

Mercia Primary Academy Trust



Scheme of Delegation

Policy Status and Review

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Signed by Director:	Garry Hirons
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Scheme of Delegation

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Scheme of Delegation

Introduction

Mercia Primary Academy Trust's Board of Directors/Trustees is accountable in law for all decisions regarding the Trust. However, this does not mean that the Board of Directors/Trustees are required to make all of the decisions itself. Subject to some restrictions, the Trust can decide to delegate decisions to its CEO, Executive Headteacher/s/s, Headteacher/s/s, Governing Bodies, its committees and individual personnel within the Trust. The Trust's decision to delegate a function is made by the Board of Directors.

The purpose of the Scheme of Delegation

A scheme of delegation is the key document defining which functions have been delegated and to whom. It should be a simple yet systematic way of ensuring Members, Directors/Trustees, Governing Bodies, committees and individuals are clear about who has responsibility for making which decisions in the Trust. This scheme of delegation covers all decision-making in the Trust along with the delegation of financial powers, referred to in the Academy Trust Handbook. Deciding what to retain at Director/Trustee level and what to delegate varies from Trust to Trust. This is why the Trust is required to agree a scheme of delegation that explicitly establishes who makes which decisions, and ensures this is clear to all. A detailed yet clear scheme of delegation should help prevent confusion from arising before any misunderstanding arises which has the propensity to lead to a loss of trust and damaged working relationships.

Format, structure and clarity

The grid format, with columns for each layer of governance, should enable stakeholders to quickly determine who has the power to make which decisions within the Trust. The grid is divided into 6 key areas to reflect both the governance framework and the 3 Core Functions of the Governing Board, as defined by the DFE in the Governance Handbook:

The governance framework:

- Strategic Leadership
- Accountability
- People
- Structures
- Compliance
- Evaluation

The 3 Core Functions:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Being strategic | Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction |
| 2. Holding to account | Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the Trust and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff |
| 3. Ensuring financial probity | Overseeing the financial performance of the Trust and making sure its money is well spent |

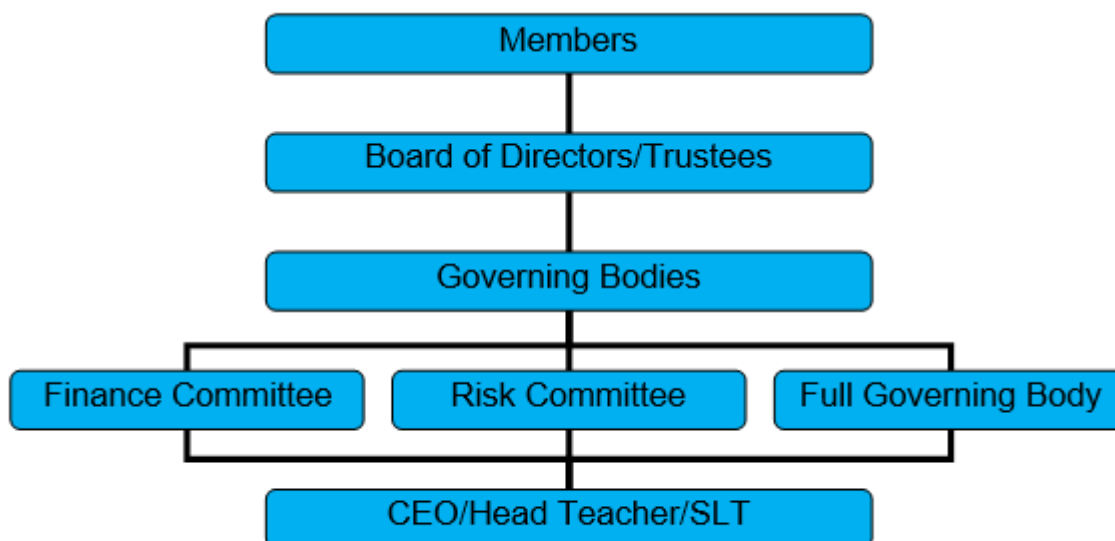
The scheme of delegation is intended to be a working document, which the Trust can revise and adapt as needed.

