



THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
OF  
Avanti Schools Trust



Disqualification of Trustees	28
Disqualification of those on committees including Local Governing Bodies	30
Governance Professional to the Trustees	30
Chair and Vice-Chair of the Trustees	30
Powers of the Trustees	31
Conflicts of interest	32
The minutes	32
Committees	33
Delegation	33
Appointing and delegating to Chief Executive Officer	33
Meetings of the Trustees	34
Proceedings at Trustee meetings	34
Quorum for Trustee meetings	36
Voting at Trustee meetings	36
Making the minutes of Trustee meetings available	37
Participation at meetings	38
Patrons and honorary officers	38
The seal	38
Accounts	38
Annual Report	38
Confirmation statement	39
Notices	39
Indemnity	40
Rules	40
Avoiding influenced company status	



- n. "Local Authority Associated Person" means any person associated (within the meaning given in section 69(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989) with any local authority by which the Academy Trust is influenced;
- o. "Local Governing Bodies/Local Advisory Bodies" means the committees appointed pursuant to Articles 100-101A and 104 (and "Local Governing Body/Local Advisory Body" means any one of these committees);
- p. "Member" means a member of the Academy Trust and someone who, as such, is bound by the undertaking contained in Article 8;
- q. "the Memorandum" means the Memorandum of Association of the Academy Trust;
- r.

- bb. “teacher” means a person employed under a contract of employment or a contract for services or otherwise engaged to provide their services as a teacher at one or more Academies;
- cc. “the Trustees” means the directors of the Academy Trust (and “Trustee” means any one of those directors), subject to the definition of this term at Article 6.9(b) in relation to Articles 6.2-6.4 and 6.6-6.8A<sup>1</sup>;
- dd. “the United Kingdom” means Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- ee. “Vice-

## **Academy Trust name and registered office**

1. The company's name is Avanti Schools Trust (and in this document it is called “the **Academy Trust**”).
2. The Academy Trust's registered office is to be situated in England and Wales.

## **Charitable objects**

3. The Academy Trust's objects (“the **Objects**”) are specifically restricted to the fo



- c. to acquire, alter, improve and (subject to such consents as may be required by law) to charge or otherwise dispose of property;
- d. subject to Articles 6.6-

money for the furtherance of the Objects in such manner and on such security as the Academy Trust may think fit;

- m. to deposit or invest any funds of the Academy Trust not immediately required for the furtherance of its Objects (but to invest only after obtaining such advice from a financial expert as the Trustees consider necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification);
- n. to delegate the management of investments to a financial expert, but only on terms that:
  - i. the investment policy is set down in writing for the financial expert by the Trustees;
  - ii. every transaction is reported promptly to the Trustees;
  - iii. the performance of the investments is reviewed regularly with the Trustees;
  - iv. the Trustees are entitled to cancel the delegation arrangement at any time;
  - v. the investment policy and the delegation arrangement are reviewed at least once a year;
  - vi. all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in advance and are notified promptly to the Trustees on receipt; and
  - vii. the financial expert must not do anything outside the powers

applicable to charitable companies and any such indemnity is limited accordingly;

- q. not used;
- r. to establish subsidiary companies to carry on any trade or business for the purpose of raising funds for the Academy Trust; and
- s. to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for or are incidental to or conducive to the achievement of the Objects.

## **Use of income and property**

6.1 The income and property of the Academy Trust shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.

6.2 None of the income or property of the Academy Trust may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any Member of the Academy Trust. Nonetheless a Member of the Academy Trust who is not also a Trustee<sup>2</sup> may:

- a. benefit as a beneficiary of the Academy Trust;
- b. be paid reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Academy Trust;
- c. be paid rent for premises let by the Member to the Academy Trust if the amount of the rent and other terms of the letting are reasonable and proper; and
- d. be paid interest on money lent to the Academy Trust at a reasonable and proper rate, such rate not to exceed 2% per annum below the base lending rate of a UK clearing bank selected by the Trustees, or 0.5%, whichever is the higher.

