

Key Terminology:

MAT - Multi Academy Trust

Trust - interchangeable with MAT

<p>How are decisions made within a MAT?</p>	<p>Decisions about an individual school are made at a school level by its leadership team supported by the local governing body. Trustees make strategic decisions about the Trust.</p>
<p>How do you ensure accountability and transparency?</p>	<p>School level decisions are made in conjunction with the local governing body, and minutes of these meetings, which take place once each half term, are available upon request. At a Trust level, Committee and Board meetings take place once each half term, with all Committee minutes (including those of governors' meetings) going through the Board of Trustees. Information flows back from the board to the LGB's via an executive summary and termly chairs briefing meeting.</p>
<p>How are parents and the local community involved in governance?</p>	<p>LGBs are expected to have representation from parents and community members. LGBs gain stakeholder views and share this with the school and LGB to gain a rounder understanding of the community and its needs.</p>

What is the role of a school governor?	To hold the head teacher and senior leaders to account, to ensure the school's money is well spent, and to promote the values and ethos of the school.
What qualifications or experience do I need to become a school governor?	None; local governing bodies need people with a range of skills and experience in order to ensure a diverse group of governors.
What time commitment is expected from school governors?	Governors are expected to prepare for (reading papers) and attend one meeting per half term, and conduct a link governor visit. In addition, there may be meetings such as permanent exclusion panels, suspension reviews, and complaints from time to time.
What support and training will be provided to new governors?	Governors are provided with a full package of training and access to NGA, GovernorHub, and other memberships. In addition, the Trust governance team will support with any queries or needs.
What is the composition of the governing body?	The LGB is made up of parents, staff, community members, and the head teacher (a governor ex-officio by virtue in their role).
How does the school engage with parents, students, and the wider community?	Each school's methods for this differ and this is something the LGB will discuss together and decide at their meetings.
What are the specific expectations or areas of focus for governors?	Governors are expected to hold a link role and these are agreed at the beginning of the academic year or when a new governor joins. Each LGB is expected to elect a governor with responsibility for SEND and one for safeguarding. Outside of this, governors have room to explore their interests and skills within their link role.