



Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust Governance Summary

As a Multi Academy Trust the responsibility for governance rests with the Members and the Trust Board.

Members

The Members are the guardians of governance, they have a strategic 'eyes on, hands off' role. Members' key responsibilities include:

- holding the Board of Directors to account
- appointing or removing Members and Directors/Trustees
- amending the Articles of Association
- appointing the Trust's auditors and receiving the audited annual accounts

Trust Board

The Directors/Trustees who sit on the Board, have overall accountability and legal responsibility for the Trust:

- as non-executive directors they are responsible for ensuring the Trust meets its obligations as a company
- as charity trustees they must ensure compliance with the Trust's charitable objectives and charity law
- as governors they are responsible for governance of the Trust and its academies.

The Trust Articles of Association set out the charitable objects along with its governance composition and overarching procedures and are available on the Trust website.

Delegation

The Trust Board delegates authority and responsibility for a range of duties to the following in order to ensure effective leadership and governance of the Trust:

- Trust Leadership Team
- Board Business and Finance Committee
- Board People and Pay Committee
- Board Education and Ethos Committee
- Board Audit and Risk Committee
- Trust Governance Committee
- Academy Governance Committees
- Academy Headteachers (including Executive Headteacher or Head of School where there is no Exec Head).

The details of who is responsible for different levels of decision are presented in the Trust Scheme of Delegation which can be accessed from the Trust website.

Academy Governance Committees

Each academy has its own Academy Governance Committee (AGC) whose key roles are:

- providing support, monitoring and challenge around educational experience and performance
- church, community and stakeholder engagement
- supporting alignment with Trust strategy, approach, ethos and values.

The AGC Terms of Reference set out the constitution, the process for appointment / removal of AGC members and how the AGC will operate. The Trust Scheme of Delegation sets out the AGC responsibilities.

Accountability (see in diagrammatic form on the next page)

- The Board committees and AGCs are accountable to the Board
- The Trust CEO and other Trust staff are accountable to the Board
- The Board is accountable to the Trust, i.e. the Company and its Members
- The trustees and the CEO are accountable to the DfE and the ESFA: the trustees through the funding agreement and the CEO as Accounting Officer.



Governance Structure

Mechanisms of Governance

Master Funding agreement between the Secretary of State and the Members
Memorandum and Articles of Association between the Secretary of State and the trust setting out the funding agreement
Supplementary Funding Agreements between the Secretary of State and the trust for each academy
Scheme of Delegation setting out reporting and operating structures
Terms of Reference for setting out roles and responsibilities of the Committees

Members

Bishop of Coventry; Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) Corporate (represented by Diocesan Director of Education); Chair of the DBE; Chair of DBE Business Committee; Bishop's Nominee; Chair of the Trust Board; Appointed Member

Directors / Trustees

appointed by the Members and includes the Chief Executive Officer

