

Our governance structure

Members

Our trust structure has a minimum of three members and no maximum. Members are the Diocesan Corporate Member, two people appointed by the Diocesan Corporate Member, the chair of the trustee directors (see below), and any further members appointed by the members.

Trustee directors* (the Trust Board)

The number of trustee directors must not be less than three but is not subject to a maximum. The members appoint a minimum of five trustee directors. The trustee directors may appoint further co-opted trustee directors. Employees of The Good Shepherd Trust may be trustee directors if the total number does not exceed one third of the total number of trustee directors (including the CEO). A term of office for a trustee director is four years. Trustee directors may be re-appointed.

Education
Committee

Resources
Committee

Risk & Audit
Committee

People,
Appointments &
Remuneration
Committee

Local
committees**

* We call our directors 'trustee directors' as they are both trustees and directors.

** We call our local governing bodies 'local committees'.

The 'governors' in a multi academy trust are the trustee directors. Therefore, we do not refer to any other person on a committee as a governor. Only the trustee directors may establish committees. The committees in our trust are:

- Education Committee
- Resources Committee
- Risk & Audit Committee
- People, Appointments & Remuneration Committee
- Local committees

For all committees, except local committees, membership consists of at least three trustee directors. See the individual terms of reference ([appendices](#)) for exact requirements. Each committee's terms of reference are reviewed by the trust board at least once every twelve months.

Local committees do not simply replace what was a governing body prior to joining the trust – at the point of joining the MAT the governing body ceases to be a legal entity. We have local committees (on which previous governors may continue as members) that are very much community focused and are there to use their skills to support the head teacher. There should be two parents, five general members and two staff members (one being the head teacher) on the committee. A local committee may be appointed for more than one school.

Trustee directors may replace a local committee with an interim local committee (ILC) as an alternative committee. The role of an ILC will mirror that of a local committee but will exercise greater direction than a local committee and be guided and supported by the trust central team.