

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 Company 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 Company 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 Company, 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 Company.

DIRECTORS

45. The number of Directors shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum.
- 45A. All Directors shall upon their appointment or election give a written undertaking to the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop to uphold the Object of the Academy Trust.
46. Subject to Articles 48-49 and 63, the Company shall have the following Directors:
- (a) up to 1 Director appointed under Article 50;
 - (b) not used;
 - (c) a minimum of 4 Foundation Directors, appointed under Article 50A;
 - (d) any Academy Directors appointed under Article 51 or Article 52;
 - (e) the Principals;
 - (f) the Executive Principal;

- (g) a minimum of 2 Parent Directors appointed under Articles 53-56;
- (h) any Additional Directors, if appointed under Article 61, 61A or 67A;
- (i) any Further Directors, if appointed under Article 62 or Article 67A;
- (j) up to 2 Directors, if appointed by the Secretary of State in accordance with the terms of any of the Relevant Funding Agreements following the provision of a notice by the Company to terminate that Relevant Funding Agreement.

No changes to Article 46 and Article 50A shall be made without the consent of the Trustees.

- 47. The Company may also have any Co-opted Director appointed under Article 58.
- 48. The first Directors shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 49. Future Directors shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Where it is not possible for such a Director to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established or the Executive Principal has not been appointed, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 50. The Members may appoint up to 1 Director save that no more than one third of the total number of individuals appointed as Directors shall be employees of the Academy Trust (including the Executive Principal and the Principals).
- 50A. The Diocesan Bishop shall appoint a minimum of 4 Foundation Directors provided that:
 - (a) at least one Parish Priest shall be a Foundation Director; and
 - (b) that the total number of Foundation Directors, when added to the total number of Academy Directors, shall always be two more than the total number of other Directors (excluding Academy Directors and Foundation Directors).

ACADEMY DIRECTORS

51. Subject to Article 52, the chairman of each Local Governing Body shall be an Academy Director for as long as he remains in office as such and shall be appointed by the Directors of the Company but they shall appoint as the chairman of a Local Governing Body someone other than the Executive Principal.
52. If the number of Academies exceeds 10, the chairmen of the Local Governing Bodies shall elect 10 persons from amongst their numbers to be the Academy Directors. Any person elected in accordance with this Article shall only remain an Academy Director for as long as he remains chairman of a Local Governing Body. The Directors shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, the election of the Academy Directors in accordance with this Article. Any election of the Academy Directors which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

PARENT DIRECTORS

53. There shall be a minimum of 2 Parent Directors for every 10 or fewer Academies.
54. The Parent Directors shall be elected by the parent members of the Local Governing Bodies (who shall themselves be elected in accordance with the terms of reference determined by the Directors from time to time) from amongst their number. The elected Parent Directors must be a parent of a registered pupil at one of the Academies at the time when he is elected.
- 54A. The number of Parent Directors required shall be made up by Parent Directors appointed by the Directors if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.
55. The Directors shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all matters relating to, an election of the Parent Directors, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at one of the Academies. Any election of the Parent Directors which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

56. In appointing a Parent Director the Directors shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at an Academy or, where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age.

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

57. The Executive Principal shall be a Director for as long as he remains in office as such.

CO-OPTED DIRECTORS

58. The Directors may appoint up to 3 Co-opted Directors provided that if any such Directors are appointed the number of Foundation Directors permitted by Articles 46 and 50A shall increase proportionately to ensure that a majority of Directors are Foundation Directors. A 'Co-opted Director' means a person who is appointed to be a Director by being Co-opted by Directors who have not themselves been so appointed. The Directors may not co-opt an employee of the Company as a Co-opted Director if thereby the number of Directors who are employees of the Company would exceed one third of the total number of Directors including the Executive Principal and the Principals.