If effective the scheme of delegation will:

- Ensure the school leadership is clear about which decisions the Board of Directors/Trustees retains
- Ensure that the role of the Headteacher/s/s is fully understood
- Promote a culture of honesty and accountability
- Identify responsibility for the appointment and performance management of the Headteacher/s/s
- Identify responsibility for policy and practice throughout the Trust

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- Identify responsibility for oversight of the academy's budget
- Identify responsibility for assessment of risk throughout the Trust
- Identify responsibility for oversight of educational performance throughout the Trust



Governance structure and lines of accountability

The Board of Directors/Trustees delegates the responsibility for the day-to-day running of the academy to the CEO/Headteacher/s. The Board of Directors/Trustees holds the CEO to account for the overall Trusts performance. The CEO holds the central SLT team to account for their performance. The Governing Body holds the individual Headteacher/s to account for their Academy's performance. The Headteacher/s in turn holds other members of the SLT to account by line managing them. While the Board of Directors/Trustees cannot ever delegate accountability, it can delegate some of the detailed scrutiny, oversight and decision making.

The CEO/Headteacher/s reports to the Board of Directors/Trustees or Governing Body on the performance of the Trust or individual Academy. Reporting is supplemented by the monitoring undertaken by the Trust's Committees.

Roles and responsibilities

The role of the Members

The Members of Mercia Primary Academy Trust have a different status to its Trustees. Originally, they were the signatories to the Memorandum of Association and agreed the Trust's first Articles of Association (a document which outlines the governance structure and how the Trust will operate). The Articles of Association also describe how Members are recruited and replaced, and how many of the Director/Trustees the Members can appoint to the Board of Directors/Trustees. The Members appoint Directors/Trustees to ensure that the Trust's charitable object is carried out and so must be able to remove Trustees if they fail to fulfil this responsibility. Accordingly, the Board of Directors/Trustees submits an annual report on the performance of the Trust to the Members.

The role of the Trustees

Mercia Primary Academy Trust is a charitable company and so Directors/Trustees are both charity Trustees (within the terms of section 177(1) of the Charities Act 2011) and company Directors. Because Directors/Trustees are bound by both charity and company law, the terms 'Trustees' and 'Directors' are often used interchangeably, along with 'Governors'.

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The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- The general control and management of the administration of the Trust; and
- In accordance with the provisions set out in the memorandum and Articles of Association and the Trust's funding agreement, is legally responsible and accountable for all statutory functions, for the performance of the Trust, and
- Must approve a written scheme of delegation of financial powers that maintains robust internal control arrangements

In addition, the Board of Directors/Trustees and/or Governing Bodies must carry out 3 core governance functions:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Hold the CEO/Headteacher/s to account for the educational performance of the Trust/Academy and their pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Oversee the financial performance of the Trust and make sure its money is well spent

The Board of Trustees has the right to review and adapt its governance structure at any time which includes removing delegation.

The role of the Governing Bodies and its Committees

Governing Bodies and their Committees have been established to carry out some of the Trust's governance functions which include making decisions. The Academies' Financial Handbook makes clear that the Governing Body '*should have a finance committee to which the Board of Directors/Trustees delegates financial scrutiny and oversight*'. The Finance & General Purposes Committee has been established to meet that requirement.

The role of the CEO/Headteacher/s

The CEO has the delegated responsibility for the operation of the Trust as a whole and supports the Headteacher/s who has the delegated responsibility for the operation of their individual Academy.

The CEO is the Accounting Officer so has overall responsibility for the operation of the Trust's financial responsibilities and must ensure that the organisation is run with financial effectiveness and stability; avoiding waste and securing value for money.

The CEO/Headteacher/s leads the senior leadership team (SLT) of the Trust. The CEO/Headteacher/s will delegate management functions to the SLT and is accountable to the Board of Directors/Trustees for the performance of the SLT.

Advice and support may be given by CEO/Headteacher/s when trusts policies are being determined.

Acknowledgement:

This Scheme of Delegation draws upon the guidance models drawn up by National Governance Association.

Other sources:

- a) Academy Trust Handbook
- b) Ofsted Corporate Governance Framework
- c) Governance Handbook
- e) The requirements of GIAS (Get Information About Schools)

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RACI MODEL R - Responsible A - Accountable C - Consulted I - Informed

Area	Description	Delegation					CFO
		Members	Directors/ Trustees	Governing Bodies & Committees	CEO	HT	
Governing Framework Individual Director/Trust							
<p>1 – Strategic:</p> <p>Strategic Leadership is the core function. Responsibility for setting the Trust's culture, values and ethos.</p> <p>Setting the Trust's vision and connecting to the community that they serve</p>	Setting direction with clear vision – written statement.	I	A	R	R	R	
	Determine - Trust policies which reflect ethos, values, including admissions, expenses, Data Protection, British Values, and FOI. SEN safeguarding, Child Protection and Curriculum: approve	I	A&R	C	C	C	
	Determine - Trust staffing policies which reflect the Trust ethos and values including appraisal, capability, discipline, conduct, Pay policy and grievance.	I	A&R	C	C	C	
	Determine - Trust policies for complaints, health and safety, accessibility plan, premises management and FOI		A		R	R	R
	Determine – Full oversight of risk register – identify, manage and record risks		A&R		R		R
	Determine a behaviour policy and distribute for all stakeholders.		A	R	R	R	
	Annually determine admissions arrangements and to carry out consultation where changes are proposed		A	R	R	R	

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2 - Accountability: Creating robust accountability for executive leaders for educational performance and for financial organisational performance.	Oversee the appointment or line management of a single executive leader (CEO) as head of line management, ensuring they implement the strategic framework established by the board and holding them to account for the day to day running.	I	A&R			
	Appointment of other SLT/line managers within the Trust.		A	R	R	R
	To hold the CEO to account for his personal performance management, and the performance management of the Trust - Performance management of CEO.	I	A&R			
	The Headteacher/s/ss are responsible for working proactively and to establish effective cycle of reporting to the relevant Governing Body.		I	A		R
	The Governing Body are responsible for working proactively to establish effective reporting to the board of Directors – establish key priorities and review key documents such as annual accounts		I	A		R
	Workload consideration – processes to be monitored and streamlined to ensure workload is proportionate and sustainable for teachers and leaders.		A	R	R	R
	Required Meetings per year – minimum expectation (only when quorate).	3	3	3		
	Maintain oversight of curricular performance via progress updates – Disadvantaged, gender, SEN, ethnicity, exclusions, explore analysis of all data sets – ASP		I	R	A	R

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	Determine arrangements for any catch-up premium spending decisions, and impact of expenditure overall.		A	R	R	R	
	Ensure pupils are safe from extremism, radicalisation through the implementation of Prevent	I	A	R	R	R	
	Maintain oversight of all matters relating to attendance, behaviour, accident reporting, safeguarding, complaints and performance		A	R	R	R	
	Undertake school visits with particular focus in mind – gather information from pupils, parents and staff.		I	R	A		
	Oversee financial performance, ensuring public funds are correctly utilised – consideration to regularity, probity, value for money (links with SDP, Budgets and outturns) – VMFI – IDAMS, SRMA, procurement – scheme of delegation	I	A			R	
	Monitoring of policies, executive salaries, pay and performance, benchmarking income and expenditure, linking finance and curricular outcomes		A&R	R	R	R	R
3 – People: Appointing people with the right skills, experience, qualities and capacity.	Appoint members with relevant experience: Dictate role descriptions	A&R	I			C	
	Appoint Directors with relevant skills/experience: Dictate role descriptions	I	A&R			C	
	Undertake skills assessment matrix and identify areas of weakness to be addressed by training/recruitment		A&R	R			
	Specify a code of conduct for individuals to adhere to when acting on local committees. Acknowledging the 7 principles of public life.	R	A&R	R			

