

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF

# **NATIONAL GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATION**

Company No: 3549029

Charity No: 1070331

Amended by special resolution 12 November 2022

## INTERPRETATION

1. In these Articles:

'the Act' means the Companies Act 2006 or any re-enactment or statutory modification of that Act.

'Association' means an association of Governing Bodies intended to be within a local education authority area but being independent of such or any local education authority.

"Association Member" means an Association admitted to membership pursuant to Article 3(a) 'the Board' means the Board of Directors of the Company

'the Company' means the above named company.

"Corporate Member" means a Member admitted as such pursuant to Article 3

"Director" means a Member of the Board elected pursuant to Article 39

"Electronic Form" has the meaning given to it in Section 1168 of the Act and shall include provision of any information or document on a website, and references to "electronic copy", "electronic communication" and "electronic means" shall be construed accordingly.

"Governing Body" means the board of governors/academy trust (howsoever called or constituted) of a school, college or related educational institution within the state sector.

"Governing Body Member" means a Member admitted as such pursuant to Article 3(b)

'Governor' means a member (howsoever called) of a Governing Body/academy trust

"Multi Academy Trust member" means a Member admitted as such pursuant to Article 3 (c)

"Individual Member" means a person admitted to membership pursuant to Article 3(d)

'the Office' means the registered office of the Company.

'Company Secretary' means any person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company.

"Member" means a member (of whatever class) of the Company

"Region" means one of the nine regions of England determined from time to time by the Board"

"Registered Address" means a single address, being either a postal address in England or any number or address used for the purposes of any electronic communication to which the Company will send all notices and other communications to and for a Member.

"Representative" means the person appointed by an Association Member or a Governing Body Member or a Multi Academy Trust Member or a Corporate Member pursuant to Article 9. "Secretary of the Company" means the person elected by the Board to be that Honorary Officer.

Expressions referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form and shall include (subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may from time to time determine) electronic communication.

A requirement to deposit documents at, or send communications to, the Office or any other address of the Company includes their receipt by an electronic communication.

"By Post" or any similar phrase is extended to include electronic communication.

Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall bear the same meaning as in the Act or any statutory modification thereof in force at the date at which these Articles become binding on the Company.

## OBJECTS

2. The Company is established for the objects expressed in the Memorandum of Association.

## MEMBERS

3. Members shall be divided into the following classes, having the rights and privileges, but being subject to the duties and obligations, set out in this Article.
  - a. Association Membership: comprising such Associations as the Company shall admit to membership. Association Members shall be charged with the duty to respond, after reference to their members and such other persons as they see fit, in such manner as the Company reasonably requires or as is otherwise appropriate, to consultations and requests for information for the furtherance of, in connection with or relating to, the objects of the Company.
  - b. Governing Body Membership: comprising a Governing Body (whether or not a member of an Association) as the Company shall admit to membership. A Governing Body Member shall be entitled to such a number of copies of all publications (of whatever nature) published free of charge for Members by the Company as the Board may from time to time generally or specifically determine.
  - c. Multi Academy Trust Membership: comprising such Multi Academy Trusts as the Company shall admit to membership. A Multi Academy Trust member shall be entitled to such a number of copies of all publications (of whatever nature) published free of charge for Members of the Company as the Board may from time to time generally or specifically determine.
  - d. Individual Membership: comprising Governors or such other natural persons concerned to assist in a personal capacity, and not on behalf of or as a representative of any other person, firm, company, or organisation, in the fulfilment of, or otherwise having an interest in, the objects of the Company as the Company shall admit to membership. An Individual Member shall be entitled to one copy of all publications (of whatever nature) published free of charge for Members of the Company.
  - e. Corporate Membership : comprising a company, firm, organisation, association (other than a Governing Body) or body concerned to assist in the fulfilment of, or otherwise having an interest in, the objects of the

Company as the Company shall admit to membership. A Corporate Member shall be entitled to such a number of copies of all publications

(of whatever nature) published free of charge for Members by the Company as the Board may from time to time generally or specifically determine.

Each Member, of whatever class, shall have one vote at a meeting of the Company exercisable in accordance with these Articles.

The Board may at any time and from time to time attach to any class or classes of Membership, and thereafter remove, any additional right or privilege of Membership but (for the avoidance of doubt) the Board has no power to reduce or remove any of the rights otherwise granted to Members in this Article.

4. Such Association Members, Governing Body Members, Multi Academy Trust Members, Individual Members and Corporate Members as the Board shall admit to membership shall be Members of the Company. An application for membership (of whatever class) may be rejected by the Board without the need to give reason therefor.
5. Every Member admitted to membership of the Company shall sign a written consent to become a Member (which may be incorporated in an application for membership).
6.
  - a. The Board may by notice for good and sufficient reason at or with effect from any date either suspend for such period as it considers appropriate or terminate the membership of a Member.
  - b. A Member whose membership is so suspended or terminated may by notice ("appeal notice") received at the Office not later than 28 days following the date of the notice under Article 6(a), require to have such suspension or termination considered by the Company in general meeting, and if so the resolution of the Company at such meeting shall be final.
  - c. The appeal notice may be accompanied by written representations by the Member giving such notice, which representations shall be circulated, with (if the Board so chooses) the Board's response thereto, with the notice convening the extraordinary general meeting referred to in Article 6(d)
  - d. The Board shall at its meeting next following the receipt of an appeal notice convene an extraordinary general meeting of the Company on a date not later than three months from such meeting of the Board for the purposes of Article 6(b) and at such meeting
    - i. the dismissed or suspended Member shall be heard, and may be questioned
    - ii. a representative of the Board shall be heard, and may be questioned.

- e. If an appeal notice is served, pending the resolution of the Company pursuant to this Article 6 the relevant Member
    - i. if suspended, shall be allowed access to the facilities provided by the Company, but shall otherwise not exercise any right or be entitled to any privilege of, a Member.
    - ii. if terminated, shall not exercise any right or be entitled to any privilege of, a Member.
7. Unless the Board or the Company in General Meeting shall make other provision pursuant to the powers contained in Article 74 the Board may in its absolute discretion permit any Member to retire provided that after such retirement the number of Members is not less than three. Membership shall not be transferable.
- 8.
- a. A Member shall by notice to the Office notify (and may from time to time by such notice change the notification of) its his or her Registered Address. For the avoidance of doubt, such notification may change a postal address to an e-mail address, and vice-versa. A notification shall be deemed to be current until notice to the contrary is received at the Office.
  - b. Each such notice under this Article given in respect of an Association Member or a Governing Body Member, or a Multi Academy Trust Member or a Corporate Member shall be valid if signed by or (in the case of e-mail) apparently sent by a person having ostensible authority to act on behalf of the relevant Member, and the Company shall not be bound to enquire into the authority of such person signing, or the selection of the notified Registered Address.
  - c. If a member has not on the date which is two calendar months of the date on which these Articles have effect or if later) two calendar months from the date of admission as a Member notified his, her or its Registered Address in accordance with the provisions of this Article the Board may resolve that any postal address to which correspondence for such defaulting Member has been sent shall be the Registered Address for that member, until any other notification is received at the Office
  - d. Where a Member notifies both a postal address and an address for receipt of e-mail communications without indicating which of them is to be the Registered Address, the address for receipt of e-mail communications shall be the Registered Address.
- 9.
- a. An Association Member and a Governing Body Member and Multi Academy Trust Member and a Corporate Member may as it sees fit appoint and authorise such

person as it thinks fit, other than a person who is a Director, to be its Representative at any meeting of the Company or of Members.

- b. The Company (acting through any Director or by its chief executive or secretary) may at or at any time prior to any meeting, or at any other time as it sees fit, require production of such evidence of appointment of a Representative as it considers to be reasonable to evidence such appointment.
- c. An appointment of a Representative shall be considered valid if it is in, or evidenced in, writing signed by a person having ostensible authority to act on behalf of a relevant Member. The Company shall not be bound to enquire into the authority of such person signing, or the appointment of any person acting or purporting to act as a Representative.

## GENERAL MEETINGS

- 10. The Company shall each year hold a General Meeting as its Annual General Meeting and shall specify the meeting as such in the notice calling it. Not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting of the Company and that of the next. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Board shall decide.
- 11. The Board may decide to call any Annual General Meeting as an electronic meeting in accordance with this Article and if so, shall designate the meeting as such.
- 12. An electronic AGM need not be held at any particular place and may be held without any number of those participating in the meeting being together at the same place.\_
- 13. An electronic AGM meeting may be held, and votes at such a meeting may be cast by such means as the Board shall decide.
- 14. The notice calling an Annual General Meeting as an electronic AGM shall state that it is an electronic AGM and shall specify
  - I. Any place at which a Member may attend the meeting in person or that there is no place at which a Member may attend the meeting in person.\_
  - II. The electronic or other means by which the meeting will be held and the means by which a Member may participate.\_
  - III. The electronic or other means by which votes may be cast at the meeting.\_
- 15. All General Meetings other than Annual General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings. The Board may, whenever it thinks fit, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, and an Extraordinary General Meeting shall also be convened on the requisition of fifty Members in writing signed by such Members or (as appropriate) their respective chairs or other persons having ostensible authority to act on behalf of those Members.
- 16. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company may, if and when the Board considers appropriate, organize and hold a meeting (as a general meeting of the Company, or otherwise taking the form of a conference or forum) for

Members to enable consideration and discussion by them of any relevant matter of interest to them in that capacity.

#### NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

17. An Annual General Meeting and a meeting called for the passing of a special resolution and all other meetings shall be called by at least 1 calendar month's notice in writing. The notice subject to Article 11, shall specify the place, the day and the hour of meeting and, in case of special business, the general nature of that business, and shall be given in manner hereinafter mentioned or in such other manner, if any, as may be prescribed by the Company in General Meeting, to such persons as are, under the Articles of the Company, entitled to receive such notices from the Company:



PROVIDED THAT a meeting of the Company shall, notwithstanding that it is called by shorter notice than that specified in this Article, be deemed to have been duly called if it is so agreed:

- a. in the case of the Annual General Meeting, by all the Members entitled to attend and vote; and
- b. in the case of any other meeting, by a majority of the Members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together representing not less than 95 per cent of the total voting rights at that meeting of all the members.

18. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

#### PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

19. The business to be transacted at an Annual General Meeting shall include the consideration of the accounts, balance sheets, and the reports of the Board and auditors, the election of members of the Board and the appointment of, and the fixing of the remuneration of, the auditors.

20. No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of Members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. 40 Members present in person or by authorised Representative or by proxy, at the commencement of the meeting shall be a quorum. A Member or a proxy for a Member shall be present at an electronic AGM if participating in the manner specified in the notice calling the meeting. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to such other day and at such other time and place as the Board may determine.

21. The Chair of the Board shall chair every general meeting of the Company or if he or she shall not be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act a Vice-Chair or in the absence thereof a Director shall chair the meeting.

22. If at any general meeting no Director is willing to act as chair or if no Director is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

23. The chair of the meeting may, with the consent of any general meeting which is quorate (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no other business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. When a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to

give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

24. In the case of an equality of votes (in each class of Members) the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have.
25. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a resolution in writing signed by all the Members entitled to receive notice of and to attend and vote at general meetings (or their representative) shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a general meeting of the Company duly convened and held.
26. Before proceeding to any other business, the Company shall at each general meeting elect two tellers and two scrutineers.
27.
  - a. The Company in General Meeting may from time to time appoint a person to be its President, a Vice-President, a Patron or to have a similar title. The Board may, on such appointment (subject as set out below) define his or her role and responsibilities (if any) and/or define the duration for which the office shall be held and the privileges (if any) which attach to it.
  - b. Such a person shall not be a member of the Board of Directors, shall not be entitled to attend or speak at any meeting of the Board of Directors, and shall not in that capacity be entitled to preside at or speak at any meeting of the Company

## VOTES OF MEMBERS

28. Subject to Article 24 every Member shall have one vote only to be cast by personally, by an authorised Representative, or by proxy, and save as provided in Article 42 voting at a general meeting shall be by a show of hands taking account of proxy votes unless before the vote is taken not less than one third of the Members present in person or by their Representatives, or the Chair, calls for a ballot. Any reference to these articles to a show of hands shall include any other method of voting on a show of hands specified in the notice convening the meeting at which the vote is taken and any vote cast by that method shall be counted in determining the result of the show of hands the accidental omission to count any vote on a show of hands shall not invalidate the result of the proceedings.

29. Voting for the election of Directors shall be by postal ballot and/or electronic voting in accordance with these Articles. Where the number of candidates for election exceeds the number of vacancies, the candidate(s) with the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected as director.
30. The Company Secretary shall, in the case of a ballot, act as returning officer.
31. An Association Member or a Governing Body Member, or a Multi Academy Trust Member or a Corporate Member may appoint a proxy to vote on its behalf at any general meeting. The proxy can be a person chosen by the Member or the Chair of the Board but may not appoint more than one proxy to attend and vote on the same occasion. In the absence of the Chair of the Board, such an appointment shall have effect as if the chair of the meeting was so appointed.
32. An instrument appointing a proxy pursuant to Article 31 shall be in writing, executed by or on behalf of the appointer and shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto which the Board may approve)

National Governance Association

[Name of Member], a [class of member] member of the Company, hereby appoints the following named person [     ] /the Chair of the Company as its proxy to vote in its name and on its behalf at the annual/extraordinary general meeting of the Company to be held on 20[   ], and at any adjournment thereof.

This form is to be used in respect of the resolutions mentioned below as follows:

Resolution No. 1 \*for \*against

Resolution No. 2 \*for \*against

\*Strikeout whichever is not desired.

Unless otherwise instructed and save as provided, the proxy may vote as he or she thinks fit or abstain from voting.

Signed on     20[   ]

33. A proxy pursuant to Article 31 shall be considered valid if it is signed by a person having ostensible authority to act on behalf of a relevant Member. The Company may but shall not be bound to enquire into the authority of any such person signing.
34. An Individual Member may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf at any general meeting. The proxy can be a person chosen by the Member or the Chair of the Board but may not appoint more than one proxy to attend and vote on the same occasion. Where the Chair of the Board is so appointed but is absent from the meeting, such an appointment shall have effect as if the chair of the meeting was so appointed.

35. An instrument appointing a proxy pursuant to Article 34 shall be in writing, executed by or on behalf of the appointor and shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto which the Committee may approve)

National Governance Association

I, [Name of Member], a member of the Company, hereby appoint the following named person [ ] / [the Chair of the Company] as my proxy to vote (save as mentioned below) in my name and on my behalf at the annual/extraordinary general meeting of the Company to be held on 200[ ], and at any adjournment thereof.

This form is to be used in respect of the resolutions mentioned below as follows:

Resolution No. 1 \*for \*against

Resolution No. 2 \*for \*against

\*Strikeout whichever is not desired.

Unless otherwise instructed and save as provided, the proxy may vote as he or she thinks fit or abstain from voting.

Signed on 200[ ]

36. The instrument appointing a proxy under Article 31 or 34 must:

- a. be deposited at the Office or at such other place within England specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote;

and an instrument of proxy which is not deposited or delivered in a manner so permitted shall be invalid

37. A vote given or ballot demanded by the Representative of or the Proxy of a Member shall be valid notwithstanding the previous determination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a ballot unless notice of the termination was received by the Company before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the ballot demanded or (in the case of a ballot taken otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the ballot.

38.

- a. No Member or Representative of a Member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all moneys presently payable by him or her, or his or her appointing Member (as the case may be) to the Company have been paid.

- b. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chair of the meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

39. There is no Article 39.

40. There is no Article 40.

41. The maximum number of directors shall be 13 of whom 9 shall be elected pursuant to article 39 and up to 4 appointed by the board from time to time as they see fit on the basis of the skills and experience they can bring for the experience of the company. Subject to Article 51, each director's term shall be a maximum of 4 years. The terms of office of the elected directors in office before the adoption of these Articles shall be treated as 4 years. The minimum number of directors shall be 4.

No person may be appointed or elected as a Director:

- a. unless that person has attained the age of 18 years;
- b. in circumstances such that, had that person already been a Director, he or she would have been disqualified from acting under the provisions of Article 49; or
- c. in the case of an elected director, unless that person is a Governor or a clerk.
- d. if after election a director ceases to be governor or clerk and remains so for more than six months then s/he will automatically cease to be a Director.

Subject thereto the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution increase or reduce the number of Directors but each such resolution shall determine the respective numbers of elected and appointed Directors following such increase or reduction.

42. One Director shall be elected from each region. Such Directors shall be elected by postal ballot and/or electronic voting, as the Board shall from time to time determine, and in accordance with procedures and rules determined by the Board from time to time, but so that, in any event, no vote shall be valid if received later than 48 hours preceding the Annual or other General Meeting at or from the conclusion of which any candidate for such office is to assume such office. On such ballot or electronic vote (as the case may be), each Member shall have one vote.

43. There is no Article 43.

44. There is no Article 44.

45. There is no Article 45.

46. The Board may appoint a person (properly qualified) who is willing to act to be a Director. A Director so appointed shall, if appointed to fill a vacancy arising by the non-appointment (for whatever reason) of an elected Director, cease to hold office when such Director is appointed. Otherwise (and in any event) a person so appointed shall cease to hold office at the annual general meeting of the Company next following the date of his or her appointment (and shall not be taken into account when determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting)

47. The Directors may be paid all reasonable out of pocket, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in attending and returning from Board meetings or general meetings of the Company or in connection with the business of the Company.

48A, No Director shall serve as a Director of the Company for a consecutive period longer than the period commencing on the Annual General Meeting at which he or she was appointed as such Director and ending on the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Company following that Meeting.

48B If a Director serves as such for the consecutive period mentioned in Article 48A, he or she shall not be eligible to be, and shall not become, a Director until, or after, the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting following the Annual General Meeting at which he or she was first appointed a Director.

## BORROWING POWERS

49. The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money, and to mortgage or charge its undertaking and property, or any part thereof, and to issue debentures, debenture stock and other securities, whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any charitable body where such action will directly further the objects of the Company.

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

50. The Board shall

- a. Manage the business of the Company and may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not required to be exercised by the Company in General Meeting.
- b. formulate, and be solely responsible for the formulation, presentation and promulgation of the Company's view, comment and submissions on and concerning its objects and issues and matters relating thereto or associated therewith, whether by invitation of any person, body or authority or on its own volition, or following a request by the Company in General meeting, but in so doing (save where impossible or in practical, or reasonably considered, because of prior knowledge, to be unnecessary) the Board shall, on any issue
- c. have due regard to the opinions and expressions of Members made known, or becoming known to it but shall not be bound by any of the same.

51. All cheques and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for moneys paid to the Company, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, in such manner as the Board shall from time to time determine.

52. The Board shall cause minutes to be made:

- a. of the names of the Directors present at each Board Meeting;
- b. of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Company, and of the Board and of any sub-committee thereof; and
- c. of all appointments made by the Board; and

## DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS

53. The office of Director shall be vacated if such member:

- a. ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision in the Act or is disqualified from acting as a Director by virtue of Section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision):

- b. becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her property and affairs;
- c. resigns his or her office by written notice to the Company or is absent without the permission of the Board from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Board resolves that his or her office be vacated.
- d. Persistently or wilfully contravenes or fails to act in accordance with any code of procedure or conduct adopted for, or other rules adopted for, the conduct of Directors in relation to and/or to their involvement with the business and affairs of the Company, and a majority of the Honorary Officers of the Company (excluding, if appointed as a Honorary Officer, the Director in question and if the Honorary Officers are equally divided on the decision of the Chair) after affording the Director in question an opportunity to be heard or (as such Officers determine) make representations to them, resolve that his or her office be vacated.

Provided that:

- i. A Director disqualified pursuant to Article 53(d) may by notice ("appeal notice") received at the Office not later than 28 days following the date of the notification to him of the Honorary Officers or Chair's (as the case may be) resolution, require to have his or her disqualification considered by a Committee of the Board comprising not less than three directors who are not Honorary Officers, which Committee shall act by majority. The resolution of the Committee shall be final.
- ii. The appeal notice may be accompanied by written representations by the Director giving such notice, which representations shall be circulated, with the Honorary Officers' or Chairs' response thereto, only to the members of the Committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (ii) above.
- iii. The Committee shall endeavour to meet and deal with the appeal in a timely manner and in any event not later than three months from the notification of appeal. At any meeting of the Committee:
  - the dismissed Director may be heard, and may be questioned; and
  - a representative of the Honorary Officers, or the Chair, may be heard, and may be questioned.
- iv. If an appeal notice is served, pending the resolution of the Committee pursuant to this Article the relevant Director shall not exercise any right or power of, or be entitled to any privilege of, a Director.



## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

54.A Director shall not vote in respect of any contract in which he or she is interested or any matter arising thereout, and if that Director does so vote that vote shall not be counted.

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

55. At each subsequent Annual General Meeting following these Articles having effect, two of the elected Directors shall retire from office. Such Directors to retire shall be, firstly, those (if any) who at the date on which notice of the relevant meeting is served are no longer Governors secondly, those who have served their full term of office and thirdly to the extent required, those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment, save that, 55a if all elected directors have served fewer than three years, there shall be no elections at the AGM. 55b where the chair of the NGA is in her/his first year of service in that position s/he will be excused from standing for re-election to the board at the AGM following her/his appointment as chair (subject to the restriction on length of service in Article 48A). 55c Any director who has from the date of their first election served less than three years of service will be excused from standing for re-election to the board at the AGM (subject to the restriction on length of service in Article AA. Where there are, in any case, more potential retirees than the number required to retire, those to retire shall be determined by lot.

56. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, a Director retiring pursuant to Article 55 may be re-elected.

57. The Company may by ordinary resolution, of which special notice has been given in accordance with Section 303 of the Act, remove any Director before the expiration of his or her period of office notwithstanding anything in these Articles or in any agreement between the Company and a Member.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

58. The Board may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn, and otherwise regulate its meetings, as it thinks fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the Chair shall have a second or casting vote. A Director may, and the Company Secretary on the request of a Director shall, at any time summon a Board meeting. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a Board meeting to any Director for the time being absent from England.

59. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board shall be one half of the membership of the Board, (or the nearest whole number, rounded up thereto).

60. The Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body, but, if and so long as their number is reduced below the number fixed by or pursuant to the Articles of the Company as the necessary quorum of its Members, the Board may act for the purpose of increasing the number of its Members to that number, or of summoning a General Meeting of the Company, but for no other purpose.

61.

- a. The Board shall appoint from its members persons, or persons jointly, to be the following Honorary Officers  
Chair  
Not more than three Vice-Chairs  
Secretary of the Association  
Treasurer
- b. (where persons are appointed jointly to hold any honorary office the duties and responsibilities of that office shall, subject to any allocation thereof made by the Board on appointment, be assumed and discharged as the persons jointly holding such office shall agree, or in the absence of agreement as the Board shall direct.
- c. Subject to Article 51, the Board shall appoint Honorary Officers pursuant to sub-clause (a) above to hold office, in each case, until the conclusion of the first meeting of the Board which next follows the Annual General Meeting next following their appointment provided that following such Annual General Meeting such officers continue as, or are re-elected to be, directors. Where an Officer does not so continue, or is not so re-elected, his or her appointment shall terminate at the conclusion of such Annual General Meeting. In any event no Honorary Officer shall serve more than three consecutive years in post.
- d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may, if it feels none of its members is properly qualified to act as Treasurer, appoint any other person (who shall not by virtue of that appointment be or become a Director) to act as treasurer of the Company, on such terms and for such period as the Board deems appropriate.

62. The Chair shall chair all Board meetings. If he or she is not present a Vice-Chair shall chair the meeting, or in the absence of all of them the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act as chair.

63. The Board may delegate any of their powers to sub-committees consisting of such persons as they think fit; any sub-committee so formed shall conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the Board and shall report all acts and proceedings to the Board fully and promptly.

64. A sub-committee may elect a chair of its meetings; if no such chair is elected, or if at any meeting the chair is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the members present may choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

65. A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present, and in the case of an equality of votes the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

66. All acts done by any meeting of the Board or of a sub-committee, or by any person acting as a Director, shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such member or person acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director.

67. A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors entitled to receive notice of a Board meeting, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a Board meeting duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one Director or more.

### SECRETARY

68. The Board may appoint (and may remove) any person to act as Company Secretary in accordance with the Act.

### EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

69. No document which requires execution by or on behalf of the Company shall be executed other than pursuant to the authority (which may be given generally as well as specifically) of the Board or of a sub-committee authorised by the Board in that behalf. Every instrument to be executed as a deed shall be signed by a Director and shall be countersigned by the honorary Secretary of the Company or by a second Director or by some other person appointed by the Board for the purpose.

### COMPLIANCE

70. The Company shall comply, and the Board shall procure and ensure compliance with, the requirements of any relevant regulatory body or authority relating to the preparation and filing of accounts, annual or other returns, and annual or other reports.

### NOTICES

71. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the Articles shall be in writing except that a notice calling a meeting of the Board need not be in writing.

72. Any notice to a Member by the Company shall be properly given if sent by the Company by post to a Member's Registered Address or by electronic communication and the Company shall not be obliged to give notice, or send copy notice, to, or to any other address or to any representative of, a Member.

73. Notice of every general meeting shall be given in any manner herein authorised to:

- a. every Member;
- b. the auditor for the time being of the Company;
- c. each Director.
- d. each person appointed pursuant to Article 27

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

74.A Member present in person, or in accordance with Article 11, or in the case of an Association Member or a Governing Body Member or a Multi Academy Trust Member or a Corporate Member in the person of its Representative, at any meeting of the Company shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called.

75. Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given by post. Such notice shall be deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted. Any notice or other document addressed to a Member shall, if sent using electronic communication, be deemed to have been served or delivered at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was first sent. In proving such service or delivery it shall be conclusive to prove that the address used for the electronic communication was correct and that the electronic communication was properly dispatched by the Company, unless the Company is aware that there has been a failure of delivery of such notice or document following at least two attempts in which case such notice or document shall be sent to the member at his last known postal address or address for service in the United Kingdom provided that the date of deemed service or delivery shall be 48 hours from the dispatch of the original electronic communication in accordance with this Article.

