



EQUA
Multi Academy Trust

CHURCH SCHOOL FLOURISHING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee	Church School Flourishing
Adopted by Trustees	July 2023
Last amended	
Last review	
For review	Annually

1. Constitution

- 1.1. The Equa MAT Board of Trustees has resolved to establish a Church School Flourishing Committee to contribute to the work of the Trust in maintaining and celebrating the Christian distinctiveness of church schools by providing a strategic view for the Trust and constituent schools, acting as a critical friend, assuring accountability and representing the views of church schools within the Trust
- 1.2. The committee advise the Board on matters relating to the Trust's:
 - Responsibility to maintain a Christian character and distinctiveness in a church school which is driven by a contextually appropriate theologically rooted vision for education that reflects its foundation as a church school
 - Partnership with the SDBE
 - Monitoring of church school recruitment
 - Support for church school governance
 - Monitoring of school improvement in relation to SIAMS, RE and collective worship.
- 1.3. The Church School Flourishing Committee is responsible to the Trust Board.
- 1.4. The Committee's Terms of Reference are agreed and adopted by the Board and can only be amended with the approval of the Board.

2. Membership

- 2.1. The Committee will consist of:
 - at least 2/3 Foundation Trustees who will be appointed by the Board (do they all need to be Foundation?)
 - 1/2 Foundation Governors of Trust Church Schools (or co-options if local governors with the requisite skills are not available through appointment by the Trust Board).
 - The member of the Church School Flourishing Team for governance
 - CVA? Or other members of CSF or will these be invited to meetings.
- 2.2. The number of trustees must be more than the number of local governors in attendance??
- 2.3. The Chief Executive Officer will be in attendance but will have no voting rights.
- 2.4. The members of the Committee shall hold office from the date of their appointment until resignation or omission from membership on subsequent consideration by the

Board. The Board to review Committee membership on an annual basis at the start of the academic year.

2.5 The Committee will appoint a Chair.

2.6 The Committee may ask any other senior executive, Headteacher, member of the Church School Flourishing Leadership group or a representative from Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education to attend meetings of the Committee either regularly or by invitation, to provide information.

3. Meetings

3.1 The Committee will meet three times per academic year. More meetings may be called if necessary.

3.2 The quorum shall be 2 Trustees.

3.3 The administration of meetings will be managed by the Company Secretary/Clerk to the Trustees. Agenda and papers will be circulated to members of the Committee 7 days in advance of the meeting.

3.4 In addition to voting in person at a meeting Trustees are able to vote on matters via e-mail to the Company Secretary/ Clerk to the Trustees (ahead of the meeting) or via video / telephone conferencing during a meeting.

3.5 If agreement cannot be reached on a specific issue at a meeting, the issue will go to the Trust Board meeting for a final decision.

4. Authority

4.1 The Committee will report to the Board on any decision taken in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.

4.2 The Committee is authorised to investigate any activity within its term of reference or specifically delegated to it by the Board.

4.3 The Committee is authorised to obtain any legal and professional advice it considers necessary, normally in consultation with the Chair of the Trust Board.

5. Main Duties

5.1 The duties of the Committee shall be:

- To underpin the work of the Trust Board in ensuring that local church school governance is ably led and effectively supported
- To ensure that the Trust Board takes appropriate account of the distinctive Christian vision and character of church schools within the Trust, emphasising, cherishing and developing the uniqueness of local governance committees for church schools.
- To coordinate an annual review of church school flourishing working in partnership with the Leader for Church School Flourishing (LCSF), Chair of the Trust Board and the Chief Executive Officer, taking contributions from the Church School Flourishing team.
- To ensure all church schools have an up to date and accurate SIAMS SEF.
- To work alongside the SDBE Corporate Member (and their appointed representative) in ensuring that the Trust adheres to the obligations set out in the Trust's Articles of Association and as described in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Trust and SDBE.
- To support Foundation Governance colleagues at local, Trust Board and Member level by signposting resources and training, investing in their own personal professional development, and providing updates that relate to the specific Foundation appointed nature of their roles which includes an induction process for foundation governors.
- This aspect to be conducted in partnership with the Clerk to the Trust Board.
- To recognize the significant responsibility of successful onboarding of church schools new to the Trust.
- To scrutinise and review relevant Trust policies for recommendation to the Trustees.

6. Meeting Timetable - Example

	Autumn	Spring	Summer