

Governance functions and structures

2025-2026

Trust governance functions

Body	Function	How appointed
Sponsor	Founder and initiator of the vision and purpose	Appointed by DfE
Members	Custodians of the organisation's purpose; appoint and dismiss Trustees	Appointed by Sponsor
Trust board	The responsible body; agrees and oversees strategy; appoints and dismisses CEO, Trust committee members and community council chairs	Appointed by Members
Trust committees & advisory boards	Support Trust board in holding executive to account, approve and recommend policies, challenge performance	Appointed by Trust board
Executive (Ops. Group)	Formulates, recommends and implements Trust strategy, policy and planning; Trust operational management	Appointed by Trust board
Work groups	Support the Executive in the implementation of organisational plans and review of their effectiveness across the Trust	Convened by Executive
School Principals	Shaping, articulating and leading a vision for their school, operational school management	Appointed by Executive
Functional groups	Self managed groups with common interests and/or roles that feedback to the executive on effectiveness of plans	Reviewed by Principals' Council
Community councils	Advisory committees that support and challenge school leadership on school vision, values and curriculum. No delegated powers.	Chairs appointed by Trust board

Trust governance structure

Strategic

Operational

Stakeholder feedback & escalation

Members

Trust board

Executive
(Ops. Group)

School Principals

Community councils

Principals' council

Finance committee

Audit & risk
committee

Academic board

Assessment

Curriculum

EYFS

SEND

Rec & Ret (inc EDI)

Sustainability

Safeguarding leads

Estates leads

HR leads

Finance leads

Innovation

Committees &
advisory boards

Workgroups

Functional
groups

Key

Accountable to

Support & challenge

Feedback loop

Workgroup structure

Receives strategic direction from Trust board

Receives feedback from Principals' Council, Community Councils, COPs and Stakeholder groups

Receives support and challenge from Trust committees

**Executive
(Ops. Group)**

Work groups

Core tasks

Assessment

Improve accuracy of teacher assessment, particularly in RWM

Curriculum

Evaluate quality of curricula across the Trust and broaden the offer

EYFS

Support for EYFS leaders to implement new framework and development of EYFS assessment framework

SEND

Improve the quality of provision for SEND, audit current provision and develop support

Rec. & ret. (inc EDI)

Improving recruitment and retention, commissioning of support and CPD, improving EDI

Sustainability

Movement towards Net Zero commitment

Tasked to support the implementation of education and operational plans