	V	Recommend to LAB and CEO
4 g	TRUST-WIDE POLICIES: αpprove & review	N/a	√ Including All Committees	Consult with LAB and HT, recommend to BoD and comply	Consult with HT and CEO and comply	Consult with LAB and CEO and comply
4h	TRUST-WIDE SAFEGUARDING POLICY: approve & review	N/a	V	Consult with LAB and HT, recommend to BoD and comply	Consult with HT and CEO and comply	Consult with LAB and CEO and comply
4i	SCHOOL-LEVEL POLICIES: approve	N/a	N/a	Consult with LAB and HT	√	Recommend to LAB and CEO, comply and review
4j	CREATE CENTRAL BUDGET AND SCHOOL TOPSLICE: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
4k	MANAGEMENT OF RISK: register, monitor and review	N/a	√ A&R Committee	Recommend to BoD, comply and report	Comply and report to BoD	Recommend to LAB, comply and report
41	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: ensure	√	√	V	V	√
4m	CEO: appoint and dismiss	N/a	√	N/a	N/a	N/a



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4n	COO: appoint and dismiss	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
40	HT: appoint and dismiss	N/a	V	Recommend to BoD	Recommend to BoD	N/a
4p	TRUST BUDGET PLAN TO SUPPORT KEY PRIORITIES: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
4 q	SCHOOL BUDGET PLAN TO SUPPORT KEY PRIORITIES: approve	N/a	Review F&R Committee	√	Consult with HT and LAB	Recommend to LAB and CEO
4r	TRUST LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE: approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
45	CREATE CENTRAL STAFFING STRUCTURE: approve	N/a	Review	√	N/a	N/a
4t	SCHOOL STAFFING STRUCTURE: approve	N/a	Review	√	Consult with HT and CEO and review	Recommend to LAB and CEO
40	DHT: appoint	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
4٧	SUPPORT STAFF – Gr7 OR ABOVE: appoint	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
4W	SUPPORT STAFF – Gr6: αppoint	N/a	Review	√	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
4X	AHT: αppoint	N/a	Review	√	Consult with HT and CEO	Consult with LAB and CEO
49	COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY: ensure	N/a	Review	√	N/a	Consult with CEO

5 GOVERNANCE – HOLDING TO ACCOUNT

	ACTION and <i>DECISION</i> :	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
5 a	AUDIT AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS – COMPLIANCE with the funding agreement and other regulations: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Recommend to BoD, comply and report	Comply	Comply
5b	PROGRESS ON KEY PRIORITIES – REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS: approve	N/a	√ Including All Committees	Recommend and report to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	Recommend to LAB and CEO
5c	PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW OF CEO: ensure	N/a	√	Report to BoD	N/a	N/a
5d	PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW OF COO: ensure	N/a	Review	√	N/a	N/a



5e	PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW OF HT: ensure	N/a	Review	√	Consult with CEO	Report to CEO
5f	TRUST-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES: ensure	N/a	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Recommend and report to BoD	Comply and review	Comply, review and report to CEO and LAB
59	SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES: ensure	N/a	Review F&R Committee A&R Committee	Review and report to BoD	√	Recommend and report to CEO and LAB
5h	STATUTORY COMPLIANCE – COMPANY/CHARITY LAW: ensure	N/a	√	Comply, review and report to BoD	Comply	Comply, review and report to CEO and LAB

6 GOVERNANCE – FINANCIAL PROBITY

	ACTION and <i>DECISION</i> :	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
6a	TRUST SCHEME OF FINANCIAL DELEGATION: αpprove	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
6b	SCHOOL BUDGET ALLOCATION: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO
6c	FINANCIAL AUTHORITY AND SPENDING LIMITS as per Financial Regulations: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO
6d	EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT: receive and respond	N/a	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Consult with BoD and comply	Comply	Comply
6e	CEO PAY AWARD: approve	N/a	√ F&R (Pay) Committee	N/a	N/a	N/a
6f	COO PAY AWARD: αpprove	N/a	√ Pay Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
6g	HT/DHT/AHT pay award: αpprove	N/a	√ Pay Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
6h	STAFF APPRAISAL PROCEDURE & PAY PROGRESSION: approve	N/a	√ Pay Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Recommend to CEO
6i	TRUST CHARGING POLICY: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO
6ј	TRUST-WIDE BENCH-MARKING AND VALUE FOR MONEY: ensure	N/a	√ F&R Committee A&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	N/a	N/a
6k	SCHOOL-BASED BENCHMARKING & VALUE FOR MONEY: ensure	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO and LAB



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			F&R Committee			
61	TRUST-WIDE PROCUREMENT	N/a	Review	√	N/a	Consult with CEO
	STRATEGIES AND EFFICIENCY SAVINGS: ensure		F&R Committee			
6m	USE OF TOPSLICE: approve	N/a	V	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO
			F&R Committee			
6n	APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS AND	N/a	V	Recommend to	Consult with HT	Consult with CEO
	LOANS – EG FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT: approve		F&R Committee	BoD		and LAB
60	CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with CEO
	EXTERNAL PARTIES – EG ICT CONTRACTS & SERVICES: ensure		F&R Committee			and LAB
6р	MODIFICATIONS TO SERVICE	N/a	√	Recommend to	N/a	Consult with CEO and LAB
	CONTRACTS – EG ICT, CATERING < CLEANING: ensure		F&R Committee	BoD		
6q	FINANCIAL LEASES OR CONTRACTS:	N/a	√	Recommend to	N/a	Consult with CEO
	ensure		F&R Committee	BoD		and LAB
6r	CAPITAL DECISIONS – EG	N/a	√	Recommend to	N/a	Consult with CEO
	INVESTMENTS, BUILDING WORKS		F&R Committee	BoD		and LAB
6s	STATUTORY COMPLIANCE -	N/a	V	Comply, review	Comply and	Comply, review and
	FINANCE: ensure		F&R Committee	and report to BoD	review	report to CEO and LAB

