



Polaris Multi Academy Trust Local Governing Body Terms of Reference

Duties of a Governor on a Local Governing Body (LGB)

Linked document: LGB Scheme of Delegation

The role of an LGB is an important one. It is to provide focused governance for the Academy at a local level and it is the intention of the Trust Board to ensure that the responsibility to govern the Academy is vested in those closest to the impact of decision-making.

The LGB monitors the Academy's key performance indicators and acts as a critical friend to the Head of School and the Academy's senior leadership team, providing challenge where appropriate. The LGBs carry out their functions in relation to their respective Academy on behalf of the Trust Board and in accordance with policies determined by the Trust Board. The act of delegation from the Trust Board to the LGBs is a delegation of powers and duties, and not a delegation or shedding of responsibilities.

Population of the Local Governing Body:

2 Parent Governors

3 Co-opted Governors

1 Staff Governor

The Chair and Vice Chair must be either a Co-opted or Parent Governor (see exception below).

The Local Governors are accountable to the Trust Board (which in turn is accountable to the Department for Education) as well as to the communities they serve.

The CEO can act as a governor in meetings to ensure quorum and take on the role of Chair where (in the short term) a Chair is not available.

The quorum for the meeting of the local governing body is 3 Governors.

The broad duties of the Local Governing Body are below.

To provide strategic oversight and support to the Trust, the Academy and Head of School:

- To implement the educational vision of the Polaris Multi Academy Trust and Academy. To support this the LGB will:
 - Act as a critical friend to the Head of School and the Academy's senior leadership team, being ready to challenge and hold them to account for all aspects of the Academy's performance.
 - Review and monitor the Academy Improvement Plan.
 - Attend training provided by the Trust and external partners.
 - Support the CEO in the performance management of the Head of School.
 - Be aware of and take into account views of parents, pupils/students, staff and the wider community that its academy serves and report on these as appropriate to the CEO and Trust Directors.
 - To perform the role of governor on panels as requested by the Trust. This includes attending panels on behalf of their own school and other schools in the Trust.
 - To review and challenge reports from the school's leadership team as the LGB may require.

To ensure there is strong financial oversight and compliance with policy and statutory obligations of the Academy and the Trust:

- To oversee and control the financial performance of its Academy within the limits specified by the Polaris Multi Academy Trust Audit, Risk and Finance Committee, including maintaining such records as the Directors may require, and advising the Directors generally on financial issues in line with the Academies Financial Handbook.
- Approve and implement statutory policies and reports at academy level as recorded in the LGB scheme of delegation.