Decision Making Matrix

Changes History

Version	Date	Amended by	Recipients	Purpose	
1	4 December 2017	CST Trustees	Members of CST, every Trustee, each	Updated Admissions	
2	19 September 2018	CST Trustees	operated by CST (the Heads), the Finance Director, the Clerks and the Company Secretary (if appointed) and others at the discretion of the Chairman of the Trustees of CST. CST Website	No changes	
3	12 December 2019	CST Trustees		Finance Director, the Clerks and the Updated in line with cha	Updated in line with changes in legislation and to give more clarity
4	10 December 2020	CST Trustees		Annual Review - no changes whilst CST carry out a whole Trust Vision, Value and Strategic Review	
5	09 December 2021	CST Trustees		Annual Review - alongside Financial Regulations Policy.Updated in line with changes in legislation and to give more clarity	
6	08 December 2022	CST Trustees		Annual Review - alongside Financial Regulations Policy.	

Approvals (Annual/as Required)

Version	Date	Approved by
1	20 June 2016	CST Trustees



2	4 December 2017	CST Trustees
3	19 September 2018	CST Trustees
4	12 December 2019	CST Trustees
5	10 December 2020	CST Trustees
6	09 December 2021	CST Trustees
7	08 December 2022	CST Trustees

Governance				
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher
To review and amend the Articles of Association To change the name of CST To receive an annual report from the Trustees and the CEO on CST's performance To be notified of any changes in legislation To appoint a minimum of 3 Trustees To remove Trustees in accordance with the Articles	To approve any significant change to the educational character, mission or ethos of a particular Academy. To review and amend the Scheme of Governance and this Decision Making Matrix To establish the committees including the Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) and to review and amend their Constitution and Terms of Delegation To determine the Board's Reserved Matters	To determine the educational character, mission or ethos of a particular Academy (to the extent that it is not inconsistent with that of CST). Where the change is significant to propose changes to Trustees through the Lead Trustee To nominate Governors of the Local Governing Body. To nominate (and remove) the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Local Governing Bodies subject to Trustee approval	To attend meetings of the Trustees and to provide a CEO's report. To support the appointment process for the Company Secretary and the Governance Professional. To secure professional advice on behalf of the Trustees as may be requested. To support the Trustees and the Academies in the preparation of CST-wide and	Alongside the Local Governing Body, to determine the educational character, mission or ethos of a particular Academy (to the extent that it is not inconsistent with that of CST). To attend meetings of the LGB and to provide a Headteacher's report. To support the appointment process for the Clerk to the LGBs. To tailor Academy level policies for the Academy as

of Association and the	To determine the committee	To appoint a Clark to the Level	A sa da may an a sifia maliay	receive and add by the
of Association and the	To determine the committee	To appoint a Clerk to the Local	Academy specific policy	recommended by the
Companies Act 2006	To determine the educational character, mission or ethos of CST To approve and monitor a business plan for CST To appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair To allocate a Link Trustee for each CST Academy To appoint a Governance Professional with the right knowledge, skills and behaviours in accordance with the DfE's Clerking competency framework To co opt additional Trustees under provision of the Articles To approve the nominated Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Local Governing Bodies	To appoint committees to support the LGB function, as are necessary and desirable To review and amend the Academy level policies (in line with any CST prescribed Academy level policies) To notify the ESFA (via GIAS) of changes to: Head chairs of local governing bodies local governors	requirements. To evolve and implement a business plan for CST To ensure that CST meets its publishing requirements under the funding agreement (including those in the Academy Trust Handbook)	Executive / in consultation with the Local Governing Body

To review and ar level policies	nend CST		
To review and ar prescribed Acade policies			
To notify the ESF of changes to:	A (via GIAS)		
Member	s		
• chair of	rustees		
• all other	Trustees		
• Account (SEL)	ng Officer		
CFO (Fin Director			
To be advised ab review any legal against LGB scho CST.	claims made		

Finance	Finance				
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher	
	To sign off the audited financial statements annually To approve (and amend) the financial scheme of delegation To appoint the finance and operations committee To approve the annual budget for CST including the annual staffing pay scales and Executive Pay To approve any significant changes to the approved budget as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To oversee income, expenditure, cash flow and balance sheet of CST and to direct and monitor necessary action through CST	To review the annual budget forecast for the Academy for recommendation to the Trustees. To oversee income, expenditure and cash flow of an Academy To ensure proper financial controls are in place at the Academy To ensure provision of free school meals to those pupils meeting the criteria To review the proper application of the pupil premium and its effectiveness together with any other specific grant received in respect of the Academy.	To prepare the annual budget for CST To ensure the preparation of the financial statements To monitor income, expenditure, cash flow and balance sheet of CST To prepare monitoring reports for the Trustees To act as the Accounting Officer To manage and ensure proper financial controls are in place across CST To set up and approve staff expenses for the Executive To open bank accounts	To prepare the annual budget for each Academy To monitor income, expenditure and cash flow of an Academy To prepare monitoring reports for the LGBs To manage and ensure proper financial controls are in place at the Academy To ensure provision of free school meals to those pupils meeting the criteria To set up and approve staff expenses at the Academy To ensure the effective application of the pupil premium and any other	

remiss	ablish a charging and sions policy and to keep nder review	To appoint a local Governor with a specific focus on finance.	specific grants received in respect of the Academy
	sure proper financial ols are in place		
	intain a register of ess interests (of the ees)		
Mana times the Fi	eive and review gement Accounts six per year as prepared by nance Director (Chair to v such accounts monthly)		
To det	termine a CST level ves policy		

Audit and Risk				
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher
To appoint external auditors To receive the audited financial statement once available and a report from the Audit and Risk Committee as regards the effectiveness and resources of the external auditor To maintain a register of business interest (of the Members)	To appoint an Audit and Risk Committee (or another committee with an audit and risk function) To recommend external auditors to Members To appoint internal auditors To submit an annual summary report to the ESFA which must be prepared as part of CST's annual programme of internal scrutiny, reporting on the adequacy of CST's financial and other controls and management of risks Acting through the Audit and Risk Committee, to oversee the programme of internal scrutiny	To maintain a register of business interests (of the Local Governors) To review the risk register of the Academy	To maintain a register of business interests (of the Executive) To procure insurance and make proposals to the Trustees To ensure that appropriate reporting mechanisms are in place To ensure suitable risk assessments are prepared and appropriate actions taken	To maintain a register of business interests (of the senior leadership team) To ensure suitable risk assessments are prepared and appropriate actions taken To prepare and maintain an Academy level risk register



To review risk ma and maintain a C register		
To approve insurangements	ance	

Contracts				
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher
Where appropriate, to approve transactions involving Trustees which are reserved to the Members under the Companies Act 2006, (e.g. a "substantial property transaction" being one involving a related party).	To adopt a CST-wide procurement policy as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To set the delegated levels of authority for contracts as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To approve contracts in line with the limits of designated as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To approve contracts which constitute related party transactions and to notify these to the ESFA as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To obtain approval (where necessary) from the ESFA for certain transactions, contracts	To enter into contracts up to the limits of delegation and within an agreed budget as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy	To enter into contracts up to the limits of delegation and within an agreed budget as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To make payments within agreed financial limits as stated in the CCST Financial Regulations Policy	To make payments within agreed financial limits as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To enter into contracts up to the limits of delegation and within an agreed budget (D)as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To act as a signatory of an Academy specific bank account



and / or other agreements including those with related parties in line with the Academy Trust Handbook		
To set up and approve Trustee expenses as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy		

Curriculum and standards					
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher	
To receive an annual report from the Trustees and the CEO on standards	To ensure the provision of a balanced and broadly based curriculum to include: • a prohibition on political indoctrination and a balanced treatment of political issues; • provides for the teaching of religious education and a daily act of collective worship at the Academy; and • ensures that safeguarding and well-being are embedded in the curriculum.	To approve the Academy curriculum policy proposed by the Headteacher ensuring it complies with CST requirements Monitors the KPI figures reported from the Headteacher relating to standards To review the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academy and the promotion of the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. To appoint a local Governor with a specific focus on Curriculum and standards.	To provide oversight of the implementation of curriculum policies and teaching and learning across CST. Provides a termly report to the Trustees regarding standards. Provides oversight of the target setting for pupil achievement and progress by the Headteacher and monitor against targets Monitors the KPI figures reported from the Headteacher relating to standards To support the Academies in the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academies and the promotion of the fundamental British	Is responsible for the curriculum set and delivered at the Academy including teaching and learning and compliance with any funding agreement requirements. To prepare a curriculum policy for the Academy for review by the LGB. To ensure the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academy and the promotion of the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. To prepare a policy on religious education and	

Receives a termly report from the Executive regarding standards.			
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SEND SEND						
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher		
	To determine a CST-wide Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) policy, reflecting CST's duties under the SEND Code of Practice and the Equality Act 2010 To ensure that each Academy has prepared and published a SEN information report in accordance with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 (SEND Regulations)	To review, monitor and approve the Academy's SEND policy (consistent with the CST-wide SEND policy) and SEN information report To provide oversight of the implementation of the SEND policy within the Academy and compliance with the SEND Regulations, SEND Code of Practice and Equality Act 2010 requirements. To appoint a Local Governor with a specific focus on SEND. To provide an Annual SEND report for Trustees, with the	To provide oversight of the implementation of the CST-wide SEND policy Ensures compliance with the Equality Act 2010 requirements within the Academies.	To designate a teacher to be responsible for co-ordinating SEND provision (SENCo) To prepare a SEND policy for the Academy for review by the LGB To liaise with the SENCo and local authority in respect of students who have (or might have) SEND To make provision SEND pup with or without an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) To ensure compliance with the SEND Regulations, SEND Code		



Lead Trustee to provide regular updates to Trustees as and when appropriate.	of Practice and the Equality Act 2010
To ensure that each Academy has a qualified teacher designated as a Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) for each Academy.	

Safeguarding	Safeguarding					
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher		
-	To appoint a designated Trustee to take leadership responsibility for safeguarding arrangements ('the Designated Trustee') To determine a CST-wide safeguarding and Child Protection policy. To ensure that arrangements are in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in accordance with KCSIE and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 To ensure the completion of the single central record	To appoint a designated local governor for safeguarding to include child protection and looked after children and previously looked after children To review and maintain a safeguarding and child protection policy for the Academy (consistent with the CST-wide policy) To review and maintain the Academy's School Trip policy To ensure the completion of the single central record. To review the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academy and the promotion	To ensure that each Academy has appointed a designated safeguarding lead and a designated teacher to support looked after children and previously looked after children. To support the Academies in the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academies and the promotion of the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. To monitor Child protection and safeguarding across each	To appoint a designated safeguarding lead and a teacher to support looked after children and previously looked after children and to ensure the role is compliant with statutory guidance. To maintain the single central record To prepare a School Trip policy for the Academy for review by the LGB. To approve off-site visits for pupils of more than 24 hours To ensure the implementation of the Prevent Duty in the Academy and the promotion of the fundamental British		

To receive the annual Safeguarding and Child Protection Review from each Academy To ensure all Trustees, Members and LGB governors have an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check and a section 128 check	of the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.	Academy and report to Trustees	values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
To ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to review the effectiveness of CST's safeguarding procedures (including self audits across the board and the LGBs) and ensure that appropriate consideration is given to such matters at board meetings annual reviews			
To ensure that each Academy has a designated safeguarding lead (DSL)			