6.2A. The Trustees may only rely upon the authority provided by Article 6.2 to allow a benefit to a Member if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

- a. the remuneration or other sums paid to the Member does not exceed an

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<sup>2</sup> A Member who is also a Trustee is subject to the restrictions on trustee benefits in articles 6.3 – 6.9.

amount that is reasonable in all the circumstances;

- b. the Trustees are satisfied that it is in the interests of the Academy Trust to contract with that Member rather than with someone who is not a Member. In reaching that decision the Trustees must balance the advantage of contracting with a Member against the disadvantages of doing so; and
- c. the reason for their decision is recorded by the Trustees in the minute book.<sup>3</sup>

## **Trustees benefiting from indemnity arrangements**

6.3 A Trustee may benefit from any indemnity arrangement purchased at the Academy Trust's expense or any arrangement so agreed with the Secretary of State to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust, provided that any such arrangement shall not extend to: (i) any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees (or any of them) knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Trustees (or any of them) in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not; and (ii) the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees (or any of them) in their capacity as directors of the Academy Trust. Further, this Article does not authorise a Trustee to benefit from any indemnity arrangement that would be rendered void by any provision of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 or any other provision of law.

6.4



proper.

6.8 The Academy Trust and its Trustees may only rely upon the authority provided by Article 6.7 if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

- a. the remuneration or other sums paid to the Trustee does not exceed an amount that is reasonable in all the circumstances;
- b.



8. Every Member of the Academy Trust undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Academy Trust's assets if it should be wound up while they are a Member or within one year after they cease to be a Member, for payment of the Academy Trust's debts and liabilities before they cease to be a Member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

### **Arrangements for Academy Trust property on closure of trust**

9. If the Academy Trust is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities (including any under section 2 of the Academies Act 2010) have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Academy Trust (except for a Member which is itself a charity fulfilling the criteria set out below), but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having objects similar to the Objects which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Academy Trust by Article 6 above, chosen by the Members of the Academy Trust at or before the time of dissolution and if that cannot be done then to some other charitable object.

10. Not used.

### **Restrictions on alterations to articles to protect charitable company status**

11. No al



- b. any person appointed under Article 15A,

provided that at any time the minimum number of Members shall not be less than three.

12A. An employee of the Academy Trust cannot be a Member of the Academy Trust.

12B. There must be a majority of Members who are not also Trustees.

## **Rights to remove Members**

13. Each person entitled to appoint Members in Article 12 shall have the right from time to time by written notice delivered to the Office to remove any Member appointed by them and to appoint a replacement Member to fill a vacancy whether resulting from such removal or otherwise.

14. If any of the persons entitled to appoint Members in Article 12:

- a. in the case of an individual, die or become legally incapacitated;
- b. in the case of a corporate entity, cease to exist and are not replaced by a successor institution;
- c. becomes insolvent or makes any arrangement or composition with their creditors generally; or
- d. ceases to themselves be a Member,

their right to appoint Members under these Articles shall vest in the remaining Members.

## **Disqualification and termination of membership**

15. A Member shall cease to be a Member if:

- a. that Member (which is an individual) dies or becomes incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing and administering their own affairs;
- b. that Member has been declared bankrupt and/or their estate has been seized from their possession for the benefit of their creditors and the declaration or seizure has not been discharged, annulled or reduced, or if they are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order;
- c. that Member is a corporate entity and:

- i. ceases to exist;
- ii. a resolution or order is made for the Member to be wound up or to

resolution shall not be entitled to vote on that resolution.

## **Members and the charitable objects**

16A. In exercising their rights under these Articles and the Companies Act 2006, the Members shall not do anything or take any action which would cause the Academy Trust to contravene its Objects, and shall act in a way which they decide, in good faith, will be most likely to further the Objects of the Academy Trust.

## **Consent to become a Member**

17. Every person nominated to be a Member of the Academy Trust shall sign a written consent to become a Member and sign the register of Members on becoming a Member.

## **Member resignation**

18. Any Member may resign provided that after such resignation the number of Members is not less than three. A Member shall cease to be one immediately on the receipt by the Academy Trust of a notice in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to remove them under Articles 13 or 16 provided that no such notice shall take effect when the number of Members is less than three unless it contains or is accompanied by the appointment of a replacement Member.

## **General Meetings**

### **Annual General Meeting**

19. The Academy Trust shall hold an Annual General Meeting each Academy Financial Year in addition to any other meetings in that year, and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it; and not more than fifteen months shall elapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting of the Academy Trust and that of the

a General Meeting in accordance with that Act. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient Trustees to call a General Meeting, any Trustee or any Member of the Academy Trust may call a General Meeting.

## **Notice of General Meetings**

21. General meetings shall be called by at least fourteen clear days' notice but may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority in number of Members having a right to attend and vote and together representing not less than 90% of the total voting rights at that meeting.

21A. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted and, in the case of an Annual General Meeting, shall specify the meeting as such. The notice shall also state that the Member is entitled to appoint a proxy. The notice shall be given to all the Members, to the Trustees and auditors.

22. 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 at that meeting.

## **Proceedings at General Meetings**

23. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. A quorum is a majority of Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted.

23A. A person may attend a General Meeting by telepho

and place as the Trustees may determine.

25.





Signed on 20[ ]”

42. The instrument appointing a proxy and any authority under which it is signed or a copy of such authority certified by a notary or in some other way approved by the Trustees may:

- a. be deposited at the Office or at such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Academy Trust 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; or
  - b. in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or
  - c. where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chair or to the Governance Professional or to any Trustee,
- and an instrument of proxy which is not deposited







55.

59 – 63. Not used.

## **Term of office**

64. The term of office for any Trustee shall be four years, save that:
- a. This time limit shall not apply to any post which is held ex officio.
  - b. The term of office may be shorter than four years for any Trustee except for Parent Trustees, if the Members (or in the case of a Co-opted Trustee, the Trustees) determine this at the time of appointment of such Trustee.

Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be re-appointed or re-elected.

## **Resignation and removal**

65. A Trustee may resign their office by notice to the Academy Trust (but only if at least three Trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect).
66. A Trustee may be removed by the person or persons who appointed or elected them, or otherwise by ordinary resolution of the Members in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.
67. Either the Trustee resigning, or those removing the Trustee shall give written notice thereof to the Governance Professional.

## **Disqualification of Trustees**

68. A Trustee must be aged 18 or over at the date of election or appointment. No current pupil or current student of any of the Academies shall be a Trustee.
69. A Trustee shall cease to hold office if they become incapable by reason of illness or injury of managing or administering their own affairs.
70. A Trustee shall cease to hold office if they are absent without the permission of the Trustees from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Trustees resolve that the Trustee's office be vacated.
71. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Trustee if:
- a. they have been declared bankrupt and/or their estate has been seized from



a.



## **Powers of the Trustees**

93. Subject to provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Academy Trust shall be managed by the Trustees who may exercise all the powers of the Academy Trust. No alteration of the Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Trustees which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Trustees by the Articles and a meeting of Trustees at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Trustees.



interests of the Academy Trust and any duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest).

98. For the purpose of Article 97, a Trustee has a Personal Financial Interest in the employment or remuneration of, or the provision of any other benefits, if a Trustee as permitted by and as defined by Articles 6.5-6.8A.

## **The minutes**

99.

104. The functions, duties and proceedings of the Local Governing Bodies / Local Advisory Bodies or committees shall be subject to regulations made by the Trustees from time to time. Local Governing Bodies / Local Advisory Bodies may also be established solely for the purpose of fulfilling an advisory function to the board of Trustees.

## **Delegation**

105. The Trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions (including the power to sub-delegate) to any Trustee, committee (including any Local Governing Body / Local Advisory Body), the Chief Executive Officer or any other holder of an executive office. Any such delegation shall be made in writing and subject to any conditions the Trustees may impose, and may be revoked or altered.

105A. A Trustee, committee (including any Local Governing Body / Local Advisory Body), the Chief Executive Officer or any other holder of an executive office to whom a power

the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the Academies.

## **Meetings of the Trustees**

### **Proceedings at Trustee meetings**

108. Subject to these Articles, the Trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.

109. The Trustees shall hold at least three meetings in every school year. Meetings of the Trustees shall be convened by the Governance Professional. In exercising the functions under this Article the Governance Professional shall comply with any direction:

- a. given by the Trustees; or
- b. given by the Chair, or in their absence, the Vice-Chair, so far as such direction is not inconsistent with any direction given as mentioned in (a).

110. Any three Trustees may, by notice in writing given to the Governance Professional, requisition a meeting of the Trustees; and it shall be the duty of the Governance Professional to convene such a meeting as soon as is reasonably practicable.

111. Each Trustee shall be given at least seven clear days before the date of a meeting:

- a. notice in writing thereof by the Governance Professional, and sent to each Trustee at the address provided by each Trustee from time to time; and
- b. a copy of the agenda for the meeting,

provided that where the Chair or, in their absence, the Vice-Chair, so determines on the ground that there are matters demanding urgent consideration, it shall be sufficient if the written notice is given to the Trustee by the Governance Professional at least 48 hours before the meeting, provided that the Trustee has received a copy of the agenda for the meeting.



shall be any two-thirds (rounded up to a whole number) of the persons who are at the time Trustees present at the meeting and entitled to vote on those respective matters.

