



COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

LOCAL GOVERNING BODY

Purpose

1. A Local Governing Body (LGB) shall be established for each of the Academies, except where the Trust Board determines in a particular case that more than one Academy should be governed by the same LGB, or where the Academy has become a Supported School and the Trust Board has suspended the delegated responsibilities in line with the Scheme of Delegation.
2. The purpose of the Local Governing Body is to provide local accountability, act as representatives of the Trust Board, and provide day to day support and oversight of the Academy's leadership team.
3. The roles and responsibilities of the Local Governing Body are set out in the Table of Key Delegated Responsibilities in the Scheme of Delegation.

Constitution

4. Governors appointed to a Local Governing Body shall be appointed as follows:
 - 4.1 such number of Foundation Governors appointed by the Diocesan Bishop to ensure that the Foundation Governors outnumber all other Governors by at least 2;
 - 4.2 the Headteacher of the Academy (or Headteachers where the Academies are federated and there is no Executive Headteacher);
 - 4.3 up to 1 Staff Governor, elected or appointed through such process as the Local Governing Body may determine;
 - 4.4 up to 2 Parent Governors, elected by parents or carers of registered pupils at the Academy and being a parent or carer of a pupil at the Academy at the time when elected;
 - 4.5 up to 1 Additional (or Non-Foundation) Governor appointed by the Local Governing Body with the approval of the Trust Board only where the number of Foundation Governors continues to outnumber all other Governors.



5. There is no power to co-opt Governors to the Local Governing Body but advisers (including other members of staff in the Academy) may attend meetings provided they do not take part in any decision making.
6. All Governors must undertake to uphold the object and mission of the Trust and must comply with the Governor Code of Conduct, on appointment and at the start of every academic year.

Term of Office

7. The term of office for any Governor shall be 4 years (save that this time limit shall not apply to the Headteacher or any post which is held ex officio, who will serve for as long as he or she remains in office). Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any person may be re-appointed or re-elected to the Local Governing Body.
8. A Governor shall serve for no more than 3 terms of office.

Resignation and Removal of members of the Local Governing Body

9. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he or she resigns his or her office or is removed by the Bishop or in the case of any Governor who is not a Foundation Governor by the Trust Board (which the Directors reserve the power to do without the need to provide any reasons for removal). Any vacancy on a Local Governing Body will trigger an appropriate appointment or election and must be notified to the Trust Board and the Diocesan Education Service via the Clerk to the Trust Board.
10. Any person who would not be eligible to be a Director in accordance with the Trust's Articles of Association will not be eligible for appointment or election to the Local Governing Body and must resign from the Local Governing Body if they become ineligible. Details of eligibility to serve as a Governor are set out in the Local Governing Body Governor Code of Conduct.
11. If any Governor is also an employee of the Trust and ceases to be employed to work at the Academy or within the Trust, then he or she shall be deemed to have resigned from the Local Governing Body and shall cease to serve on the Local Governing Body automatically on termination of his or her employment.
12. Where a person who serves on the Local Governing Body resigns his or her office or is removed from office, that person or, where he or she is removed from office, those removing him or her, shall give written notice thereof to the Chair of the Local Governing Body, copied to the Clerk to the Local Governing Body.

Appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair

13. Subject to any direction by the Trust Board, Governors shall each school year (typically at the first meeting of the year) elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from amongst the **Foundation Governors**.



14. The Chair and Vice Chair will cease to hold office if they no longer serve as a Governor. The same person cannot hold more than one office.
15. The Clerk to the Local Governing Body shall act as Chair during that part of any meeting at which the Chair and Vice Chair are elected.
16. Any election of the Chair and Vice Chair which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.
17. More details as to the role and responsibilities of the Chair are set out in the Local Governing Body Governor Code of Conduct.

