



The Harrowby/National Academies Trust Governance



At The Harrowby/National Academies Trust, we are blessed with a very talented and dedicated team of supportive trustees who have a very broad range of skills that they bring to their role as strategic leaders for our Trust schools. They do a wonderful job in providing support and leadership for our whole school community. They show great commitment and drive to ensure we always strive to be the best we can be and that we truly are “Better Together,” being dedicated to raising standards and aspirations, maintaining our church schools Christian distinctiveness and Ethos.

The Board of Trustees of our Academy Trust is made up of **Members**:

The members are akin to the shareholders of a company. They have ultimate control over the academy trust, with the ability to appoint some of the trustees and the right to amend the trust’s articles of association.

Directors/Trustees:

The trustees are responsible for three core governance functions:

- setting the direction of the trust,
- holding the Executive Headteacher to account
- ensuring financial probity.

As charity trustees, they must also ensure that they are complying with charity law requirements. Academy trusts are charitable companies and the trustees are company directors and must comply with company law requirements. This may sound daunting but it means committing time and skill in regularly attending meetings, managing conflicts of interest, seeking advice from the academy’s leadership team and ensuring the academy has appropriate procedures in place for reporting financial information.

Whilst the Executive Headteacher is responsible for the day-to-day management of both schools, the trustees play an important role in monitoring and evaluating school performance, ensuring rapid progress is being made towards school improvement priorities. The trustees provide strategic management, and support and challenge the work of the Executive Headteacher and other staff. They set annual targets for the Executive Headteacher and both schools’ performance, as well as ensuring teaching staff have performance related targets.

The Trustees play an active role in monitoring and evaluating across both schools, and this year they have been involved in learning walks, pupil interviews and attended many school

events and visits. Many trustees also attend the Open Day events, Parents Evenings as well as supporting other functions within school, including Parents' Curriculum sessions and History Theme Days. All of these activities enable them to gain a real perspective of our school, and allows challenge to take place.

As an Academy, the role of the Board of Trustees in ensuring financial stability is paramount. Academies are provided with an allocated budget directly from the Education Funding Agency, (EFA) and this covers costs such as staff salaries, school running costs, maintenance and equipment. The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing this budget effectively and ensuring best value. They decide how many and what types of staff to employ, which equipment to upgrade or replace and what the priorities are for implementing new strategies and initiatives. Every decision made is to ultimately improve the outcomes for our children, and ensure our schools are driving towards rapid improvement.

We are very fortunate as an Academy to have such a committed team of trustees all working hard to benefit our children.

Our Board of Trustees currently consists of the following committees:

- Full Board of Trustees
- Staffing, Curriculum and Standards Committee
- Pay Committee
- Audit Committee
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee

The Clerk to Trustees is Mrs. Lydia Gallaher. Any correspondence to the Trustees should be sent via e-mail to clerk@thnatrust.org.uk.