

The Circle Trust is a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). Like all MATs this Trust is governed by Trustees. The Trustees are accountable for the operation and performance of the Trust as a whole and ultimately all schools in the Trust.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

1. setting the direction of the Trust
2. holding the Executive Headteacher to account
3. ensuring financial probity and compliance with charity law requirements ¹

The Trust will have a maximum of 15 trustees, and at least 8. Trustees are supported and their decisions overseen by Members. Members are akin to the shareholders of a company and play a very important role in overseeing governance arrangements; however, they will typically be less directly involved in the running of it and will most likely meet less frequently. The Members have three main functions:²

1. Ultimate control over the academy trust, with the ability to appoint and remove trustees
- 2.

Failure to attend meetings of the Trustees for a continuous period of 6 months beginning with the date of the first meeting missed, without the consent of the Full Trustee Board

Are the subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or an interim order, debt relief restrictions order, an interim debt relief restrictions order or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced

Is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order)

Has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body

Is included in the list of teachers or workers considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people

Has been barred from any regulated activity relating to children/ is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008

Is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care

Is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State

Has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a Trustee or since becoming a Trustee

Has received a prison sentence of two years or more in the 20 years before becoming a Trustee

Has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more

Has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor

Refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for a criminal records certificate.

A person shall be disqualified for appointment or election as a Trustee if he/she is: