

# St Bartholomew's School Governance

## Structure

St Bartholomew's School governance structure has two levels, Members and Trustees:

### **Members**

The Members are considered the shareholders of the Academy Trust. They can appoint and remove Trustees, they have the right to receive the annual accounts, as well as changing the Articles of Association and they can appoint auditors.

### **Trustees**

Trustees operate at a strategic level with three key functions:

- to oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent;
- to hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its students;
- to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

The Trust Board meets, as a whole, around five times a year, with committees meeting once or twice termly to ensure that responsibilities for each area of the school and governance are carried out. Governors also undertake link visits and are involved in panels to consider specific matters regarding staff and students.

## Categories of Trustee

Trustees are also Directors and are often referred to as Governors. They make up the Trust Board, which is also known as the Governing Body or Governing Board. St Bart's has the following categories of Governor:

### **Appointed**

The Members may appoint individuals to the Trust Board, based on a skills need to ensure that the Board is able to undertake its duties.

### **Co-opted**

The Trustees may co-opt those they feel meet the skills needs of the Board to ensure that governance responsibilities can be met.

### **Parent**

Those with parental responsibilities for students at St Bart's elect two parent governors via a secret ballot.

All terms of office are for four years (apart from the Headteacher whose term usually lasts until they step down), although re-appointment or re-election is possible.

## Committees

Committees have delegated authorities from the Full Governing Body to enable Governors to carry out their duties. The committees are Business (including Audit & Risk), Education, People and Joint Consultative. Their terms of reference are available separately on the Governors' page of the website.