Behaviour						
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher		
	To monitor behaviour across CST To review the use of exclusions across CST.	To determine and maintain a behaviour policy for the Academy To determine and maintain an exclusion policy for the Academy To convene a Governors; Discipline Committee (as required) with at least three LGB members to carry out statutory reviews of decisions made by the Headteacher to exclude pupils from school for a fixed term or permanently.	To prepare a report for Trustees on behaviour across CST. To review the overall pattern of exclusions and behavioural issues and to report on the same to the Trustees To make arrangements for the establishment of Independent Review Panels ensuring that proper training has been provided.	To prepare a behaviour policy for the Academy for review be the LGB. To prepare an exclusion policy for the Academy for review be to exclude pupils for a fixed term or permanently in accordance with the School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012 and the DfE's statutory guidance on exclusions To ensure that trends or patterns in behavioural issues are appropriately addressed through policies		

Admissions	Admissions					
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher		
	To ensure that every year each Academy determines a set of admission arrangements for that Academy that are compliant with the School Admissions Code 2021 (Admissions Code) and the Equality Act 2010 To ensure that CST and each Academy complies with the Admissions Code and School Admission Appeals Code 2012 (Appeals Code) To monitor admissions arrangements across CST. To agree with the LGB in advance the consultation including Chorister admissions, publish admissions and determine arrangements as required in accordance with the	To undertake consultation, with the prior approval of the Trustees including Chorister admissions, publish admissions and determine arrangements as required in accordance with the I Admissions Code and subject to the Academy admission policy. To notify the local authority each year whether the Academy will participate in its coordinated scheme for in-year admissions in accordance with the Admissions Code To make arrangements for determining admissions and hearing admission appeals in accordance with the Admissions Code.	To provide oversight of and support of the implementation of the admissions arrangements across CST.	To implement the Academy's admission arrangements for the relevant intake To provide direction to the LGB as to requirements under the Admissions Code and Appeals Code. To provide recommendations to the LGB on suitable/appropriate admission criteria for the Academy To make arrangements for determining admissions and hearing admission appeals. To participate in the local admissions forum and in the fair access protocol		

Admissions Code and subject to the Academy admission policy.	
To review the outcome of any consultations.	
To take the lead on any legal challenges on Admissions with the Office of the Schools Administrator	

Pupil related matters	Pupil related matters						
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher			
	To receive a termly report from the Executive regarding standards (to include attendance and pupil premium). To adopt CST-wide Complaints policy and receive reports from the Executive regarding the nature and level of complaints across CST. To hear complaints at the relevant stage. To adopt a CST-wide Attendance policy To oversee the impact of the pupil premium across CST To approve the times of Academy sessions and the dates of Academy terms and holidays	To appoint a Local Governor with a specific focus on pupil premium. To review attendance and pupil absences (as part of the KPI report). To monitor the impact of the pupil premium in the Academy. To appoint an independent Complaint Panel consisting of at least three members, at least one of which must be independent of the running and management of the Academy, to hear complaints at the relevant stage	To monitor the levels of attendance in the Academies and the use of home-Academy agreements and report termly to the Trustees. To review the level of complaints across CST in order to identify trends/ patterns and make recommendations To hear complaints at the relevant stage, where appropriate/required To monitor the impact of the pupil premium across CST. To review the nature and level of complaints across CST.	To maintain a register of pupil attendance and follow local procedures in respect of non-attendance. To report on attendance an pupil absences (as part of the KPI report) To review and maintain home-Academy agreements To ensure effective deployment of the Pupil Premium and to monitor its impact. To implement the Academy's complaints policy To investigate formal complaints at the relevant stage To propose the times of Academy sessions and the			



				dates of Academy terms and holidays To ensure that the Academy meets for 380 sessions in an Academy year unless otherwise agreed by the Trustees
Information manageme	ent			
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher
-	To adopt CST-wide and Academy level data protection policies and procedures to cover all aspects of compliance including: • cyber security and other types of information security risk; • the requirement to notify individuals as to how information is to be used; and	To ensure the effective implementation of the data protection policies and procedures of CST and Academy.	To ensure the publication of CST information, including electronic communication, including web pages, are up to date (including in line with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook) To ensure compliance with all data protection legislation and good practice across the Academies. To support the individual academies compliance and	To ensure the publication of Academy information, ensuring that all electronic communications, including web pages, are up to date (including in line with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook) To maintain accurate and secure pupil records To maintain accurate and secure staff records for the Academy



