



Adopted 8th December 2020

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
HARPENDEN SECONDARY EDUCATION TRUST
09238779

INTERPRETATION

1. In these Articles –
 - a. "the Academy" means the school referred to in Article 4a and established by the Academy Trust,
 - b. "Academy Financial Year" means the academic year from 1st of September to 31st of August the following year,
 - c. "the Academy Trust" means the company intended to be regulated by these Articles and referred to in Article 2,
 - d. "the Articles" means these Articles of Association of the Academy Trust,
 - e. "Chief Inspector" means Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills or their successor,
 - f. "clear days" in relation to the period of a notice means the period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day on which it is to take effect,
 - g. "Clerk" means the clerk to the Governors or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the clerk to the Governors, including a Joint, assistant or deputy clerk,
 - h. "financial expert" means an individual, company or firm who is authorised to give investment advice under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000,
 - i. "Funding Agreement" means the agreement made under section 1 of the Academies Act 2010 between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State to establish the Academy,
 - j. "the Governors" means the directors of the Academy Trust (and "Governor" means any one of those directors), subject to the definition of this term at Article 6 10(b) in relation to Articles 6 2-6 10,
 - k. "Local Authority Associated Persons" means any person associated with any local authority within the meaning given in section 69 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989,
 - l. "Member" means a member of the Academy Trust and someone who as such is bound by the undertaking contained in Article 8,

- m. "the Memorandum" means the Memorandum of Association of the Academy Trust,
- n. "Office" means the registered office of the Academy Trust,
- o. "The Parent Governors" means the Governors appointed pursuant to Articles 53 to 58 inclusive,
- p. "Principal" means the head teacher of the Academy,
- q. "Principal Regulator" means the body or person appointed as the Principal Regulator under the Charities Act 2011,
- r. "the seal" means the common seal of the Academy Trust if it has one,
- s. "Secretary of State" means the Secretary of State for Education or successor,
- t. "Staff Governor" means an employee of the Academy Trust who may be appointed as a Governor pursuant to Article 50A,
- u. "teacher" means a person employed under a contract of employment or a contract for services or otherwise engaged to provide their services as a teacher at the Academy,
- v. "the United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
- w. words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender. Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number, and vice versa,
- x. subject as aforesaid, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall, unless the context requires otherwise, bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006, as appropriate,
- y. any reference to a statute or statutory provision shall include any statute or statutory provision which replaces or supersedes such statute or statutory provision including any modification or amendment thereto

2. The company's name is HARPENDEN SECONDARY EDUCATION TRUST (and in this document it is called "**the Academy Trust**")

3. The Academy Trust's registered office is to be situated in England and Wales

OBJECTS

4. The Academy Trust's object ("**the Object**") is specifically restricted to the following

to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum ("the Academy")

5. In furtherance of the Object but not further or otherwise the Academy Trust may exercise the following powers -

- (a) to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments, and to operate bank accounts in the name of the Academy Trust,
- (b) to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Academy Trust shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant statutory regulations,
- (c) to acquire, alter, improve and (subject to such consents as may be required by law) to charge or otherwise dispose of property,
- (d) subject to Article 6 below to employ such staff, as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the Object and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payments of pensions and superannuation to staff and their dependants,
- (e) to establish or support, whether financially or otherwise, any charitable companies, trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the Object,
- (f) to cooperate with other charities, other independent and maintained

schools, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the Object and to exchange information and advice with them,

- (g) to pay out of funds of the Academy Trust the costs, charges and expenses of and incidental to the formation and registration of the Academy Trust,
- (h) to establish, maintain, carry on, manage and develop the Academy at a site or sites to be determined,
- (i) to offer scholarships, exhibitions, prizes and awards to pupils and former pupils and otherwise to encourage and assist pupils and former pupils,
- (j) to provide educational facilities and services to students of all ages and the wider community for the public benefit,
- (k) to carry out research into the development and application of new techniques in education in particular in relation to its approach to curriculum development and delivery and to publish the results of such research, and to develop means of benefiting from application of the experience of industry, commerce, other schools/educational institutions and the voluntary sector to the education of pupils in academies,
- (l) subject to such consents as may be required by law and/or by any contract entered into by or on behalf of the Academy Trust to borrow and raise money for the furtherance of the Object in such manner and on such security as the Academy Trust may think fit,
- (m) to deposit or invest any funds of the Academy Trust not immediately required for the furtherance of its Object (but to invest only after obtaining such advice from a financial expert as the Governors consider necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the

need for diversification),

- (n) to delegate the management of investments to a financial expert, but only on terms that
 - (i) the investment policy is set down in writing for the financial expert by the Governors,
 - (ii) every transaction is reported promptly to the Governors,
 - (iii) the performance of the investments is reviewed regularly with the Governors,
 - (iv) the Governors are entitled to cancel the delegation arrangement at any time,
 - (v) the investment policy and the delegation arrangement are reviewed at least once a year,
 - (vi) all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in advance and are notified promptly to the Governors on receipt, and
 - (vii) the financial expert must not do anything outside the powers of the Governors.