75A

- i. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Articles, any notice or document to be given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged (or the equivalent) to or by any person pursuant to these Articles shall be in writing and any such notice or document shall be deemed given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged (or the equivalent) where it is sent using electronic communication to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person given the notice, but subject always to the provisions of Article 71. In the case of notices or other documents sent by means of electronic communication the Board may make this subject to such terms and conditions as it shall in its absolute discretion consider appropriate.
- ii. Any Member may notify the Company of an address for the purpose of his receiving electronic communications from the Company, and having done so shall be deemed to have agreed

to receive notices and other documents from the Company by electronic communications of the kind to which the address relates. Subject to the provisions of Schedule 5 the Act, the Company may satisfy its obligation to send a member any notice or other document or information by:

1. publishing such notice, document or information on a website; and
2. notifying him that such notice or document has been so published, specifying the address of the website on which it has been published, the place on the website where it may be accessed, how it may be accessed and (if it is a notice relating to a general meeting of the Company or of any class of Members) stating that the notice concerns a notice of a Company meeting served in accordance with the Act, the place, date and time of the meeting, whether the meeting is to be an annual or extraordinary general meeting or class meeting and such other information as the Act may prescribe, provided that such Member has either:
  - a. agreed that the Company may send or supply documents or information to him in that manner; or
  - b. is deemed to have agreed that the Company may send or supply documents or information to him in that manner, in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Act.
- iii. Any amendment or revocation of a notification given to the Company under this Article shall only take effect if in writing, signed by the Member and on actual receipt by the Company thereof.
- iv. An electronic communication shall not be treated as received by the Company if it is rejected by computer virus protection arrangements.

## INDEMNITY

76. Subject to the provisions of the Act every Director or other officer or auditor of the Company shall be indemnified to the extent permitted by law out of the assets of the Company against any liability incurred by him in that capacity

- a. which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust, or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the company;
- b. to make contributions to the assets of the company in accordance with the provisions of section 214 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

provided that any such indemnity shall not extend to

- i. any liability resulting from conduct which the director knew, or must be assumed to have known, was not in the best interests

- of the company, or where the director did not care whether such conduct was in the best interests of the company or not;
- ii. any liability to pay the costs of unsuccessfully defending criminal prosecutions for offences arising out of the fraud or dishonesty or wilful or reckless misconduct of the director;
  - iii. any liability to pay a fine;
  - iv. any liability to contribute to the assets of the Company on the insolvent liquidation of the Company where the basis of such liability is the director's knowledge prior to such liquidation, or the reckless failure to acquire such knowledge, that there was no reasonable prospect that the Company would avoid going into liquidation.

## DISSOLUTION

77. Clause 8 of the Memorandum of Association relating to the winding up and dissolution of the Company shall have effect as if the provisions thereof were repeated in these Articles.

## RULES OR BYE LAWS

78.

- a. Subject to sub-clause (b) of this Article the Board may from time to time make such Rules or By-laws as it may deem necessary or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Company and for the purpose of prescribing classes of and conditions of membership, and in particular without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, it may by such Rules or By-laws regulate:
  - i. the admission and classification of members of the Company, and the rights and privileges of such members, and the conditions of membership and the terms on which members may resign or have their membership terminated and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be made by members;
  - ii. the conduct of members of the Company in relation to one another, and to the Company's employees;
  - iii. the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Company's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes;
  - iv. the procedure at general meetings and meetings of the Board and of committees of the Board in so far as such procedure is not regulated by these Articles;
  - v. and, generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of Company rules.

- b. The Company in general meeting shall have power to alter or repeal the Rules or By-laws and to make additions to them. Any such Rule or By-law as altered or repealed shall not be further altered, or derogated from, or reinstated (as the case may be) without the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company in general meeting
- c. The Board shall adopt such means as they deem sufficient to bring to the notice of members of the Company all such Rules or By-laws
- d. All such Rules or By-laws, so long as they shall be in force, shall be binding on all Members of the Company.
- e. Provided, nevertheless, that no Rule or By-law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Memorandum or Articles of Association of the Company.

END