• on the n storage.	atter of safe	cyber security risk mitigation strategies	To ensure compliance with all data protection legislation and good practice in the Academy.
		To maintain accurate and secure staff records for the Executive To ensure registration with the Information Commissioner's Office is up to date. To ensure Executive staff are appropriately trained and to support the implementation of staff training at Academy level	To ensure staff are trained at an appropriate level including on cyber security To implement cyber security risk mitigation strategies in accordance with CST level requirements (unless approval is given for Academy specific deviations)

Staffing				
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteachers
	To define any overarching management structures across CST and budget To adopt CST- wide staff policies and procedures. To appoint and dismiss the EP, Finance Director, Company Secretary and Governance Professional. To ensure there are robust procedures in place for determining levels of executive pay To approve the contract of employment of the EP, Finance Director, Headteachers and the Governance Professional	In consultation with the Executive and the Headteacher, to approve the teaching staff structure for the Academy. To hear appeals in line with the CST – wide appeals policy To hear appeals under the disciplinary, capability and grievance procedures To provide input and attend performance management review and performance management review and performance management target setting of the Headteachers To provide input on the recruitment of Headteachers	In consultation with the Trustees to determine and appoint the senior leadership for each Academy To determine the teaching and non-teaching structures for each Academy To advise the Trustees on suitable CST-wide policies and procedures and to ensure their effective implementation. To monitor and review staffing changes across CST. To appoint, suspend and dismiss members of the executive leadership team (save as reserved to the Trustees).	To determine teaching staffing requirements within each Academy and budget. To implement the CST-wide policies and procedures in the Academy. To appoint teaching staff To appoint non-teaching staff To suspend or dismiss teaching and non-teaching staff in consultation with the Executive. To conduct the performance management of staff in the Academy.

	and safety policy Wi	appoint a Local Governor th specific focus on Health Safety. adopt a health and safety licy for the Academy (in line th the CST-wide policy). Eview and support the applementation of the above plicy and ensure that appropriate risk assessments be being carried out in the addemy. conduct site inspections to view any health and safety sues and the security of emises and equipment.	To propose a CST-wide health and safety policy for the Trustees' approval. To monitor and support the implementation of the CST-wide health and safety policy. To draw up, agree and monitor an accessibility plan for each Academy in consultation with the Headteacher.	To prepare a health and safety policy for the Academy (in line with the CST-wide policy) for adoption by the LGB. To monitor the accident book and agree appropriate actions. To ensure suitable risk assessments are prepared and appropriate actions taken
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Premises					
Members	Trustees	LGB members	Executive	Headteacher	
	To review and maintain a buildings strategy and asset management planning arrangements as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To determine a CST prescribed Academy level lettings policy To ensure that each Academy has determined an accessibility plan in accordance with the	To review and comply with the Academy's buildings strategy and asset management planning arrangements To adopt a lettings policy for the Academy to reflect local practices and Academy specific risk factors (in line with the CST prescribed policy), and review its implementation To adopt an accessibility plan for the Academy in	To prepare a buildings strategy and asset management planning arrangements as stated in the CST Financial Regulations Policy To review the Academies' buildings strategy and asset management planning arrangements To propose a CST prescribed Academy level lettings policy for the Trustees' approval	To review security of premises and equipment To prepare a buildings strategy and asset management planning arrangements To implement the lettings policy for the Academy, where applicable To draw up, agree with the LGB and monitor an accessibility plan for the Academy in accordance with the requirements of the	



requirements of the Equality Act 2010	accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010	To support the Headteachers as required on the preparation of an accessibility plan in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010	Equality Act 2010 in discussion with the Executive
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