

School Trustee Information 2025 / 2026

Learn to Succeed

Penwortham

Priory
ACADEMY



What do Trustees do?

The academy trust board provides:

- Strategic leadership of the academy trust – the board defines the trust vision, fosters the trust's culture and sets its strategy, including determining what (if any) trustee functions are delegated
- Accountability and assurance – robust oversight of the trust's operations and performance
- Engagement – strategic oversight of relationships with stakeholders (parents, schools and communities)

Who are the Trustees?

Trustees are volunteers drawn from various areas of the community. They challenge and support the school in a proportionate, fair manner on behalf of all children and families. At Priory we have trustees in the following categories: trustees appointed by the members, parent trustees and co-opted trustees (two places typically reserved for school staff). Trustees usually serve for a minimum of 4 years, but many enjoy the role and continue long after this initial term of office. All trustees are required to be DBS cleared.

Information about our Trustees and the Committees:

- At Priory the trustee body delegates certain responsibilities to two sub-committees: the Resources, Audit and Risk Committee which meets 4 times a year (and is primarily concerned with managing the school's budget) and the Curriculum and Standards Committee which meets 4 times a year (and is responsible for educational standards).
- Additionally there are 3 full trustee board meetings per year.
- The current Chair of Trustees is Dr Phil Range and the Vice Chair is Jemma Oliver.
- The Chair of the Resources, Audit and Risk Committee is Rachel Lancaster and the Vice Chair is Chrissie Church.
- The Curriculum and Standards Committee is chaired by Jemma Oliver and the Vice Chair is Peter Faulkner.
- Staff trustees offer a school employee perspective. The current staff trustees are Peter Faulkner and Elle Diamond-Bugler.
- There is also a small sub-group of 'members' who are the guardians of the governance of the trust.
- The trustees are supported by Sue Spencer, Clerk to the Trustees.

If you are interested in becoming a trustee at Priory and would like to speak to a trustee, then please initially contact Mrs Sue Spencer.

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Dr Phil Range
Chair of Trustees