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS

59. The Secretary of State may give a warning notice to the Directors which he shall copy to the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop where he is satisfied:-
- (a) that the standards of performance of pupils at any of the Academies are unacceptably low; or
 - (b) that there has been a serious breakdown in the way any of the Academies are managed or governed; or
 - (c) that the safety of pupils or staff of any of the Academies is threatened (whether by a breakdown of discipline or otherwise).
60. For the purposes of Article 59 a 'warning notice' is a notice in writing by the Secretary of State to the Company delivered to the Office setting out:-
- (a) the matters referred to in Article 59;

- (b) the action which he requires the Directors to take in order to remedy those matters; and
 - (c) the period within which that action is to be taken by the Directors ('the compliance period').
- 61. The Secretary of State may appoint such Additional Directors as he thinks fit (after consultation with the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop) if the Secretary of State has:-
 - (a) given the Directors a warning notice in accordance with Article 59; and
 - (b) the Directors have failed to comply, or secure compliance, with the notice to the Secretary of State's satisfaction within the compliance period.
- 61A The Secretary of State may also appoint such Additional Directors (after consultation with the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop) where following an Inspection by the Chief Inspector in accordance with the Education Act 2005 (an "Inspection") an Academy receives an Ofsted grading (being a grade referred to in The Framework for School Inspection or any modification or replacement of that document for the time being in force) which amounts to a drop, either from one Inspection to the next Inspection or between any two Inspections carried out within a 5 year period, of two Ofsted grades. For the purposes of the foregoing the grade received by the predecessor school as defined in the Relevant Funding Agreement shall be regarded as the grade received by the Academy.
- 62. The Secretary of State may also appoint such Further Directors as he thinks fit (after consultation with the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop) if a Special Measures Termination Event (as defined in the Relevant Funding Agreement) occurs in respect of any Academy.
- 62A. The Secretary of State acknowledges that any right to appoint Additional or Further Directors pursuant to Articles 61, 61A and 62 shall be subject to the terms of the Master Funding Agreement (being the funding agreement entered into between the Secretary of State and the Company pursuant to section 1 of the Academies Act 2010) in so far as it purports to restrict the freedom of the Secretary of State to appoint Additional and Further Directors.

63. Within 5 days of the Secretary of State appointing any Additional or Further Directors in accordance with Articles 61, 61A or 62, any Directors appointed under Article 50 and holding office immediately preceding the appointment of such Directors, shall resign immediately and the Members' power to appoint Directors under Article 50 shall remain suspended until the Secretary of State removes one or more of the Additional or Further Directors.

TERM OF OFFICE

64. The term of office for any Director shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not apply to any post which is held ex-officio. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Director, any Director may be re-appointed or re-elected.

RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL

65. A Director shall cease to hold office if he resigns his office by notice to the Company (but only if at least three Directors will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect).
66. A Director shall cease to hold office if he is removed by the person or persons who appointed him. This Article does not apply in respect of a Parent Director or Academy Director.
67. Where a Director resigns his office or is removed from office, the Director or, where he is removed from office, those removing him, shall give written notice thereof to the Secretary.
- 67A. Where an Additional or Further Director appointed pursuant to Articles 61, 61A or 62 ceases to hold office as a Director for any reason, other than being removed by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall be entitled to appoint an Additional or Further Director in his place.

DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS

68. No person shall be qualified to be a Director unless he is aged 18 or over at the date of his election or appointment. No current pupil of any of the Academies shall be a Director.
69. A Director shall cease to hold office if he becomes incapable by reason of

mental disorder, illness or injury of managing or administering his own affairs.

70. A Director shall cease to hold office if he is absent without the permission of the Directors from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Directors resolve that his office be vacated.
71. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director if:-
- (a) his estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced; or
 - (b) he is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order.
72. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director at any time when he is 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).
73. A Director shall cease to hold office if he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act 2006 or is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision).
74. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director if he has 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 he was responsible or to which he was privy, or which he by his conduct contributed to or facilitated.
75. A person shall be disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a Director at any time when he is:-
- (a) included in the list kept by the Secretary of State under section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1999; or
 - (b) disqualified from working with children in accordance with Section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; or

- (c) barred from regulated activity relating to children (within the meaning of section 3(2) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).
76. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director if he is a person in respect of whom a direction has been made under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 or is subject to any prohibition or restriction which takes effect as if contained in such a direction.
77. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director where he has, 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 72 of the Charities Act 1993.
78. After the first Academy has opened, a person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Director if he has not provided to the chairman of the Directors 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 chairman or the Executive 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.
79. Where, by virtue of these Articles a person becomes disqualified from holding, or continuing to hold office as a Director; and he is, or is proposed, to become such a Director, he shall upon becoming so disqualified give written notice of that fact to the Secretary.
80. Articles 68 to 79 and Articles 97-98 also apply to any member of any committee of the Directors, including a Local Governing Body, who is not a Director.

SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTORS

81. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them. The Secretary shall not be the Executive Principal, a Director or a Principal. Notwithstanding this Article, the Directors may, where the Secretary fails to attend a meeting of theirs, appoint any one of their number or any other person to act as Secretary for the purposes of that meeting.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE DIRECTORS

82. The Directors shall each school year, at their first meeting in that year, elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among their number. A Director who is employed by the Company shall not be eligible for election as chairman or vice-chairman.
83. Subject to Article 84, the chairman or vice-chairman shall hold office as such until his successor has been elected in accordance with Article 85.
84. The chairman or vice-chairman may at any time resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Secretary. The chairman or vice-chairman shall cease to hold office if:-
- (a) he ceases to be a Director;
 - (b) he is employed by the Company;
 - (c) he is removed from office in accordance with these Articles; or
 - (d) in the case of the vice-chairman, he is elected in accordance with these Articles to fill a vacancy in the office of chairman.
85. Where by reason of any of the matters referred to in Article 84, a vacancy arises in the office of chairman or vice-chairman, the Directors shall at their next meeting elect one of their number to fill that vacancy.
86. Where the chairman is absent from any meeting or there is at the time a vacancy in the office of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall act as the chair for the purposes of the meeting.
87. Where in the circumstances referred to in Article 86 the vice-chairman is also absent from the meeting or there is at the time a vacancy in the office of vice-

chairman, the Directors shall elect one of their number to act as a chairman for the purposes of that meeting, provided that Director elected shall not be a person who is employed by the Company.

88. The Secretary shall act as chairman during that part of any meeting at which the chairman is elected.
89. Any election of the chairman or vice-chairman which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.
90. The Directors may remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office in accordance with these Articles.
91. A resolution to remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office which is passed at a meeting of the Directors shall not have effect unless:-
 - (a) it is confirmed by a resolution passed at a second meeting of the Directors held not less than fourteen days after the first meeting; and
 - (b) the matter of the chairman's or vice-chairman's removal from office is specified as an item of business on the agenda for each of those meetings.
92. Before the Directors resolve at the relevant meeting on whether to confirm the resolution to remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office, the Director or Directors proposing his removal shall at that meeting state their reasons for doing so and the chairman or vice-chairman shall be given an opportunity to make a statement in response.

POWERS OF DIRECTORS

93. Subject to provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of the Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors 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 Directors by the Articles and a meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Directors.

94. In addition to all powers hereby expressly conferred upon them and without detracting from the generality of their powers under the Articles the Directors shall have the following powers, namely:
- (a) to expend the funds of the Company in such manner as they shall consider most beneficial for the achievement of the Object and to invest in the name of the Company 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 Company.
95. In the exercise of their powers and functions, the Directors may consider any advice given by the Executive Principal and any other executive officer.
96. Any bank account in which any money of the Company is deposited shall be operated by the Directors in the name of the Company. All cheques and orders for the payment of money from such an account shall be signed by at least two signatories authorised by the Directors.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

97. Any Director 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 his duties as a Director shall disclose that fact to the Directors as soon as he becomes aware of it. A Director must absent himself from any discussions of the Directors in which it is possible that a conflict will arise between his duty to act solely in the interests of the Company and any duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest).
98. For the purpose of Article 97, a Director has a Personal Financial Interest in the employment or remuneration of, or the provision of any other benefit to, that Director as permitted by and as defined by Articles 6.5-6.9.

THE MINUTES

99. The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Directors shall be drawn up and entered into a book kept for the purpose by the person acting as

Secretary for the purposes of the meeting; and shall be signed (subject to the approval of the Directors) at the same or next subsequent meeting by the person acting as chairman thereof. The minutes shall include a record of:-

- (a) all appointments of officers made by the Directors; and
- (b) all proceedings at meetings of the Company and of the Directors and of committees of Directors including the names of the Directors present at each such meeting.

COMMITTEES

100. Subject to these Articles, the Directors:-

- (a) may appoint separate committees to be known as Local Governing Bodies for each Academy and the Directors shall be free to appoint one committee for several Academies if they so wish; and
- (b) may establish any other committee.

101. Subject to these Articles, the constitution, membership and proceedings of any committee shall be determined by the Directors. The establishment, terms of reference, constitution and membership of any committee of the Directors shall be reviewed at least once in every twelve months. The membership of any committee of the Directors may include persons who are not Directors, provided that (with the exception of the Local Governing Bodies) a majority of members of any such committee shall be Directors. Except in the case of a Local Governing Body, no vote on any matter shall be taken at a meeting of a committee of the Directors unless the majority of members of the committee present are Directors.

102. Whilst the composition of a Local Governing Body and its terms of reference (or scheme of delegation), which shall include its constitution, membership and proceedings and all matters in connection with the running of the Academy, shall have been determined by the Directors on the establishment of the Local Governing Body, any material changes to such scheme of delegation shall only be made by the Directors after due consideration of any representations made by the relevant Local Governing Body.

103. All members of a Local Governing Body shall upon their appointment or

election give a written undertaking to the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop to uphold the Object of the Academy Trust.

104. Subject to Article 102, the functions and proceedings of the Local Governing Bodies shall be subject to regulations made by the Directors from time to time.

DELEGATION

105. The Directors may delegate to any Director, committee (including any Local Governing Body), the Executive 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 shall be made subject to any conditions the Directors may impose, and may be revoked or altered.
106. Where any power or function of the Directors has been exercised by any committee (including any Local Governing Body), any Director, the Executive Principal or any other holder of an executive office, that person or committee shall report to the Directors in respect of any action taken or decision made with respect to the exercise of that power or function at the meeting of the Directors immediately following the taking of the action or the making of the decision.
- 106A In performing its delegated powers and functions under any Terms of Reference or Scheme of Delegation the Local Governing Body shall have due regard to any guidelines and policies issued by the Directors and the Diocesan Bishop (whether issued by on his behalf by the local Diocesan Education Service or otherwise).

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL AND PRINCIPALS

107. The Directors, after consultation with the Trustees and the Diocesan Bishop shall appoint the Principals of the Academies and may appoint the Executive Principal. The Directors may delegate such powers and functions as they consider are required by the Executive Principal and the Principals for the internal organisation, management and control of the Academies (including the implementation of all policies approved by the Directors and for the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the Academies).

MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS

108. Subject to these Articles, the Directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.
109. The Directors shall hold at least three meetings in every school year. Meetings of the Directors shall be convened by the Secretary. In exercising his functions under this Article the Secretary shall comply with any direction:-
- (a) given by the Directors; or
 - (b) given by the chairman of the Directors or, in his absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice-chairman of the Directors, so far as such direction is not inconsistent with any direction given as mentioned in Article 109(a).
110. Any three Directors may, by notice in writing given to the Secretary, requisition a meeting of the Directors; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to convene such a meeting as soon as is reasonably practicable.
111. Each Director shall be given at least seven clear days before the date of a meeting:-
- (a) notice in writing thereof, signed by the Secretary, and sent to each Director at the address provided by each Director from time to time; and
 - (b) a copy of the agenda for the meeting;
- provided that where the chairman or, in his absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice-chairman, 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 he directs.
112. 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.
113. A resolution to rescind or vary a resolution carried at a previous meeting of the Directors shall not be proposed at a meeting of the Directors unless the consideration of the rescission or variation of the previous resolution is a

specific item of business on the agenda for that meeting.

114. A meeting of the Directors shall be terminated forthwith if:-
- (a) the Directors so resolve; or
 - (b) the number of Directors present ceases to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Directors in accordance with Article 117, subject to Article 119 .
115. Where in accordance with Article 114 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 Secretary 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.
116. Where the Directors resolve in accordance with Article 114 to adjourn a meeting before all the items of business on the agenda have been disposed of, the Directors 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 Secretary to convene a meeting accordingly.
117. Subject to Article 119 the quorum for a meeting of the Directors, and any vote on any matter thereat, shall be any three Directors, or, where greater, any one third (rounded up to a whole number) of the total number of Directors holding office at the date of the meeting. If the Secretary of State has appointed Additional or Further Directors then a majority of the quorum must be made up of Additional or Further Directors.
118. The Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the numbers of Directors is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing Directors may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.
119. The quorum for the purposes of:-
- (a) appointing a Parent Director under Articles 56;