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	Undergo enhanced criminal record checks (plus section 128 for Governors).	R	A&R	R	R	R	
	Oversee the election of parent/staff Governors		I	A&R	R		
	Appoint and remove the Clerk to the Board		A&R	R			
4 – Structures: Strong structures that reinforce clearly defined roles and responsibilities	Appoint/Remove Accounting Officer		A&R				
	Appoint/remove Directors/Trustee	I	A&R			C	
	Appoint/remove Members	A&R				C	
	Confirm the Terms of Reference		A&R	R			
	Appointment of Headteachers		A&R	C			
5 – Compliance: Fulfilling our duties to abide with statutory and contractual requirements.	Audit reporting for matters of compliance (i.e.: safeguarding, Health & Safety, Employment and Data)	I	A&R				R
	Review policies relating to Health & safety		A&R	R	R	R	
	Review policies relating to equal opportunities		A	R	R	R	
	To ensure a balanced and broad curriculum – including RSE, Cultural Education, Maths, English, PE, EYFS, SEN		I	A	R	R	
	To appoint a suitably qualified SENCO, LAC co-ordinator to arrange PEPs		I	A&R	R		
	Full range of attainment data to be published on the school website. Annual reporting to		I	A	R		

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	parents/carers on their child's progress and achievements.						
	Appointment of Headteacher/s/s or Deputy Head or procedures relating to performance management/capability.			A&R	R	R	
	Uphold safer recruitment practices in line with KCSIE, following the statutory guidance of 'Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006'.	R	R	R	A	R	R
	Appraisal and performance management of the Headteacher/s/s			R	A		
	Understanding and compliance of the AFH and Charity Commissions' guidance – Articles of association	R	R	R	R	R	
	Establish an Audit & Risk Committee		R				
	Publish on website – Pecuniary Interests, governance,			A	R	R	
	Charging & remissions policy			R			
	Safeguarding and pupil welfare – ensure effective policies and procedures and nominate a safeguarding lead (DSL). safeguarding, Prevent,			R	A	R	
	Establish policies on behaviour, discipline (and record keeping), and reviewing outcomes.			R	A	R	
	Establish policy on excluding pupils and monitoring data			R	A	R	

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	Establish policy on attendance			R	A	R	
	Establish policy on admissions, PAN, children with SEN, LAC and admissions appeals			R	A	R	
	Premises and Buildings – maintenance, DFC funding, School conditions allocations, Policy on lettings, charitable purpose use (ASC/Breakfast Club)			R	A	R	
	Establish policy on Data protection/Data sharing – Privacy notice, Freedom of information, GIAS, ESFA, DFE, retention of documents			R	R	R	R
	Establish Complaints procedures			R	A	R	
	Establish whistleblowing policy and chain of command for complaints		A	R	R	R	
6 – Evaluation To monitor and improve the quality and impact of governance	Boards to review their own effectiveness – Chair to seek feedback from other board members			R	A		
	Skills competency to be undertaken annually and any training identified or appointments made to strengthen weaknesses.		R	R	A		
	Full analysis of audited accounts (displayed on website)	R	R	R	A		
	Support OFSTED inspections and monitor ‘Parent View’			R		A	
	Uphold the support and guidance from the NGA			R	A		

Powers and Duties reserved for the Directors

The Directors shall be responsible for: -

A1. MAT level strategic and financial decisions and shall delegate its powers to the relevant Governing Bodies of each school. Approval of a written scheme of delegation and its financial powers and duties allocated to its Governing Body committees.