- (o) to arrange for investments or other property of the Academy Trust to be held in the name of a nominee company acting under the control of the Governors or of a financial expert acting under their instructions, and to pay any reasonable fee required,

- (p) to provide indemnity insurance to Governors in accordance with, and subject to the conditions of section 232 to 235 of the Companies Act 2006, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011 or any other provision of law applicable to charitable companies and any such indemnity is limited accordingly,

- (q) to establish subsidiary companies to carry on any trade or business for the purpose of raising funds for the Academy Trust,

- (r) to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for or are incidental to or conducive to the achievement of the Object.

6.1 The income and property of the Academy Trust shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Object

6.2 None of the income or property of the Academy Trust may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Academy Trust. Nonetheless a member of the Academy Trust who is not also a Governor may

- a) benefit as a beneficiary of the Academy Trust,
- b) be paid reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Academy Trust,
- c) be paid rent for premises let by the member of the Academy Trust if the amount of the rent and other terms of the letting are reasonable and proper, and
- d) be paid interest on money lent to the Academy Trust at a reasonable and proper rate, such rate not to exceed 2 per cent per annum below the base lending rate of a UK clearing bank selected by the Governors, or 0.5%, whichever is the higher

6.3 A Governor may benefit from any indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy Trust's expense to cover the liability of the Governors which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust provided that any such insurance shall not extend to (i) any claim arising from any act or omission which the Governors knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Governors in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not, and (ii) the costs of any unsuccessful defense to a criminal prosecution brought against the Governors in their capacity as directors of the

Academy Trust Further, this Article does not authorise a Governor to benefit from any indemnity insurance that would be rendered void by any provision of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 or any other provision of law

6.4 A Company, which has shares listed on a recognised stock exchange and of which any one Governor holds no more than 1% of the issued capital of that company, may receive fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Academy Trust

6.5 A Governor may at the discretion of the Governors be reimbursed from the property of the Academy Trust for reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Academy Trust, but excluding expenses in connection with foreign travel

6.6 No Governor may

- (a) buy any goods or services from the Academy Trust on preferential terms to those applicable to the members of the public,
- (b) sell goods, services, or any interest in land to the Academy Trust,
- (c) be employed by or receive any remuneration from the Academy Trust (other than the Principal or a Staff Governor whose employment and/or remuneration is subject to the procedure and conditions in Article 6.8),
- (d) receive any other financial benefit from the Academy Trust, unless
 - (j) the payment is permitted by Article 6.7 and the Governors follow the procedure and observe the conditions set out in Article 6.8, or
 - (ii) the Governors obtain the prior written approval of the Charity Commission and fully comply with any procedures it prescribes

6.7 Subject to Article 6.8, a Governor may

- a) receive a benefit from the Academy Trust in the capacity of a beneficiary of the Academy Trust

- b) be employed by the Academy Trust or enter into a contract for the supply of goods or services to the Academy Trust, other than for acting as a Governor
- c) receive interest on money lent to the Academy Trust at a reasonable and proper rate not exceeding 2% per annum below the base rate of a clearing bank to be selected by the Governors, or 0.5%, whichever is the higher
- d) receive rent for premises let by the Governor to the Academy Trust if the amount of the rent and the other terms of the lease are reasonable and proper

6.8 The Academy Trust and its Governors may only rely upon the authority provided by Article 6.7 if each of the following conditions is satisfied

- (a) the remuneration or other sums paid to the Governor do not exceed an amount that is reasonable in the circumstances
- (b) the Governor is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is discussion of
 - (i) his or her employment, remuneration, or any matter concerning the contract, payment or benefit, or
 - (ii) his or her performance in the employment, or his or her performance of the contract, or
 - (iii) any proposal to enter into any other contract or arrangement with him or her or to confer any benefit upon him or her that would be permitted under Article 6.7, or
 - (iv) any other matter relating to a payment or the conferring of any benefit permitted by Article 6.7
- (c) the Governor does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when calculating whether a quorum of Governors is present at the meeting
- (d) save in relation to employing or contracting with the Principal or a Staff Governor the other Governors are satisfied that it is in the interests of the Academy Trust to employ or to contract with that Governor rather than with someone who is not a Governor in reaching that decision the Governors must

balance the advantage of employing a Governor against the disadvantages of doing so (especially the loss of the Governor's services as a result of dealing with the Governor's conflict of interest)

- (e) the reason for their decision is recorded by the Governors in the minute book
- (f) a majority of the Governors then in office have received no such payments or benefit

6.9 The provision in clause 6.6 (c) that no Governor may be employed by or receive any remuneration from the Academy Trust (other than the Principal or a Staff Governor) does not apply to an existing employee of the Academy Trust who is subsequently elected or appointed as a Governor save that this clause shall only allow such a Governor to receive remuneration or benefit from the Academy Trust in their capacity as an employee of the Academy Trust and provided that the procedure as set out in Articles 6.8(b)(i), (ii) and 6.8 (c) is followed

6.10 In Articles 6.2-6.10

- (a) "Academy Trust" shall include any company in which the Academy Trust
 - holds more than 50% of the shares, or
 - controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares, or
 - has the right to appoint one or more directors to the board of the company.
- (b) "Governor" shall include any child, stepchild, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother, sister or spouse of the governor or any person living with the governor as his or her partner.
- (c) the employment or remuneration of a Governor includes the engagement or remuneration of any firm or company in which the Governor is
 - (i) a partner,

- (ii) an employee,
- (ii) a consultant,
- (iv) a director,
- (v) a member, or
- (vi) a shareholder, unless the shares of the company are listed on a recognised stock exchange and the Governor holds less than 1% of the issued capital

7. The liability of the members of the Academy Trust is limited

8. Every member of the Academy Trust undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Academy Trust's assets if it should be wound up while he or she is a member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for payment of the Academy Trust's debts and liabilities before he or she ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves

9. If the Academy Trust is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities (including any under section 2 of the Academies Act 2010) have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Academy Trust, but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having objects similar to the Object which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Academy Trust by Article 6 above, chosen by the members of the Academy Trust at or before the time of dissolution and if that cannot be done then to some other charitable object

10. Not used.

11. No alteration or addition shall be made to or in the provisions of the Articles which would have the effect (a) that the Academy Trust would cease to be a company to which section 60 of the Companies Act 2006 applies, or (b) that the Academy Trust would cease to be a charity.

MEMBERS

12. The Members of the Academy Trust shall comprise
- a) the signatories to the Memorandum,
 - b) the chair of the Governors, and
 - c) any person appointed under Article 16
13. Each of the persons entitled to appoint Members in Article 12 shall have the right from time to time by written notice delivered to the Office to remove any Member appointed by them and to appoint a replacement Member to fill a vacancy whether resulting from such removal or otherwise.
14. If any of the persons entitled to appoint Members in Article 12
- a) in the case of an individual, die or become legally incapacitated,
 - b) in the case of a corporate entity, cease to exist and are not replaced by a successor institution,
 - c) becomes insolvent or makes any arrangement or composition with their creditors generally, or
 - d) ceases to be a Member, their right to appoint Members under these Articles shall vest in the remaining Members.
15. Membership will terminate automatically if
- a) a Member (which is a corporate entity) ceases to exist and is not replaced by a successor institution,
 - b) a Member (which is an individual) dies or becomes incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing and administering their own affairs, or
 - c) a Member becomes insolvent or makes any arrangement or composition with that Member's creditors generally.
- 15A. The Members may agree unanimously in writing to remove any Member(s) who

is a signatory to the Memorandum (save that the agreement of a signatory to the Memorandum who is to be removed shall not be required), provided that it is in the interests of the Academy Trust to remove such a Member(s)

16. The Members may agree by passing a special resolution in writing to appoint such additional Members as they think fit and may agree by passing a special resolution in writing to remove any such additional Members, provided that such appointment or removal is in the interests of the Academy Trust

17. Every person nominated to be a Member of the Academy Trust shall either sign a written consent to become a Member or sign the register of Members on becoming a Member

18. Any Member may resign provided that after such resignation the number of Members is not less than three. A Member shall cease to be one immediately on the receipt by the Academy Trust of a notice in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to remove them under Articles 13 or 16 provided that no such notice shall take effect when the number of Members is less than three unless it contains or is accompanied by the appointment of a replacement Member

GENERAL MEETINGS

19. Not used

20. The Governors may call general meetings and, on the requisition of Members pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, shall forthwith proceed to convene a general meeting in accordance with that Act. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient Governors to call a general meeting, any Governor or any Member of the Academy Trust may call a general meeting

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

21. General meetings shall be called by at least fourteen clear days' notice but a

general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority in number of Members having a right to attend and vote and together representing not less than 90% of the total voting rights at that meeting

The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted and, in the case of an Annual General Meeting, shall specify the meeting as such The notice shall also state that the Member is entitled to appoint a proxy

The notice shall be given to all the Members, to the Governors and auditors.

22. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

23. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. A Member counts towards the quorum by being present either in person or by proxy. Two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a Member or a proxy of a Member or a duly authorised representative of a Member organisation shall constitute a quorum

24. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the Governors may determine

25. The chair, if any, of the Governors or in their absence some other Governor nominated by the Governors shall preside as chair of the meeting, but if neither the chair nor such other Governor (if any) be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the Governors present shall elect one of their number to be chair and, if there is only one Governor present and willing to act, they shall be the chair

26. If no Governor is willing to act as chair, or if no Governor is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chair

27. A Governor shall, notwithstanding that he is not a Member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting

28. The chair may, with the consent of a majority of the Members at a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time, date and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any such notice

29. A resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before, or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 , a poll may be demanded -

(a) by the chair, or

(b) by at least two Members having the right to vote at the meeting, or

(c) by a Member or Members representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members having the right to vote at the meeting

30. Unless a poll is duly demanded a declaration by the chair that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution

31. The demand for a poll may be withdrawn, before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the chair. The withdrawal of a demand for a poll shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand for the poll was made

32. A poll shall be taken as the chair directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be Members) and fix a time, date and place for declaring the results. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded

33. A poll demanded on the election of the chair or on a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such time, date and place as the chair directs not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll is demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made

34. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time, date and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded In other cases at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time, date and place at which the poll is to be taken

35. A resolution in writing agreed by such a number of Members as required if it had been proposed at a general meeting shall be as effective as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held provided that a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every Member. The resolution may consist of several instruments in the like form each agreed by one or more Members

VOTES OF MEMBERS

36. On the show of hands every Member present in person shall have one vote. On a poll every Member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote

37. Not used

38. No Member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all moneys then payable by them to the Academy Trust have been paid

39. No objections shall be raised to the qualification of any person to vote at any general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chair whose decision shall be final and conclusive

40. An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing, signed by or on behalf of the appointer and shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto as circumstances allow or in any other form which is usual or which the Governors may approve) -

"I/We, _____, of _____, being a Member/Members of the above named Academy Trust, hereby appoint _____ of _____, or in their absence, _____ of _____ as my/our proxy to attend, speak and vote in my/our name[s] and on my/our behalf at the annual general meeting/ general meeting of the Academy Trust to be held on _____ 20[], and at any adjournment thereof

Signed on _____ 20[]"

41. Where it is desired to afford Members an opportunity of instructing the proxy how he shall act the instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto as circumstances allow or in any other form which is usual or which the Governors may approve) -

"I/We, _____, of _____, being a Member/Members of the above named Academy Trust, hereby appoint _____ of _____, or in their absence, _____ of _____, as my/our proxy to attend, speak and vote in my/our name[s] and on my/our behalf at the annual general meeting/ general

meeting of the Academy Trust, to be held on 20[], and at any adjournment thereof

This form is to be used in respect of the resolutions mentioned below as follows

Resolution No 1 *for * against

Resolution No 2 *for * against

*Strike out whichever is not desired

Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy may vote as he thinks fit or abstain from voting

Signed on 20[]"

42. The instrument appointing a proxy and any authority under which it is signed or a copy of such authority certified by a notary or in some other way approved by the Governors may -

(a) be deposited at the office or at such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Academy Trust in relation to the meeting not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote, or

(b) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll,

(c) where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chair or to the Clerk or to any Governor,

and an instrument of proxy which is not deposited or delivered in a manner so permitted shall be invalid

43. A vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be valid notwithstanding the previous determination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll unless notice of the determination was received by the Academy Trust at the office or at such other place at which the instrument of proxy was duly deposited before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote given or the poll demanded or (or in the case of a poll taken otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll

44. Any organisation which is a Member of the Academy Trust may by resolution of its board of directors or other governing body authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Academy Trust, and the person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the organisation which he represents as that organisation could exercise if it were an individual Member of the Academy Trust

GOVERNORS

45. The number of Governors shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum

46. Subject to Articles 48 and 49, the Academy Trust shall have the following Governors

- a Up to 10 Governors, appointed under Article 50,
- b a minimum of two Parent Governors appointed under Articles 53- 58,
- c the Principal,

- d One staff governor appointed under Article 50A,
- e One co-opted governor appointed under Article 59.