- (b) any vote on the removal of a Director in accordance with Article 66;
- (c) any vote on the removal of the chairman of the Directors in accordance with Article 90;

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

120. Subject to these Articles, every question to be decided at a meeting of the Directors shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the Directors present and voting on the question. Every Director shall have one vote.
121. Subject to Articles 117-119, where there is an equal division of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
122. The proceedings of the Directors shall not be invalidated by:-
- (a) any vacancy among their number; or
 - (b) any defect in the election, appointment or nomination of any Director.
123. A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Directors or of a committee of Directors, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of Directors or (as the case may be) a committee of Directors duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed by one or more of the Directors.
124. Subject to Article 125, the Directors shall ensure that a copy of:-
- (a) the agenda for every meeting of the Directors;
 - (b) the draft minutes of every such meeting, if they have been approved by the person acting as chairman 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 every Academy to persons wishing to inspect them.

125. There may be excluded from any item required to be made available in pursuance of Article 124, any material relating to:-
- (a) a named teacher or other person employed, or proposed to be employed, at any Academy;
 - (b) a named pupil at, or candidate for admission to, any Academy; and
 - (c) any matter which, by reason of its nature, the Directors are satisfied should remain confidential.
126. Any Director shall be able to participate in meetings of the Directors by telephone or video conference provided that:-
- (a) he has given notice of his intention to do so detailing the telephone number on which he can be reached and/or appropriate details of the video conference suite from which he shall be taking part at the time of the meeting at least 48 hours before the meeting; and
 - (b) the Directors 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

127. The Directors may from time to time appoint any person whether or not a Member of the Company to be a patron of the Company or to hold any honorary office and may determine for what period he is to hold such office.

THE SEAL

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

ACCOUNTS

129. Accounts shall be prepared in accordance with the relevant Statement of

Recommended Practice as if the Company was a non-exempt charity and Parts 15 and 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Company shall file these with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year.

ANNUAL REPORT

130. The Directors shall prepare its Annual Report in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Company 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

131. The Directors shall comply with their obligations under Part 24 of the Charities 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 Company was a registered charity and to the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year.

NOTICES

132. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of the Directors) 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.
133. A notice may be given by the Company to a Member either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the Member at his 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 Company by the Member. A Member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him, or an address to which notices may be sent using electronic communications, shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address, but otherwise no such Member

shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Company.

134. A Member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called.
135. 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

136. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Director including any governor on any Local Governing Body or other officer or auditor of the Company shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against any liability incurred by him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Company.

RULES

137. The Directors 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 Company and in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, they may by such rules or bye laws regulate:-
 - (a) subject to the prior written approval by a majority of the Members, the conduct of Members of the Company in relation to one another, and to the Company's servants;
 - (b) the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Company's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose

or purposes;

- (c) the procedure at general meetings and meetings of the Directors and committees of the Directors and meetings of the Local Governing Bodies in so far as such procedure is not regulated by the Articles; and
- (d) generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of company rules.

138. The Company in general meeting shall have power to alter, add or to repeal the rules or bye laws and the Directors shall adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring to the notice of Members of the Company all such rules or bye laws, which shall be binding on all Members of the Company, 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

139. 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.

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

141. No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person is eligible to be appointed to the office of Director unless his appointment to such office is authorised by the local authority to which he is associated.

142. If at the time of either his becoming a Member of the Company or his first

appointment to office as a Director any Member or Director was not a Local Authority Associated Person but later becomes so during his membership or tenure as a Director he shall be deemed to have immediately resigned his membership and/or resigned from his office as a Director as the case may be.

143. If at any time the number of Directors or Members who are also Local Authority Associated Persons would (but for Articles 139 to 142 inclusive) represent 20% or more of the total number of Directors or Members (as the case may be) then a sufficient number of the Directors or Members (as the case may be) who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall be deemed to have resigned as Directors 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 Directors or Members (as the case may be) is never equal to or greater than 20% of the total number of Directors or Members (as the case may be). Directors 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.
144. The Members will each notify the Company and each other if at any time they believe that the Company 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).

