



## Governance of The Priory Learning Trust

The way the Trust is governed is described in three key documents:

- The Scheme of Governance
- The Articles of Association and
- Memorandum of Understanding.

These documents can be viewed by going to this link: <https://theplt.org.uk/governance.php>.

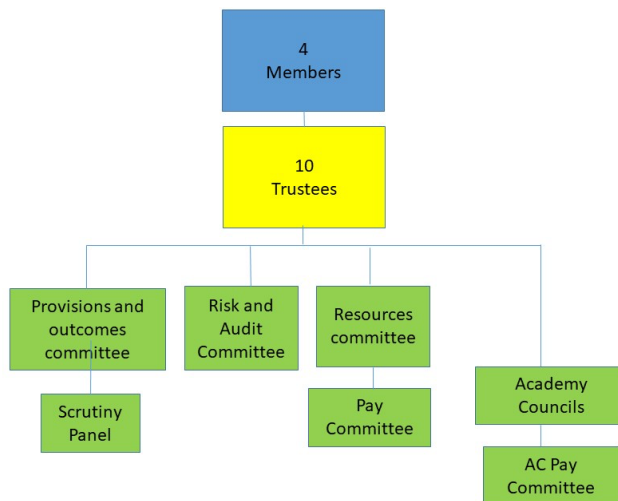
These are legal documents drawn up by our Solicitors or adopted from models provided by HM Government's Department for Education.

The Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee with exempt charitable status under the Companies Act 2006. It is registered at Companies House. The Academy Trust is responsible for all schools, in the Trust and any schools that join the Trust in the future. The Trust has entered into a Master funding agreement and separate supplemental funding agreements for each of its Academies.

There are a number of roles involved in running TPLT they are:

- The Members
- The Trustees
- The Chief Executive Officer
- The Chief Operations Officer
- The Academy Council of the individual school
- The Principal of the individual school

### Governance



## **Members:**

- Appoint external auditors who compile the annual report and statement of accounts
- Appoint and remove Trustees
- Have the right to amend the Articles of Association
- Hold an AGM to receive the annual accounts

Members meet generally twice per year. 50% of Members must be Foundation Members. The Diocese of Bath and Wells are a Foundation Member, and they appoint the other Foundation Member(s) according to the Memorandum of Understanding.

Biography details of Members can be seen at

<https://theplt.org.uk/members.php>

## **Trustees**

Trustees are the “Directors” of the Trust. They are accountable to the Department for Education via the Regional Schools Commissioner for the operation of aspects of the Trust. They set the budget for each school and subject the expenditure to monthly monitoring. They determine what aspects of managing the Trust will be delegated and to whom. They may withdraw delegated powers at any time sufficient risk is identified.

The trust board meets 7 times a year and hold special meetings for example, a strategic decision to take on an additional school. The Provision and Outcomes Committee, Resources Committees and Risk and Audit Committee each meet three times a year. Minutes of these meetings can be accessed by contacting the Governance Professional [tricia.brabham@theplt.org.uk](mailto:tricia.brabham@theplt.org.uk).

50% of Trustees must be appointed by the Diocese of Bath and Wells. Biographical details of Trustees can be viewed at <https://theplt.org.uk/members.php>

## **Academy Council**

Trustees have decided that each school shall have an Academy Council. The Role of the Council is to provide advice to Trustees on the functioning of the school; act as a sounding board, challenge and support for the Principal; to review the outcomes and overall impact of the school; to implement Trust policies.

Each Academy Council has 10 governors. There will be a minimum of 2 elected parents plus a staff representative and may have a representative of FE (Secondary School only) acknowledging where students progress. Primary Schools may have a representative of a Secondary School. At VA schools the majority of governors are Foundation governors approved by the Diocese. AT VC schools 2 governors will be Foundation governors.

Information on the governors for each of our schools can be found on the school websites.

<https://www.theplt.org.uk/our-schools.php>

## **Operation of the Trust**

### **Chief Executive Officer**

The role of the CEO is to provide the professional leadership, strategic management and direction of the Trust and all the Academies. The CEO has the authority to direct the school Principals in relation

to operational and educational standards matters particularly with regard to improvement. The CEO has the role of Accounting Officer.

### **Chief Operating Officer (COO)**

The COO is the Chief Financial Officer of the Trust, responsible for the management of all day to day financial issues; the preparation and management of all the Trust's budgets; maintenance of all systems of internal control and providing advice and guidance to Trustees on all financial matters.

Additionally as Head of Education Business Services for the Trust, responsibility extends to Estates, Health and Safety, HR and the provision of due diligence with regard to acquisitions.

### **Principals**

The Principal of a school is responsible for the internal management and control of her or his school; the implementation of Trust policies and the direction of teaching and the implementation for the Trust's curriculum offer.

The Principal sits on the Academy Council.