47. The Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Governor appointed under Article 59

48 The first Governors shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006

49 Future Governors shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Where it is not possible for such a Governor to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply

APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS

50 The Members may appoint up to 10 Governors

50A. The Members may appoint Staff Governors through such process as they may determine

50B. The total number of Governors (including the Principal) who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Governors

51. Not used

52 Not used

53 Subject to Article 57, the Parent Governors shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Governor must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he is elected

54 The Governing Body shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Governors, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at the Academy Any election of Parent Governors which is contested shall be held by secret ballot

55 The arrangements made for the election of a Parent Governor shall provide for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so. This may be by post or, if they prefer, by having their ballot paper returned to the Academy Trust by a registered pupil at the Academy. Electronic voting may also be used if considered secure and appropriate by the Governing Body

56 Where a vacancy for a Parent Governor is required to be filled by election, the Governing Body shall take such steps as are reasonably practical to secure that every person who is known to them to be a parent of a registered pupil at the Academy is informed of the vacancy and that it is required to be filled by election, informed that he is entitled to stand as a candidate, and vote at the election, and given an opportunity to do so

57. The number of Parent Governors required shall be made up by Parent Governors appointed by the Governing Body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies

58. In appointing a Parent Governor the Governing Body shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at the Academy, or where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age

CO-OPTED GOVERNORS

59. The Governors may appoint Co-opted Governors A 'Co-opted Governor' means a person who is appointed to be a Governor by being CoOpted by Governors who have not themselves been so appointed. The Governors may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Governor if thereby the number of Governors who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Governors (including the Principal).

60 to 64 Not used.

TERM OF OFFICE

65. The term of office for any Governor shall be four years. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor may be re-appointed or re-elected

RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL

66. A Governor shall cease to hold office if they resign their office by notice to the Academy Trust (but only if at least three Governors will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect)

67. A Governor shall cease to hold office if they are removed by the person or persons who appointed them.

68. Where a Governor resigns their office or is removed from office, the Governor or, where they are removed from office, those removing them, shall give written notice thereof to the Clerk.

68A. Not used.

DISQUALIFICATION OF GOVERNORS

69. No person shall be qualified to be a Governor unless they are aged 18 or over at the date of their election or appointment. No current pupil of the Academy shall be a Governor

70. A Governor shall cease to hold office if they become incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing or administering their own affairs

71. A Governor shall cease to hold office if they are absent without the permission of the Governors from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the

Governors resolve that their office be vacated. This does not include committee meetings.

72. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if -

1. their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced, or

b. they are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order

73. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor at any time when they are subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)

74 A Governor shall cease to hold office if they cease to be a Governor by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act 2006 or is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision)

75 A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if they have been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which they were responsible or to which they were privy, or which they by their conduct contributed to or facilitated

76 A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if any of the following apply without extenuating circumstances; they fail to complete their annual statutory documentation by October half term (Pecuniary Interest, Code of Conduct); they fail to complete their initial training (Safeguarding, Prevent,

Induction) within 6 months of taking office; they fail to complete their termly school visit (can be done remotely by electronic communication) for two consecutive terms

77 Not used

78 A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor where they have, at any time, been convicted of any criminal offence, excluding any that have been spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as amended, and excluding any offence for which the maximum sentence is a fine or a lesser sentence except where a person has been convicted of any offence which falls under section 178 of the Charities Act 2011

79 After the Academy has opened, a person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if they have not provided to the chair of the Governors a criminal records certificate at an enhanced disclosure level under section 113B of the Police Act 1997. In the event that the certificate discloses any information which would in the opinion of either the chair or the Principal confirm their unsuitability to work with children that person shall be disqualified. If a dispute arises as to whether a person shall be disqualified, a referral shall be made to the Secretary of State to determine the matter. The determination of the Secretary of State shall be final

80 Where, by virtue of these Articles a person becomes disqualified from holding, or continuing to hold office as a Governor, and they are, or is proposed, to become such a Governor, they shall upon becoming so disqualified give written notice of that fact to the Clerk

81. Articles 69 to 80 and Articles 98 to 99 also apply to any member of any committee of the Governors who is not a Governor

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

82 The Clerk shall be appointed by the Governors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit, and any Clerk so

appointed may be removed by them. The Clerk shall not be a Governor or a Principal. Notwithstanding this Article, the Governors may, where the Clerk fails to attend a meeting of theirs, appoint any one of their number or any other person to act as Clerk for the purposes of that meeting

