

Governing Body Arrangements and its Committees

In conjunction with the Regional Boards, the Trust Board establishes Local Governing Bodies for each of the Academies. For the most part these are made up of individuals drawn from the Academy's community, both as elected and appointed members.

The role of a Local Governor within REAch2 Multi-Academy Trust is an important one. The broad duties of the Local Governing Body are summarised as:

- To contribute to and fulfil the vision and ethos of REAch2 in so far as it relates to the Academy, ensuring that the Academy achieves the aims and ambitions it has for its pupils.
- To implement and review from time to time the strategic plan for the Academy, focussing on the Academy's performance and achieving sustained school improvement and having regard to any locally agreed priorities identified by the Trust Board;
- To act as a critical friend to the Academy's senior leadership team, being ready to challenge and hold senior leaders to account for all aspects of the Academy's performance;
- To oversee the management of the finances of the Academy, assessing the annual budget prepared by the Academy's Headteacher (with the support of the Academy's senior leadership team) and submitting such for approval by the Regional Board and the Trust Board, ensuring that the Academy works within its budget and the Academy's senior leadership team adopts and implements appropriate risk and financial management policies and practices;
- To support the Trust Board in ensuring that insurance or equivalent risk protection is put in place and maintained for all risk areas including damage to property, employer liability, public and third party liability and director liability in accordance with any policy issued by the Trust Board from time to time;
- To support the Academy's Headteacher in the development and review (from time to time) of an appropriate staffing structure for the Academy, ensuring there is robust and accountable monitoring of the performance of staff and implementing all and any policies relating to staff adopted by the Trust Board;
- To support the Trust Board in its monitoring and evaluation of the delivery of any central services and functions provided or procured by the Academy Trust for the Academies, reporting any issues or concerns to the Regional Executive Principal and, if necessary, the CEO, the Chair of the Regional Board or the Chair of the Trust Board;
- Having regard in particular to the benefits of being part of a family of schools which stresses the importance of collaboration and mutual support; To promote within the organisation and externally the benefits of collaboration with the other Academies and to actively seek opportunities to work together either with the aim of improving economic efficiencies within the Academies or identifying and implementing best practice;
- To develop effective links within the Academy's community, communicating openly and frequently as appropriate and ensuring that the Academy meets its responsibilities to the community and serves the community's needs in relation to the safeguarding and education of its pupils; and
- To engage fully and openly with any inspection of the Academy, whether by the Trust Board, Ofsted or any other appropriate public body to whom the Academy is accountable.

Structure of the Governing Body

As recommended by REAch2, the Governing Body has the following structure:-

- Up to 4 Trust appointed Governors (1 vacancy currently)
- 2 Parent Governors
- Up to 3 Co-Opted Governors (2 currently)
- The Headteacher
- 1 elected member of the teaching staff
- 1 elected member of the support staff

Committees

The Governing Body has established two committees to which it delegates day to day responsibility for the oversight of various aspects of the running of the school:-

Resources Committee

- Initial oversight and management of the annual budget ensuring it meets the priorities of the School Development Plan
- Monitoring and reviewing expenditure on a regular basis and ensuring compliance with the overall financial plan for the academy, and with the financial regulations of the DfE
- Oversight of the management and maintenance of the school premises
- Reviewing proposals for capital projects and ensuring best practice in procurement and implementation of works
- Monitoring Health & Safety and reviewing the effectiveness of risk management systems within key areas of Academy operations
- Considering the academy's funding in respect of staffing, and assessing its implications for the academy in advance of the financial year,
- Ensuring sound implementation of agreed personnel policy and procedures, monitoring the performance management and appraisal process
- Considering reports in respect of staffing including significant absence issues, employee relations issues and considerations for employee reward and recognition as appropriate

Standards & Community Committee

- Supporting the Head Teacher and the Senior Leadership Team to maintain and improve standards and performance, thus improving outcomes for learners.
- Ensuring the effective delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum, and that National Curriculum requirements are met.
- Reviewing and monitoring curriculum policies concerning Teaching & Learning, inclusion, pupil behaviour and discipline, child protection, healthy eating, intimate care, foundation stage, educational visits, anti-bullying, positive handling and computing and agree any specific involvement by individual governors in curriculum areas.
- Overseeing arrangements for individual governors to take a leading role in specific areas of provision, eg Safeguarding, SEN, Pupil Premium, Literacy, Numeracy. To receive regular reports from them and advise the Governing Body.
- Ensuring the requirements of children with special needs are met, as laid out in the Code of Practice, through establishing and monitoring a Special Educational Needs policy
- Ensuring the needs of looked after children are met through the agreement and review of the relevant policy

- Monitoring pupil attendance, pupil discipline and behaviour statistics and consider appeals against any decision to exclude students from attendance
- Reviewing of the extended school offer, including after school clubs, school performances and school journeys
- Contributing to the Academy Development Plan

A number of further committees are established as & when required, including a Hearings Committee and an Appeals Committee. For details of the Trust Board, please refer to the governance section of the REAch2 website: <http://reach2.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/List-of-trustees.docx.pdf>. Details of the Regional Board are also listed in the governance section of the REAch2 website: <http://reach2.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/List-of-Regional-Board-members-MARCH-2017.pdf>

Contacting the Tidemill Academy Governing Body

At Tidemill Academy we welcome the involvement of and feedback from parents/carers and the local community. For more information about governance please refer to the governance section of the REAch2 website: <http://reach2.org/governance-policy/governance/> or contact Mr David Mason, Chair of Governors via the school office or by email at ChairDirectors.TidemillAcademy@gmail.com