7 GOVERNANCE - EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM

	ACTION and <i>DECISION</i> :	MEMBERS	TRUSTEES (Full BoD or delegate to a Trust-wide Committee which reports formally to the BoD)	CEO (Trust level) (Some tasks may be delegated to senior staff in Create Central)	LAB (school level) A committee of the BoD with a focus on one school	HEADTEACHER (Some tasks may be delegated to senior school staff)
7a	STATUTORY COMPLIANCE – EDUCATION LAW: ensure	N/a	√	Comply, review and report to BoD	Comply and review	Comply, review and report to CEO and LAB
7b	PUPIL ADMISSION NUMBERS (PAN): approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Comply	Comply
7¢	COLLECTIVE WORSHIP: ensure	N/a	√	Consult with HT, comply and review	√	√ Consult with CEO and LAB, comply and review
7d	HR POLICIES – Eg disciplinary, capability, leave of absence: <i>αpprove</i>	N/a	√ Including F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	Comply and review	Consult with CEO and LAB, comply and review
7 e	POLICIES RE PARENTS – Eg communications, parent voice: approve	N/a	Review	Consult with HT and LAB	√	√ Consult with CEO and LAB, comply and review
7f	CHARGING AND REMISSIONS: approve	N/a	√ F&R Committee	Recommend to BoD	Comply and review	Consult with CEO and LAB, comply and review



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79	BROAD POLICIES RE PUPILS – Eg attendance, SEND, behaviour: approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Comply and review	Consult with CEO and LAB, comply and review
7h	TERM DATES & LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY: approve	N/a	Review	√	Comply	Comply
7 i	STAFF TRAINING DAYS: approve	N/a	N/a	Consult with HT and LAB	Consult with HT	√ Consult with CEO and LAB
7j	FRAMEWORK FOR VISITS TO TRUST SCHOOLS BY TRUSTEES AND LAB MEMBERS: ensure	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO Comply	Consult with LAB and CEO
7k	CURRICULUM PLAN AND SCHOOL STATEMENT: approve	N/a	Review	√	Consult with HT	Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7l	TRUST-WIDE CURRICULUM STATEMENT: approve	N/a	√	Recommend to BoD	N/a	Consult with LAB and CEO
7m	SCHOOL MEALS AND FOOD POLICY – NUTRITIONAL STANDARDS: ensure	N/a	√	Comply and review	Comply	Comply
7n	CURRICULUM MODEL: αpprove	N/a	Review	Consult with HT and LAB, and recommend to BoD	Consult with HT and CEO	√ Consult with LAB and CEO
70	QUALITY OF TEACHING – levels of support, challenge and intervention: ensure	N/a	Review	Consult with LAB and HT, review and report to BoD	√	√ Review and report to LAB and CEO
7P	PUPIL PREMIUM – use and value for money against pupil outcomes and narrowing the gap: <i>ensure</i>	N/a	Review F&R Committee	Report to BoD	√	√ Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
79	SPORTS PREMIUM – use and value for money against pupil outcomes & narrowing the gap: <i>ensure</i>	N/a	Review F&R Committee	Report to BoD	V	√ Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7r	TRUST-WIDE PUPIL TARGET- SETTING – END KEY STAGES: approve	N/a	Review	Review	Consult with HT and CEO	√ Recommend to LAB and CEO
7s	SCHOOL-BASED TARGET-SETTING – ALL YEAR GROUPS: approve	N/a	Review	Review	N/a	Recommend to LAB and CEO
7t	TRUST-WIDE - PUPILS' WELL-BEING AND SAFEGUARDING: <i>ensure</i>	N/a	Review	√	N/a	Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7W	SCHOOL-BASED – PUPILS' WELL- BEING AND SAFETY: ensure	N/a	Review	Consult with HT and LAB and review	√	√ Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7X	TRUST-WIDE - PUPILS' STANDARDS AND PROGRESS: ensure	N/a	Review	√	N/a	Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7у	SCHOOL-BASED – PUPILS' STANDARDS AND PROGRESS: ensure	N/a	Review	Consult with HT and LAB and review	√	√ Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7 z	TRUST-WIDE – PUPILS' OTHER OUTCOMES: ensure	N/a	Review	√	N/a	Comply, review and report to CEO and LAB



7 aa	SCHOOL-BASED – PUPILS' OTHER OUTCOMES: ensure	N/a	Review	Consult with HT and LAB and review	V	Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7bb	FIXED-TERM PUPIL EXCLUSION: approve	N/a	Review	Review	V	√ Comply, review and report to LAB and CEO
7CC	PERMANENT PUPIL EXCLUSION:	N/a	Review	√	Review	Recommend to LAB and CEO