Meetings

18. The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Local Governing Body shall be drawn up and entered into a book (electronic or otherwise) kept for the purpose by the person authorised to keep the minutes of the Local Governing Body and shall be signed (subject to the approval of the members of the Local Governing Body) at the same or next subsequent meeting by the person acting as chair thereof. The minutes shall include a record of:
 - 18.1. all appointments of officers made by the Local Governing Body; and
 - 18.2. all proceedings at meetings of the Local Governing Body and of committees of the Local Governing Body including the names of all persons present at each such meeting.
19. The Chair shall ensure that copies of minutes of all meeting of the Local Governing Body (and such of the working groups as the Local Governing Body shall from time to time notify) shall be provided to the Chief Executive Officer and (if requested) the Diocesan Education Service as soon as reasonably practicable after those minutes are approved.
20. Subject to the Scheme of Delegation, the Local Governing Body may regulate its proceedings as Governors think fit, provided at all times that there is openness and transparency in matters relating to the Local Governing Body. The Local Governing Body is expected to meet at least once a term but may meet more often if felt appropriate or if requested to meet by the Trust Board.
21. The Trust Board may direct the Local Governing Body to allow either Directors, any member of the Trust's Executive Team or a Governor from another Local Governing Body in the Trust to attend meetings of the Local Governing Body. Such persons may engage in discussion but will not be permitted to vote on any resolution of the Local Governing Body.



22. Meetings of the Local Governing Body shall be convened by the Clerk to the Local Governing Body. In exercising their functions under this Scheme of Delegation the Clerk shall comply with any direction:
- 22.1. given by the Local Governing Body; or
 - 22.2. given by the Chair or, in his absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice-Chair.
23. Any three Governors may, by notice in writing given to the Clerk, requisition a meeting of the Local Governing Body; and it shall be the duty of the Clerk to convene such a meeting as soon as is reasonably practicable.
24. Each Governor shall be given at least seven clear days before the date of a meeting:
- 24.1. notice thereof and sent to each Governor at the email address provided by each Governor from time to time; and
 - 24.2. a copy of the agenda for the meeting.
25. provided that where the Chair or, in his or her absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Vice-Chair, so determines on the ground that there are matters demanding urgent consideration, it shall be sufficient if the notice of a meeting, and the copy of the agenda thereof are given within such shorter period as he or she directs.
26. The convening of a meeting and the proceedings conducted thereat shall not be invalidated by reason of any individual not having received notice of the meeting or a copy of the agenda thereof.
27. A resolution to rescind or vary a resolution carried at a previous meeting of the Local Governing Body shall not be proposed at a meeting of the Local Governing Body unless the consideration of the rescission or variation of the previous resolution is a specific item of business on the agenda for that meeting.
28. A meeting of the Local Governing Body shall be terminated forthwith if:
- 28.1. the Governors so resolve; or
 - 28.2. the number of Governors present ceases to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Local Governing Body in accordance with paragraph 6.10, subject to paragraph 6.12.
29. Where in accordance with paragraph 6.10.2 a meeting is not held or is terminated before all the matters specified as items of business on the agenda for the meeting have been disposed of, a further meeting shall be convened by the Clerk as soon as is reasonably



practicable, but in any event within seven days of the date on which the meeting was originally to be held or was so terminated.

30. Where the Local Governing Body resolves in accordance with paragraph 6.10.1 to adjourn a meeting before all the items of business on the agenda have been disposed of, the Local Governing Body shall before doing so determine the time and date at which a further meeting is to be held for the purposes of completing the consideration of those items, and it shall direct the Clerk to convene a meeting accordingly.