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE GOVERNORS

83 The Governors shall each school year elect a chair and a vice-chair from among their number. A Governor who is employed by the Academy Trust shall not be eligible for election as chair or vice-chair

84 Subject to Article 85, the chair or vice-chair shall hold office as such until their successor has been elected in accordance with Article 86

85 The chair or vice-chair may at any time resign their office by giving notice in writing to the Clerk. The chair or vice-chair shall cease to hold office if -

- a. they cease to be a Governor,
- b. they are employed by the Academy Trust,
- c. they are removed from office in accordance with these Articles, or
- d. in the case of the vice-chair, they are elected in accordance with these Articles to fill a vacancy in the office of chair

86. Where by reason of any of the matters referred to in Article 85, a vacancy arises in the office of chair or vice-chair, the Governors shall at their next meeting elect one of their number to fill that vacancy

87 Where the chair is absent from any meeting or there is at the time a vacancy in the office of the chair, the vice-chair shall act as the chair for the purposes of the meeting

88-90 Not used

91 The Governors may remove the chair or vice-chair from office in accordance with these Articles

92 A resolution to remove the chair or vice-chair from office which is passed at a meeting of the Governors shall not have effect unless -

a. it is confirmed by a resolution passed at a second meeting of the Governors held not less than fourteen days after the first meeting, and

b. the matter of the chair's or vice-chair's removal from office is specified as an item of business on the agenda for each of those meetings

93 Before the Governors resolve at the relevant meeting on whether to confirm the resolution to remove the chair or vice-chair from office, the Governor or Governors proposing their removal shall at that meeting state their reasons for doing so and the chair or vice-chair shall be given an opportunity to make a statement in response

POWERS OF GOVERNORS

94 Subject to provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Academy Trust shall be managed by the Governors who may exercise all the powers of the Academy Trust. No alteration of the Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Governors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Governors by the Articles and a meeting of Governors at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Governors

95 In addition to all powers hereby expressly conferred upon them and without detracting from the generality of their powers under the Articles the Governors shall have the following powers, namely

a. to expend the funds of the Academy Trust in such manner as they shall consider most beneficial for the achievement of the Object and to invest in

the name of the Academy Trust such part of the funds as they may see fit and to direct the sale or transposition of any such investments and to expend the proceeds of any such sale in furtherance of the Object, and

b. to enter into contracts on behalf of the Academy Trust

96 In the exercise of their powers and functions, the Governors may consider any advice given by the Principal and any other executive officer

97 Any bank account in which any money of the Academy Trust is deposited shall be operated by the Governors in the name of the Academy Trust. All cheques and orders for the payment of money from such an account shall be signed by at least two signatories authorised by the Governors

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

98 Any Governor who has or can have any direct or indirect duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest) which conflicts or may conflict with their duties as a Governor shall disclose that fact to the Governors as soon as they become aware of it. A Governor must absent themselves from any discussions of the Governors in which it is possible that a conflict will arise between their duty to act solely in the interests of the Academy Trust and any duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest)

99 For the purpose of Article 98, a Governor has a Personal Financial Interest in the employment or remuneration of, or the provision of any other benefit to, that Governor as permitted by and as defined by articles 6 5-6 10

THE MINUTES

100 The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Governors shall be drawn up and entered into a book kept for the purpose by the person acting as Clerk for the purposes of the meeting, and shall be signed (subject to the approval of the Governors) at the same or next subsequent meeting by the person acting as chair thereof

COMMITTEES

101. Subject to these Articles, the Governors may establish any committee. Subject to these Articles, the constitution, membership and proceedings of any committee shall be determined by the Governors. The establishment, terms of reference, constitution and membership of any committee of the Governors shall be reviewed at least once in every twelve months. The membership of any committee of the Governors may include persons who are not Governors, provided that a majority of members of any such committee shall be Governors. The Governors may determine that some or all of the members of a committee who are not Governors shall be entitled to vote in any proceedings of the committee. No vote on any matter shall be taken at a meeting of a committee of the Governors unless the majority of members of the committee present are Governors

DELEGATION

102 The Governors may delegate to any Governor, committee, the Principal or any other holder of an executive office, such of their powers or functions as they consider desirable to be exercised by them. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions the Governors may impose and may be revoked or altered

103 Where any power or function of the Governors is exercised by any committee, any Governor, Principal or any other holder of an executive office, that person or committee shall report to the Governors in respect of any action taken or decision made with respect to the exercise of that power or function at the meeting of the Governors immediately following the taking of the action or the making of the decision