A2. Have overarching responsibility for MAT level policies and procedures.

A3. Ensuring the financial viability of the Multi-Academy Trust through regular Director's meetings and budget reviews.

Powers and Duties reserved for the Governing Body

The Governing Body shall be responsible for: -

B1. Abiding to the financial powers and duties to its Finance Committee and the CEO / Headteacher/s. The scheme must satisfy the Governing Body's ultimate responsibility for ensuring that there are adequate operational controls in place for all the financial processes within Mercia Primary Academy Trust (the Academy). The Scheme of Delegation should be operational in conjunction with the Financial Regulations of the Academy.

Audit

B2. Arrangement for the appointment of external auditors; and informing the Department for Education (DfE) in the event of the removal or resignation of auditors.

B3. Receiving the reports of the external auditor and of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (F & GPC).

B4. Receiving the reports of the Responsible Officer on the use of resources, systems of internal financial control, and discharge of financial responsibilities.

B5. Informing the DfE if it suspects any irregularity affecting resources.

Budgets / Budgetary Control

B6. Reviewing the draft financial statements prior to audit and approve the audited financial statements prior to submission to the Secretary of State by 31 December.

B7. Formally approving the annual Academy budget prior to sign off by Directors.

B8. Considering budgetary control reports at every meeting from the finance team with relevant explanations and documentation where required.

Contracts

B9. Tenders other than the most financially favourable, or late tenders, can only be accepted by the Governing Body who shall minute the reasons for their decision.

B10. Maintenance of a Register of Business Interest for all Governors and those staff.

B11. Authorisation of the advertising of tenders above the OJEU limit (inclusive of VAT) and authorising the award of such tenders.

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Income

B12. Authorisation of the write-off of debts not collectable (the Secretary of State's prior approval is also required if debts to be written off are above the value set out in the annual funding letter).

Security of Access

B13. Authorisation of the disposal of individual items of equipment that have become surplus to requirements, unusable or obsolete with an original purchase value in excess of £5000. These items should have prior permission from the Secretary of State and reported to full Governors as such.

Powers and Duties delegated to the Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Finance & General Purposes Committee shall be responsible for: -

General

C1. Exercising the powers and duties of the Governing Body in respect of the financial administration of the Academy, except for those items specifically reserved for the Governing Body and those delegated to the CEO/Headteacher/s or those delegated to other staff by the CEO/Headteacher/s.

C2. Reporting on decisions taken under delegated powers to the next meeting of the Governing Body.

Audit

C3. Reviewing the reports of the Responsible Officer on the effectiveness of the financial procedures and control. These reports must also be reported to the Governing Body.

Budgets / Budgetary Control

C4. Considering budgetary control reports in the Academy's financial position at every meeting, take appropriate action to contain expenditure within the budget and report to the Governing Body.

C5. Reporting to the Governing Body all significant financial matters and any actual or potential overspending.

Contracts and Purchasing

C6. Authorising the award of contracts or purchases of over £25,000 but below the OJEU limit.

Insurances

C7. Ensuring that arrangements for insurance cover are in place and adequate.

Security of Assets

C8. Ensuring that there are annual independent checks of assets and the asset register.

C9. Authorisation of the disposal of individual items of equipment that have become surplus to requirements, unusable or obsolete with an original purchase value of up to £5000 and reporting such authorisations to the Governing Body.

Personnel

C10. Authorising permanent changes to the Academy's establishment.

Financial powers and duties delegated to the CEO /Headteacher/s

Delegation of CEO / Headteacher/s' Responsibilities

The CEO / Headteacher/s has delegate powers and functions in respect of internal organisation, management and control of the Academy, the implementation of all policies approved by the Board of Directors/Trustees or Governing Body and for the direction of teaching and the curriculum.

The CEO / Headteacher/s shall be responsible for:

Accounts

D1. The operation of financial processes within the Academy, ensuring that adequate operational controls are in place and that the principles of internal control are maintained.