Accountability

31. As the day-to-day responsibility for the running of the Academy is delegated to the Local Governing Body (such responsibility being managed in practice by the Headteacher), the Directors are removed from the daily operations of the academies. and therefore, the Academy (via the Chair of the LGB) is required to notify the Trust (the CEO) in the event of the of the following events:

- 31.1 any event leading to loss of life or critical injury on the premises of the Academy or during an event off the premises organised or supervised by Academy staff;
- 31.2 any sexual or violent or illegal act against a child committed by any person while on the Academy premises under any circumstances;
- 31.3 the suspension or summary dismissal of any member of staff;
- 31.4 any event that requires a report to the Health and Safety Executive or that results in the service of a legal notice on the Academy alleging a breach of fire or health and safety law or regulations;
- 31.5 any event that requires a formal hearing by a panel of representatives of the Academy or that results in the service of a legal notice on the Academy alleging a breach of employment law or regulations;
- 31.6 notification of an Ofsted and S48 inspection;
- 31.7 any suspected breach of the Academy Trust Handbook or communication received from the Funding Body seeking to investigate any complaint made in relation to the Academy.

This list is not exhaustive and further reference to Trust and academy Policies should be sought. Appropriate steps will then be taken in conjunction with the Trust Chief Executive Officer to manage any situation, communicating as appropriate in the circumstances (having regard to the fundamental principle of transparency and openness).



32. The Trust Board and the Local Governing Body acknowledge the value of maintaining a good working relationship with each other. Particularly when standards are falling and/or there is evidence of financial imprudence exposing the Academy or the Trust to a threat of intervention, the Trust Board and the Local Governing Body will make the following commitments to each other:

- 32.1. to discuss openly any weaknesses or any situation which may in the opinion of either potentially lead to a threat of intervention by the Secretary of State for Education as the Principal Regulator;
- 32.2. to use all reasonable endeavours to agree the measures to be taken to improve standards and the performance of the Academy and to support each other in the implementation of those measures, including involving the Diocesan Education Service who will support and advise on steps to be taken and facilitate additional support if needed;
- 32.3. to allow each other the opportunity to effect improvements at the Academy provided such steps do not seek to undermine the collaborative and respectful approach being adopted;
- 32.4. to be open to sharing information and receiving support from other academies within the Trust.

Quorum

- 33. The quorum for a meeting of the Local Governing Body, and any vote on any matter thereat, shall be three. The proceedings of the Local Governing Body shall not be invalidated by any vacancy on the board or any defect in the election, appointment or nomination of any Governor, providing the defect was not dishonestly made.
- 34. The Local Governing Body may act notwithstanding any vacancies on its board, but, if the numbers of persons serving is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing persons may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.
- 35. Subject to this Scheme of Delegation, every question to be decided at a meeting of the Local Governing Body shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the persons present and entitled to vote on the question. Every Governor shall have one vote.
- 36. Where there is an equal division of votes, the Chair shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have.
- 37. A resolution in writing, signed by all the persons entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Local Governing Body, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Local Governing Body duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed by one or more of the members of the Local Governing Body and may include an electronic communication by



or on behalf of the member indicating his or her agreement to the form of resolution providing that the member has previously notified the Local Governing Body in writing of the email address or addresses which the Governor will use.

38. Minutes of meetings of the Local Governing Body shall be published redacting any aspect which is confidential, or it would not be appropriate to disclose in light of the Data Protection Act 2018.
39. Any Governor shall be able to participate in meetings of the Local Governing Body by telephone or video conference provided that the Governor has indicated prior to the meeting a wish to do so and has provided appropriate details to enable this and the meeting has access to suitable equipment.

Notices

40. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Terms of Reference and more generally the Scheme of Delegation (including a notice calling a meeting of the Local Governing Body) shall be in writing or shall be given using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice. In this Scheme of Delegation, "address" in relation to electronic communications, includes a number or address used for the purposes of such communications.
41. A notice may be given by the Local Governing Body to its members either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his or her registered address or by leaving it at that address or by giving it using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to the Local Governing Body by the Governor. A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Local Governing Body an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him, or an address to which notices may be sent using electronic communications, shall be entitled to have notices given to him or her at that address, but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Local Governing Body.
42. A Governor present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Local Governing Body shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called.

Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Proof that a notice contained in an electronic communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice shall be deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted or, in the case of a notice contained in an electronic communication, at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent.



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