PRINCIPAL

104 The Governors shall appoint the Principal. The Governors may delegate such powers and functions as they consider are required by the Principal for the internal organisation, management and control of the Academy (including the implementation of

all policies approved by the Governors and for the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the Academy)

MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNORS

105 Subject to these Articles, the Governors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit

106 The Governors shall hold at least three meetings in every school year. Meetings of the Governors shall be convened by the Clerk. In exercising their functions under this Article the Clerk shall comply with any direction -

- a. given by the Governors, or
- b. given by the chair of the Governors or, in their absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chair, the vice-chair of the Governors, so far as such direction is not inconsistent with any direction given as mentioned in (a)

107. Any three Governors may, by notice in writing given to the Clerk, requisition a meeting of the Governors, and it shall be the duty of the Clerk to convene such a meeting as soon as is reasonably practicable.

108. Each Governor shall be given at least seven clear days before the date of a meeting -

- a) notice in writing thereof, signed by the Clerk, and sent to each Governor at the address provided by each Governor from time to time, and
- b) a copy of the agenda for the meeting,

provided that where the chair or, in their absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chair, the vice-chair, so determines on the ground that there are matters demanding urgent consideration, it shall be sufficient if the written notice of a meeting, and the copy of the agenda thereof are given within such shorter period as they direct

109 The convening of a meeting and the proceedings conducted thereat shall not be invalidated by reason of any individual not having received written notice of the meeting or a copy of the agenda thereof

110 A resolution to rescind or vary a resolution earned at a previous meeting of the Governors shall not be proposed at a meeting of the Governors unless the consideration of the rescission or variation of the previous resolution is a specific item of business on the agenda for that meeting

111 A meeting of the Governors shall be terminated forthwith if -

- a) the Governors so resolve, or
- b) the number of Governors present ceases to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Governors in accordance with Article 114, subject to Article 116

112 Where in accordance with Article 111 a meeting is not held or is terminated before all the matters specified as items of business on the agenda for the meeting have been disposed of, a further meeting shall be convened by the Clerk as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within seven days of the date on which the meeting was originally to be held or was so terminated

113 Where the Governors resolve in accordance with Article 111 to adjourn a meeting before all the items of business on the agenda have been disposed of, the Governors shall before doing so determine the time and date at which a further meeting is to be held for the purposes of completing the consideration of those items, and they shall direct the Clerk to convene a meeting accordingly

114 Subject to Article 116 the quorum for a meeting of the Governors, and any vote on any matter thereat, shall be any three Governors, or, where greater, any one third (rounded up to a whole number) of the total number of Governors holding office at the date of the meeting

115 The Governors may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the numbers of Governors is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing Governors may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting

116 The quorum for the purposes of -

- a. appointing a parent Governor under Article 57,
- b. any vote on the removal of a Governor in accordance with Article 67,
- c. any vote on the removal of the chair of the Governors in accordance with Article 91,

shall be any two-thirds (rounded up to a whole number) of the persons who are at the time Governors entitled to vote on those respective matters

117 Subject to these Articles, every question to be decided at a meeting of the Governors shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the Governors present and voting on the question. Every Governor shall have one vote

118 Subject to Article 114-116, where there is an equal division of votes, the chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have

119 The proceedings of the Governors shall not be invalidated by

- a. any vacancy among their number, or
- b. any defect in the election, appointment or nomination of any Governor

120 A resolution in writing, signed by all the Governors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Governors or of a committee of Governors, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of Governors or (as the case may be) a committee of Governors duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed by one or more of the Governors

121 Subject to Article 122, the Governors shall ensure that a copy of

- a. the agenda for every meeting of the Governors,
- b. the draft minutes of every such meeting, if they have been approved by the person acting as chair of that meeting,
- c. the signed minutes of every such meeting, and
- d. any report, document or other paper considered at any such meeting,

are, as soon as is reasonably practicable, made available at the Academy to persons wishing to inspect them

122 There may be excluded from any item required to be made available in pursuance of Article 121, any material relating to-

- a. a named teacher or other person employed, or proposed to be employed, at the Academy,
 - b. a named pupil at, or candidate for admission to, the Academy,
- and
- c. any matter which, by reason of its nature, the Governors are satisfied should remain confidential

123 Any Governor shall be able to participate in meetings of the Governors by telephone or video conference provided that

- a. they have given notice of their intention to do so detailing the telephone number on which they can be reached and/or appropriate details of the video conference suite from which they shall be taking part at the time of the meeting at least 48 hours before the meeting, and
- b. the Governors have access to the appropriate equipment. If after all reasonable efforts it does not prove possible for the person to participate by telephone or video conference the meeting may still proceed with its business provided it is otherwise quorate

