

Structure of Governance 2026/27 St Bernadette

The members of the Local Academy Committee shall be known as Governors. The number of people who shall sit on the Local Academy Committee shall be not less than three. The Academy Committee shall consist of:

- **6 Foundation Governors**
- **2 Parent Governors**
- **1 Staff Governor**
- **The Head Teacher**

In some cases local boards are given flexibility to appoint Associate Governors based on skills and experience that are identified as gaps on the board. This permission must be requested through the Trust Executive and Trust Board.

Members	Bishop Richard Moth Paolo Camoletto (Financial Secretary) Peter Sweeney (Director of Education) Father Michael Dunne (Chair of Education Commission) Diocese of Westminster Trustee	
Foundation Directors	Mr C Gomes Mrs L Sharp Fr M O'Boy Mr C Mc Inerney Mr D O'Riordan	Mr T Hickin Mr P Taylor Ms C Turton Mr A Parsons
Executive Staff	Mr Stephen Wheatley (CEO)	Mrs Sharon Monteith (CFOO)
Headteacher	Jodie Reilly, Katie Merrell, Rachel Alger	
Chair of Governors	Ann-Marie Mullings	
Clerk	Fiona Fitzgerald	
	Name and Role	Term of office
Full Academy Committee	Ann-Marie Mullings – Foundation (Chair)	25.06.24-24.06.28
	Louise Lawson – Foundation	25.06.24-24.06.28
	Francis Udom – Foundation	23.09.24-22.09.28
	Patricia Daley – Parent	10.02.25-09.02.28
	Jason Stewart - Parent	25.06.24-24.06.27
	Deny Moules – Associate	23.09.24-22.09.27
	Vanessa Bhogun – Associate	26.09.22-25.09.26
	Joanne Young – Associate	25.06.24-24.06.27
	Paula Bennett - Staff	14.10.24-13.10.27

The Local Academy Committee (LAC) plays a vital role in supporting the mission and strategic direction of the Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT) at a local level. Rooted in the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, the LAC serves as a key link between the individual academy, its parish community, and the wider Trust. The primary responsibilities of the LAC include:

- **Faithful Stewardship and Ethos:** Uphold and promote the Catholic identity, values, and mission of the academy, ensuring Gospel principles guide all aspects of school life.
- **Advocacy and Governorship:** Act as advocates of the Trust's vision and strategy while serving as Governors for the local academy within the Trust, parish and wider community to build partnerships.
- **Impact and Accountability:** Provide local support and challenge to school leaders by monitoring standards, inclusion, safeguarding, and ensuring effective implementation of Trust policies.

The LAC operates within the governance framework established by the CMAT, with delegated responsibilities defined by the Trust LAC. Through Collaboration, faith, and service, the LAC contributes to the flourishing of each academy as a place of excellence, faith formation, and holistic development.

The Foundation Governors on the Local Academy Committee will be those appointed by the Bishop. They shall outnumber all the other members by two so as to ensure the preservation and development of the Catholic character of the Academy and the Multi-Academy Trust Company. Parent and Staff Governors are appointed by Ballot. The term of office for any person, other than a Foundation Governor, serving on the Local Academy Committee shall be 3 years, to be specified at the time of appointment by the person or body appointing them, save that this time limit shall not apply to the Headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of member on the Local Academy Committee, any person may be re-appointed or re-elected to the Local Academy Committee save that Foundation Governors may only serve a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms (other than with the consent of the Bishop)

The quorum for a meeting of the Local Academy Committee, and any vote on any matter thereat, shall be any three of the members of the Local Academy Committee, or, where greater, any one third (rounded up to a whole number) of the total number of persons holding office on the Local Academy Committee at the date of the meeting. The Full Academy Committee will meet at least six times per year.