

**PARTNERSHIP LEARNING**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

**Scope of responsibility**

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Partnership Learning has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Partnership Learning and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended   Out of a possible
S Mubashar, Chair of Trustees	5   6
R Leighton, Accounting Officer	6   6
P McPartland OBE	5   6
L Long, Chair of Audit and Risk	5   6
A Cameron, Chair of Finance	5   6
A Lazell	5   6
R Katyal	3   6
J Davies-Tsagkadakis	2   6

The Board of Trustees continues to keep membership under review and during 2023-24 strengthened the mix of trustees, with the addition of further expertise from the education sector and from the finance and commerce sector in the shape of two new trustees who formally took up their roles in October 2023.

**Conflicts of interest**

The Trust's Related Party Transactions Policy provides the basis for the identification and management of any potential conflicts of interest. Central to this is the completion of business interest forms by all Members, Trustees, Local Governors and Senior Employees on an annual basis and the inclusion of pecuniary interests as a standing item for all relevant meetings. Where potential conflicts of interest are identified these will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with the relevant individual(s) being removed from the meeting and/or decision-making process as appropriate.