PATRONS AND HONORARY OFFICERS

124 The Governors may from time to time appoint any person whether or not a Member of the Academy Trust to be a patron of the Academy Trust or to hold any honorary office and may determine for what period he is to hold such office

THE SEAL

125 The seal, if any, shall only be used by the authority of the Governors or of a committee of Governors authorised by the Governors. The Governors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a Governor and by the Clerk or by a second Governor

ACCOUNTS

126 Accounts shall be prepared in accordance with the relevant Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was a non-exempt charity and Parts 15 and 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and shall file these with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year

ANNUAL REPORT

127 The Governors shall prepare its Annual Report in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was a non exempt charity and shall file these with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year

ANNUAL RETURN

128 The Governors shall comply with their obligations under Part 24 of the Companies Act 2006 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the preparation of an annual return to the Registrar of Companies and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was

a non-exempt charity and to the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year

NOTICES

129 Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of the Governors) shall be in writing or shall be given using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice. In these Articles, "Address" in relation to electronic communications, includes a number or address used for the purposes of such communications

130 A notice may be given by the Academy Trust to a Member either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the Member at their registered address or by leaving it at that address or by giving it using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to the Academy Trust by the Member. A Member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Academy Trust an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to them, or an address to which notices may be sent using electronic communications, shall be entitled to have notices given to them at that address, but otherwise, no such Member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Academy Trust

131 A Member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Academy Trust shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called

132 Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Proof that a notice contained in an electronic communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice shall be deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted or, in the case

of a notice contained in an electronic communication, at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent

INDEMNITY

133 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Governor or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust

RULES

134 The Governors may from time to time make such rules or bye laws as they may deem necessary or expedient or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Academy Trust and for purposes of prescribing classes of and conditions of membership, and in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, they may by such rules or bye laws regulate

- a the admission and classification of Members of the Academy Trust (including the admission of organisations to membership) and the rights and privileges of such Members, and the conditions of membership and the terms on which Members may resign or have their membership terminated and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be made by Members,
- b the conduct of Members of the Academy Trust in relation to one another, and to the Academy Trust's servants,
- c. the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Academy Trust's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes,
- d. the procedure at general meetings and meetings of the Governors and committees of the Governors in so far as such procedure is not regulated by the Articles, and
- e. generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of Company rules

135 The Academy Trust in general meeting shall have power to alter, add or to repeal the rules or bye-laws and the Governors shall adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring to the notice of Members of the Academy Trust all such rules or bye-laws, which shall be binding on all Members of the Academy Trust Provided that no rule or

bye-law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Articles

AVOIDING INFLUENCED COMPANY STATUS

136 Notwithstanding the number of Members from time to time, the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by Local Authority Associated Persons shall never exceed 19.9% of the total number of votes exercisable by Members in general meeting and the votes of the other Members having a right to vote at the meeting will be increased on a pro-rata basis

137 No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person may be appointed as a Governor if, once the appointment had taken effect, the number of Governors who are Local Authority Associated Persons would represent 20% or more of the total number of Governors Upon any resolution put to the Governors, the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by any Governors who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall represent a maximum of 19.9% of the total number of votes cast by the Governors on such a resolution and the votes of the other Governors having a right to vote at the meeting will be increased on a pro-rata basis

138 No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person is eligible to be appointed to the office of Governor unless their appointment to such office is authorised by the local authority to which they are associated

139 If at the time of either their becoming a Member of the Academy Trust or their first appointment to office as a Governor any Member or Governor was not a Local Authority Associated Person but later becomes so during their membership or tenure as a Governor they shall be deemed to have immediately resigned their membership and/or resigned from their office as a Governor as the case may be

140 If at any time the number of Governors or Members who are also Local authority Associated Persons would (but for Articles 136 to 139 inclusive) represent 20% or more of the total number of Governors or Members (as the case may be) then a sufficient number of the Governors or Members (as the case may be) who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall be deemed to have resigned as Governors or

Members (as the case may be) immediately before the occurrence of such an event to ensure that at all times the number of such Governors or Members (as the case may be) is never equal to or greater than 20% of the total number of Governors or Members (as the case may be). Governors or Members (as the case may be) who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall be deemed to have resigned in order of their appointment date the most recently appointed resigning first

141 The Members will each notify the Academy Trust and each other if at any time they believe that the Academy Trust or any of its subsidiaries has become subject to the influence of a local authority (as described in section 69 of the Local Government and Housing Act) 1989