



# Purpose and role of the Trustee Board

**North Star Community Trust**

May 2021

# NORTH STAR COMMUNITY TRUST (the TRUST)

**COMPANY NUMBER: 7355559**

This document sets out the expectations on and commitment required from Trustees in order for the Trustee Board to properly carry out its work within the academy and the community. Trustees will also be appointed as statutory directors of the Trust and may also be required to sit on other committees which the Trustee Board may establish. Trustees may also be required to sit on the Trust Local Governing Bodies Academy Advisory Committee for each academy.

An Academy Trust is will be deemed to have influenced status if  $\geq 20\%$  of its members or trustees are 'associated persons' (this includes councillors and anyone directly employed by the Local Authority).

The 'Purpose and Role of the Trustee Board of the Trust and Code of Practice' are subject to the provisions of the Trust 'Articles of Association' and 'Scheme of Delegation'. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Code of Practice and the Articles of Association / Scheme of Delegation it is those that take precedence.

## **1. The purpose of the trustee board of the Trust**

- 1.1. The trustees of the Trustee Board of the Trust have within their remit, overall responsibility for directing the affairs of the Trust, and for ensuring that the Trust is solvent, well-run, and delivering the educational outcomes for the benefit of the pupils, students and community in furtherance of the Objects of the Trust as set out in the Trust articles of association (as may be amended from time to time).
- 1.2. It is not expected that the Trustees or the Trustee Board will be responsible for or will manage the day to day affairs of the trust academies within the Trust.
- 1.3. To achieve its purpose and meet expectations, the Trustees delegate the management and day to day affairs to the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management Team; and hold them to account by establishing and enforcing the Trust values and ethics and demanding high standards of professionalism from them.
- 1.4. It is a minimum requirement that the full Trustee Board will meet at least 3 times per year, in addition to an Annual General Meeting.
- 1.5. The Trustee Board will: -
  - set and develop the Trust broad strategy
  - ensure that the Trust complies with organisation law and all legislative and statutory requirements.
  - ensure that the Trust applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its Objects.
  - ensure the schools are compliant with all statutory obligations (e.g. curriculum, SEND, safeguarding)
  - establish and monitor the Trust policies and employment procedures
  - promote good corporate governance by the Trust and the Trustees; including ensuring board and individual Trustee accountability and maintain effective board performance.

- respect the role of staff
- shape a healthy culture for the Board and the organisation.
- promote the Trust
- promote an inclusive and diverse culture in the Trust and our actions should help create an environment where different perspectives and backgrounds are encouraged and valued.
- ensure the effective and efficient administration of the Trust
- be aware of the skills and experience of the Trustee Board and where appropriate seeking external professional advice and training.
- be responsible for the actions of the Trust
- ensure the Trust is properly and adequately insured against all reasonable liabilities (to the extent insurable)

## **2. Board skills and experience**

2.1. It is the intention of the Trust that the Trustee Board will comprise Trustees who have skills and experience in the following areas: -

- education and learning.
- leadership, setting targets, monitoring and evaluating performance and programmes.
- communicating with diverse groups.
- financial management.
- legal matters.
- fundraising.
- recruitment and personnel management, including knowledge of employment legislation
- public relations.
- marketing.
- computers and information technology.
- community engagement.
- construction & regeneration

## **3. Review**

3.1. The role of the Trustee Board and effectiveness will be reviewed at least every three years. Any changes that are considered necessary will be recommended to the Board for approval.