



## **Reserved Powers – Appendix 1 to the Scheme of Delegation**

This appendix identifies those matters that are reserved to Members and Trustees and are therefore not delegated through this Scheme of Delegation. All other responsibilities are delegated in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme of Delegation and relevant Terms of Reference.

Delegation of a function does not remove the accountability of the body that has delegated that function.

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### **2. Powers Reserved to Members**

The following powers are reserved exclusively to Members of the Trust and may not be delegated:

| <b>Function</b>                                                                                  | <b>Responsibility</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Appoint Members                                                                                  | Members               |
| Remove Members (where permitted by the Articles of Association)                                  | Members               |
| Appoint Trustees                                                                                 | Members               |
| Remove Trustees                                                                                  | Members               |
| Receive and consider the Trust's Annual Report and Financial Statements                          | Members               |
| Appoint or remove the Trust's External Auditors                                                  | Members               |
| Amend the Articles of Association (subject to regulatory approval where required)                | Members               |
| Authorise changes to the Trust's name                                                            | Members               |
| Direct Trustees to take specific action by special resolution where permitted under the Articles | Members               |

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| Wind up the Trust or approve any merger requiring Member approval | Members |
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### **3. Powers Reserved to the Trust Board**

The Trust Board retains ultimate accountability for the conduct of the Trust and reserves the following powers:

#### **Governance and Strategy**

- Determine the Trust's vision, values and strategic objectives.
- Approve the Trust Strategic Plan.
- Establish and dissolve Local Governing Bodies.
- Establish and dissolve Board Committees.
- Approve Committee and LGB Terms of Reference.
- Approve the Scheme of Delegation and any subsequent amendments.
- Appoint and remove Committee Chairs.
- Review Board effectiveness and governance arrangements.

#### **Leadership**

- Appoint, appraise and dismiss the Chief Executive Officer.
- Appoint the Accounting Officer.
- Approve the organisational structure of the Trust.
- Approve significant changes to Trust leadership structures.

#### **Educational Standards**

- Hold executive leaders to account for educational performance.
- Approve Trust-wide educational improvement priorities.
- Monitor educational outcomes across all schools.
- Approve post-Ofsted recovery strategies for schools causing concern.

#### **Safeguarding**

- Ensure the Trust has effective safeguarding arrangements.
- Receive safeguarding assurance reports.
- Monitor statutory compliance with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

- Ensure appropriate safeguarding governance and oversight arrangements are in place.

### **Risk Management**

- Determine the Trust's risk appetite.
- Approve the strategic risk management framework.
- Receive and scrutinise the Trust Risk Register.
- Ensure appropriate controls and mitigation strategies are operating effectively.

### **Finance**

- Approve the annual Trust budget.
- Approve school budgets where reserved through the Financial Regulations.
- Approve the three-year financial forecast.
- Approve annual accounts.
- Approve significant capital expenditure above delegated limits.
- Approve borrowing arrangements.
- Approve investment strategies.
- Approve procurement and financial policies.
- Ensure compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook.

### **Estates**

- Approve estate strategy.
- Approve significant capital projects.
- Approve acquisitions, disposals or leasing of land and buildings.
- Approve applications requiring Trustee approval under DFE or Diocesan requirements.

### **Policies**

- Approve all Trust-wide statutory policies.
  - Approve the Policy Review Schedule.
  - Determine which policies may be approved locally and which remain reserved to Trustees.
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#### **4. Functions Delegated to Local Governing Bodies**

Subject to this Scheme of Delegation, Local Governing Bodies are responsible for providing local governance, support and challenge and for monitoring:

- Educational standards.
- Safeguarding arrangements.
- Attendance.
- Behaviour and exclusions.
- Community engagement.
- School development priorities.
- Compliance with Trust policies.
- Monitoring of school-level risks.

The LGB acts on behalf of the Trust Board only within the authority delegated through this Scheme.

The Trust Board may amend, suspend or withdraw delegated authority at any time.

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#### **5. Functions Delegated to the Chief Executive Officer**

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the executive leadership and management of the Trust and is delegated authority to:

- Implement Trust strategy.
- Lead Trust operations.
- Manage Trust finances within approved budgets.
- Ensure regulatory compliance.
- Lead educational improvement.
- Lead workforce planning.
- Maintain the Trust Risk Register.
- Ensure effective safeguarding arrangements.
- Manage operational, financial, educational and HR risks.
- Further delegate functions to members of the Executive Leadership Team where appropriate.

All delegated authority exercised by the CEO remains subject to Trustee oversight.

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## **6. Emergency and Urgent Decisions**

Where an urgent decision is required before a Board or Committee meeting can be convened:

- The decision must be recorded.
  - The rationale must be documented.
  - The decision must be reported to the next meeting of the Trust Board.
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## **7. Delegation Principles**

The Trust Board retains ultimate accountability for all delegated functions.

All delegated authority must be exercised:

- In accordance with the Articles of Association.
- In accordance with the Academy Trust Handbook.
- In accordance with Trust policies and procedures.
- In accordance with statutory requirements.
- Within approved financial limits.
- In the best interests of pupils, staff and the Trust.

Any function not expressly delegated within this Scheme shall be deemed reserved to the Trust Board.