D2. Ensuring that full, accurate and up to date records are maintained in order to provide financial and statistical information.

Audit

D3. Ensuring that all records and documents are available for audit by the appointed external auditors and by the Responsible Officer.

Budgetary Control

D4. Reviewing income and expenditure reports and highlighting actual or potential overspending to the F & GPC.

Contracts

D5. Exercising the following powers and duties of the Governing Body in respect of the Financial Regulations relating to Contracts:

- a. Ensuring that all contracts and agreements conform with the Financial Regulations
- b. Acceptance of quotations up to £25,000 in value
- c. Receipt and custody of all tenders
- d. Authorisation of senior members of staff to open tenders
- e. Signing contracts on behalf of the Governing Body

D6. Authorisation of contracts and expenditure of up to £25,000 in conjunction with the CFO.

Financial Management

D7. Ensuring the arrangements for collection of income, ordering of goods and services, payments and security of assets are in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

Security of Assets

D8. Ensuring that proper security is maintained at all times for all building, furniture, equipment, vehicles, stocks, stores, cash, information and records etc under his/her control.

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Personnel

D9. Approving new staff appointments within the Academy and their relevant salary scale and ensuring that this is officially documented as authorised and forwarded to the payroll department at Stoke City Council.

D10. Review and adjustment of existing staff salaries in accordance with Performance Management process.

Bank account transfers and cheque/BACS payment authorisation

D11. All cheque transactions to have two signatories.

Financial powers and duties delegated to the CFO

The CFO shall be responsible for:

Banking Arrangements

E1. Maintaining proper records of accounts and reviewing monthly bank reconciliations.

Budgets / Budgetary Control

E2. Regular monitoring of income and expenditure against the approved budget, reporting on the Academy's financial position to the CEO/Headteacher/s and to every meeting of the F & GPC. Any actual or potential overspending shall be reported to the F & GPC.

E3. Preparing an annual draft budget plan for consideration by the CEO/Headteacher/s and the F & GPC before the start of the relevant financial year.

Contracts

E4. Maintaining a register of formal contracts entered into, amounts paid and certificates of completion.

E5. Retention of quotes obtained for goods, works and services.

Income

E6. Ensuring that all income is accurately accounted for and is promptly collected and banked intact.

Information and Communication Systems

E7. The standard of control for such systems in operation within the Academy to include the use of properly licensed software, and for the security and privacy of data in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Insurances

E8. Notifying the F & GPC on any eventuality that could affect the Academy's insurance.

Orders for Goods, Works and Services

E9. Authorising members of staff to order or receive goods, ensuring the appropriate division of these duties between the staff.

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Payments

E10. Ensuring that all invoices, vouchers and other records are retained and stored in a secure way and are readily available for inspection by authorised persons.

Salaries, Wages and Pensions

E11. Notifying the payroll provider of any matters affecting payments to employees.

Security of Assets

E12. Maintaining a permanent and continuous register of all items of high value furniture and equipment, including desirable items below the capital threshold.

Financial Powers and Duties Delegated to Other Members of Staff

Members of staff with delegated responsibilities should be aware that these must be exercised in accordance with Financial Regulations.

The following responsibilities are delegated to the Head of School, Deputy Headteacher/s and Administration Staff:

Contracts

F1. The following members of staff, in addition to either the CEO, Headteacher/s and CFO are authorised to open tenders in the presence of another authorised person: -

- Head of School
- Deputy Headteacher/s
- Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar

Orders for goods, works and services

F2. The following members of staff, in addition to either the CEO, Headteacher/s and CFO are able to authorise orders for goods, works and services as specified: -

- Head of School
- Deputy Headteacher/s/s
- Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar

Receipt of Goods

F3. The following members of staff are authorised to receive goods: -

- Teaching Staff
- Administration Staff
- Teaching Assistants
- Site Staff

Payments

F4. The following members of staff, in addition to either the CEO, Headteacher/s/s and CFO are authorised to certify payments: -

