



The Role Of The Members

As a charitable company limited by guarantee, the Orchard Community Members have a similar role to shareholders in a company limited by shares. However, unlike shareholders, the Orchard Community Trust Members do not have any rights of ownership and do not profit in any way from the Trust.

Members:

- are the subscribers to the trust's memorandum of association (where they are founding members);
- may amend the articles of association subject to any restrictions in the articles, the funding agreement or charity law;
- may, in certain circumstances, appoint new members or remove existing members;
- have powers to appoint and remove trustees in certain circumstances;
- may, by special resolution, issue direction to the trustees to take a specific action;
- appoint the trust's auditors and receive the trust's audited annual accounts (subject to the Companies Act); and
- have power to change the name of the company and, ultimately, wind up the academy trust.

The Role Of The Trustees

The Trustees have the ultimate accountability for the Academies and the Trust. The Board of Trustees manages the business of the Trust and focuses strongly on the three core functions of governance:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- overseeing and ensuring effective financial performance.

They are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring each Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The Trustees are accountable to the Members of the Trust.

Trustees

The duties of the Orchard Community Trust Trustees are the same as any company directors. In summary these are to:

- act within their powers
- promote the success of the company
- exercise independent judgement
- exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence
- avoid conflicts of interest
- not to accept benefits from third parties
- declare interest in proposed transactions or arrangements

The Orchard Community Trust Trustees' skills offer a wealth of experience to support and challenge the Trust to be successful and achieve its aims.

The Role Of Local Governing Boards (LGB)

The Academy/School Head Teachers along with their Senior Management Teams and respective LGBs are responsible for the day to day operation of each Academy/School.

The Orchard Community Trust recognises the important role that Local Governing Boards play in effectively managing day to day roles and responsibilities within each Academy. The local information that the LGB holds is imperative to supporting the local community and responding to issues that individual academies may face from time to time.

The Scheme of Delegation describes the framework of responsibilities and how they are delegated and distributed between the Members, the Board of Trustees and LGBs. Each Academy/School is afforded a degree of autonomy in order to maintain its local character. Although the Board of Trustees is ultimately accountable for the Orchard Community Trust as a whole, each LGB retains responsibility for:

- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding
- Teaching and Learning
- Curriculum
- Pupil Outcomes
- Pupil Attendance
- Managing complaints
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
- Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)
- Sports Funding
- Staff wellbeing and management of workload
- Approve residential and adventurous school trips
- Approve local school policies
- Setting and monitoring the budget
- Links with the community and parents and carers
- Links with external agencies