## **Voting at Trustee meetings**

120. Subject to these Articles, every question to be decided at a meeting of the Trustees shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the Trustees present and voting on the question. Every Trustee shall have one vote.

121. Subject to Articles 117-119, where there is an equal division of votes, the chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote they may have.

122. The proceedings of the Trustees shall not be invalidated by:

- a. any vacancy among their number; or
- b. any defect in the election, appointment or nomination of any Trustee.

123. A resolution in writing, which includes a resolution in electronic form, signed by all the Trustees entitled to receive notice of and vote at a meeting of Trustees or of a committee of Trustees, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of Trustees or (as the case may be) a committee of Trustees duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed or authenticated by one or more of the Trustees.

## **Making the minutes of Trustee meetings available**

124. Subject to Article 125, the Trustees shall ensure that a copy of:

- a. the agenda for every meeting of the Trustees;
- b. the draft minutes of every such meeting, if they have been approved by the person acting as chair of that meeting;
- c. the signed minutes of every such meeting; and
- d. any report, document or other paper considered at any such meeting,

are, as soon as is reasonably practicable, made available at every Academy to persons wishing to inspect them.

125. There may be excluded from any item required to be made available in pursuance of Article 124, any material relating to:

- a. a named teacher or other person employed, or proposed to be employed, at any Academy;
- b. a named pupil or named student at, or candidate for admission or referral to, any Academy; and
- c. any matter which, by reason of its nature, the Trustees are satisfied should remain confidential.

## **Participation at meetings**

126. Any Trustee shall be able to participate in meetings of the Trustees by telephone or by any suitable electronic means agreed by the Trustees and by which all those participating in the meeting are able to communicate with3(se)-2 841.92 p44ah rer 7-3(a)-3(rti)3(cipa)-



posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Proof that a notice contained in an electronic communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by The Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice shall be deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted or, in the case of a notice contained in an electronic communication, at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent.

## **Indemnity**

136. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and Article 6.3, every Trustee or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust.

## **Rules**

137. The Trustees may make such rules or bye laws as they may deem necessary or expedient or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Academy Trust including, but not limited to, how they take decisions, including the procedure at meetings, and the means of recording and communicating such rules to Trustees and Members, insofar as such rules are not already regulated by the Articles.

138. The Academy Trust in general meetings shall have power to alter, add or to repeal the rules or bye laws. No rule or bye law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Articles.

## **Avoiding influenced company status**

139. Notwithstanding the number of Members from time to time, the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by Local Authority Associated Persons shall never exceed 19.9% of the total number of votes exercisable by Members in general meeting and the votes of the other Members having a right to vote at the meeting will be increased on a pro-rata basis.

140. No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person may be appointed or elected as a Trustee if, once the appointment or election had taken effect, the number of



Trustees who are Local Authority Associated Persons would represent 20% or more of the total number of Trustees. Upon any resolution put to the Trustees, the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by any Trustees who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall represent a maximum of 19.9% of the total number of votes cast by the Trustees on such a resolution and the votes of the other Trustees having a right to vote at the meeting will be increased on a pro-rata basis.

141. No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person is eligible to be appointed or elected to the office of Trustee unless their appointment or election to such office is authorised by the local authority to which they are associated.

142. If at the time of either their becoming a Member of the Academy Trust or their first appointment or election to office as a Trustee any Member or Trustee was not a Local Authority Associated Person but later becomes so during their membership or tenure as a Trustee they shall be deemed to have immediately resigned their membership and/or resigned from their office as a Trustee as the case may be.

143. If at any time the number of Trustees or Members who are also Local Authority Associated Persons would (bmr0.051 G8ho are alsmbb9 im1 iat lusiv3(e)-3( a )3(h)6-3( )8(m)3(a)-3

**Model Memorandum of Association**

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

& COMPANIES (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS 2008 (SI 2008/3014)

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
& COMPANIES (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS 2008 (SI 2008/3014)

SCHEDULE 2

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Regulation 2(b)

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF

Avanti Schools Trust

Each subscriber to this memorandum of association wishes to form a company under the Companies Act 2006 and agrees to become a member of the company.

*Name of each subscriber Authentication by each subscriber*

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Name: Signature:

Name : Signature:

Name: Signature:

Name : Signature

Name : Signature

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Dated.....



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