- Head of School
- Deputy Headteacher/s/s
- Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar

Salaries and Wages

F5. The following members of staff, in addition to either the CEO, Headteacher/s and CFO are authorised to certify pay documents and time records: -

- Head of School
- Deputy Headteacher/s
- Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar

Authorisation Levels (per Academy)

Delegated Duty	Value	Delegated Authority
Purchase Credit Card	£300 limit	Single cash withdrawal
Monthly limit:	£2500	CEO/CFO
	£1500	Headteacher/s Head of School/ Deputy Headteacher/s
	£1500	Senior Operations Office Manager
	£500 - £1000	Office Manager / or Clerical Assistant
	£500	Caretaker
Cheque Payments	All amounts	Two signatories
Bank account transfers	Up to £10,000	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
	Over £10,000 to £50,000	CEO / Headteacher/s or CFO plus 1 delegated signatory.
Monthly BACS Payroll		
Monthly BACS Payroll payment authorisation	Up to £450,000 (every three days)	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO - One signatory
	Over £450,000 and up to £600,000	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO or CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO plus, a member of SLT - Two signatories
	Over £600,000	As above plus Chair of F & GP or Director - Three signatories
General BACS Payments		
General BACS payment authorisation against supplies and services	Up to £40,000	Senior Operations Officer and 1 other delegated signatory

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	Up to £450,000 (every three days)	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO - One signatory
	Over £450,000 and up to £600,000	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO or CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO plus, a member of SLT - Two signatories
	Over £600,000	As above plus Chair of F & GP or Director - Three signatories
Order / Invoice Approval	Limitless	Approval required dependant on job role
Non Order Invoices	Limitless	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
	£5,000	Senior Operations Office Manager / Bursar
	Limitless	Office Manager or Clerical Assistant as approval required
Orders, Self-Authorisation	Limitless but over £10,000 requires minuting	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO needs minuting at Gov / Director level
	£5,000	Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar
	Limitless	Office Manager or Clerical Assistant as approval required *Exceptional circumstances may result in agreeing work undertaken immediately without a purchase order or quotation
Approval	Limitless but over £10,000 requires minuting	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
	£5,000	Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar
	£0	Office Manager or Clerical Assistant
	Over £40,000	In line with quotations and tendering procedures below & involving F & GP &

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		reported to Full Governing Body as appropriate
Quotations & Tendering	Low value - under £10,000	Quotations to be sought *Exceptional circumstances may result in agreeing work undertaken immediately without a purchase order or quotation
	Medium value - Over £10,000 up to £40,000	Three comparative quotations to be sought and formal tendering procedure to be applied
	£40,000 to OJEU limit	Formal tendering process requiring F & GP approval
	Over OJEU limit*	OJEU advertising required, F & GP approval & reported Governing Body approval – Seek advice from Local authority. *Exceptional circumstances may result in agreeing work undertaken immediately without a purchase order or quotation
Authority to accept other than lowest quotation	Any	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
Disposal of Assets	Up to £1,000	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
	Up to £5,000	F & GP Committee
	Over £5,000	Governing Body
Write-off of Bad Debts	£1.00 - £250	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO
	£250 over	F & GP Committee reported to Governing Body
Signatories for Grant Claims / DFE returns	Any	CEO / Headteacher / CFO and/or Chair of Governors
Income Invoice Approval	Limitless but over £10,000 requires minuting	CEO / Headteacher/s / CFO

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	Up to £5,000	Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar
	Up to £100,000	Above plus Chair of Governing Body
	Over £100,000	Full Governing Body

Abbreviation - F & GPC (Finance and General Purpose Committee)

***NB All public procurement contracts worth more than the EC limits:**

Public Contracts

Works: £5,193,000

Services and Supplies (central government authorities): £135,018

Services and Supplies (other public sector authorities): £207,720

Utilities

Works: £5,193,000

Services and Supplies: £415,440

Concessions

Concession Contracts: £5,193,000

Any contracts above the OJEU values, should be published in the daily supplement to the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU).

The light touch regime threshold is £663,540 (Public Contracts) are now inclusive of VAT.

The Cabinet Office's Procurement Policy Note on the new thresholds (PPN 10/21) advises procurers to calculate the estimated value of a contract based on the total amount payable including VAT, without making a deduction for any available VAT recovery; it suggests using the standard rate of VAT (currently 20%). It also notes that, for the purpose of advertising and or contract award notices, the estimated contract value will continue to be provided exclusive of VAT.

F & GPC (Finance and General Purpose Committee)

Scheme of Delegation

This information can be made available in a range of formats and languages, including Braille and large print. If this would be useful to you or someone you know, please contact your Directorate HR Unit.

A signed copy of this document is available from the school office.

Version Control

Version	Date Reviewed	Changes	Reasons for Alterations & signature
1	15.12.15	None	
2	07.10.2015	A7. Removal of 3 months' approval timeline. Not achievable due to staffing changes, submission of SLA's The Finance Officer is now known as the CFO Authorisation Levels – adjusted due to staffing structure change.	Timing Staff Change
2	07.12.2016	Reviewed	
3	29.06.2018	Change of staffing structure – removed 'CFO' added 'Bursar'. Addition of new Purchase Credit Cards	Staff change Removal of 'debit card' system for staff. Introduced Purchase credit card facility.
4	10.10.2020	Amended 'Bursar' to Business Manager	Staff changes
5	12.11.2020	Amended E1 E2 E4 and E5 from bursar to Senior office positions Removed delegated duty - purchased credit card for Breakfast club supervisor Added signature to version control	Staff changes No longer appropriate. M Booth
6	10.03.2021	Added policy review to take place annually Amended approval levels to fit alongside changing capacity Quotations & tendering thresholds amended to low, medium and high bandings: Low value under £10,000 Medium value - Over £10,000 up to £40,000 £40,000 to OJEU limit Over OJEU limit* Bed debt write-off	Policy reviewed following internal audit Governors approval needed in excess of £40,000 Bandings to fit better with systems in school whilst abiding to legislations. Staff value parameters added

Scheme of Delegation

7	March 2021	Added range of formats	Accessibility
8	May 2021	Updated Governance framework and added a delegation of duties table	Breakdown of structure for transparency
9	Oct 2021	Finance and Risk committee makes several changes to Governor involvement.	Making sure Gov's role is consistent with trust ideology
10	Dec 2021	Change of staffing structure – added 'Senior Operational Office Manager' and 'Bursar' to structure. Addition of RACI Model to allocate staff as: R – Responsible A – Accountable C – Consulted I – Informed Increase payroll authorisation from £150,000 to £175,000 for HT	Staff changes Updated responsibility chart Ensure working practice
11	April 2022	Change of staffing structure – added 'Administration Assistant' to structure	Staff changes
12	Nov 2022	Changes to BACS limit authorisation due to the salary uplifts	Increase parameters added and OJEU limits
13	Sept 2023	Wording update regarding acknowledgements and sources	Update in information
14	July 2024	Increase cost relating to the Senior Operational Office Manager/Bursar post	Ensure working practice
15	Dec 2024	Changes to BACS limit authorisation due to the salary uplifts	Ensure funds are able to pay balances
16	Dec 2025	Changes to information to accommodate new Procurement legislation changes within the Financial Regulations	Update in information
17	Aug 2025	Changes to BACS limit authorisation due to the salary uplifts and updated UK Public Procurement thresholds from 2026 (decreased figures)	Ensure funds are able to pay balances and legal updates
18	June 2026	Updated BACS authorisation limits	Ensure funds are able to pay balances and legal updates

Scheme of Delegation
