

ATTENDANCE & GOVERNANCE STATEMENT - FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Information on attendance and governance summarised below is extracted partly from the Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24. The Articles of Association allow for a minimum of three Members (to not include staff) and up to ten Trustees appointed by Members for a four-year period. The Board met five times during the year:

Trustees	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3	Meeting 4	Total attended	Out of possible
Carlton Midgley (Chair of Trustees)	YES	YES	YES	YES	4	4
A Bennett (Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer)	YES	YES	YES	YES	4	4
J Power	NO	YES	YES	YES	3	4
K Inwood	YES	YES	YES	YES	4	4
J Midgley	YES	YES	YES	YES	4	4
I Jaffar	NO	YES	NO	NO	1	4
J Nellis (resigned in-year)	YES				1	1
D Purdon	YES	YES	YES	YES	4	4
M McManus	YES	YES	NO	YES	4	4
V Stoneman	YES	YES	YES	NO	3	4

This is attendance for both Full Board meetings and Sub Committees.

N.B. Attendance at LGB Committee meetings is reported separately on individual academy websites

Governance

At each of its meetings, the Board has received reports on the performance of the Trust from the CEO, Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Deputy Chief Finance Officer Director of School Improvement and Director of Governance. The scope of these reports has included: performance against trust objectives including growth plans and offers; attendance focus; admissions information; school improvement assessments; Ofsted assessment; notable risks including safeguarding; health and safety; ICT plans; sustainability and climate change strategy; financial performance, including management accounts; statutory compliance and audit actions; HR activities and performance management.

The Trust Board also receives correspondence and guidance updates from ESFA, such as correspondence from the Chair of ESFA and the Academy Trust Handbook.

Trustees have further engaged to inform their view of the Trust via shadowing (for context) School Improvement Partner visits; meetings with the CEO, CFOO, DCFO on aspects of focus e.g. Standards reporting and Management Accounts reporting including budget setting. (Management accounts are sent to the Chair and Chair of Finance monthly). To help fulfil its duties, the Board has appointed a Finance Committee; a School Improvement Committee; a Workforce Committee and an Estates Management Committee. There are Local Governing Bodies at each of the constituent academies. At its meetings, Finance Committee has considered:

strategic financial priorities; Management Accounts; three-year budget setting; audit and internal control reports; funding updates; Key Performance Indicators.

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Governance reviews The Trust Board reconstituted on 25th January 2018, as the Trust moved from a single academy trust to a multi academy trust on 1st March 2018. In addition, Members and Trustees have continued to review their structures, including that of the Local Governing Bodies. As a result, in Autumn Term 2018, the Trust increased the number of Members to five and restructured membership at Member and Trustee level to introduce separation of duties across the two levels, in accordance with Academy Trust

Handbook best practice. Parent governor membership is provided by Local Governing Bodies, each with two community governors, two staff governors and two parents.

During 2024-25 a governance focus, led by the Director of Governance, has been on board and subcommittee meetings. Developments have included: re-formed meeting schedule and updated formats for reporting. Trust Board self-review took place in Summer Term 2022, and it is planned that there will be an external review in Summer Term 2025. In addition, there will be a Local Governor skills audit and self- review in Summer Term 2025.