

the result of a show of hands declared before the demand for the poll was made.

32. A poll shall be taken as the chairman directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be Members) and fix a time, date and place for declaring the results. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
33. A poll demanded on the election of the chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such time, date and place as the chairman directs not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll is demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
34. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time, date and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In other cases at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time, date and place at which the poll is to be taken.
35. A resolution in writing agreed by such number of Members as required if it had been proposed at a general meeting shall be as effectual as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held provided that a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every Member. The resolution may consist of several instruments in the like form each agreed by one or more Members.

## **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

36. On the show of hands every Member present in person shall have one vote. On a poll every Member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote.
37. Not used.
38. No Member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all moneys then payable by him to the Academy have been paid
39. No objections shall be raised to the qualification of any person to vote at any general meeting 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 chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

40. An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing, signed by or on behalf of the appointer and shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto as circumstances allow or in any other form which is usual or which the Governors may approve) -

"I/We, ....., of ....., being a Member/Members of the above named Academy Trust, hereby appoint ..... of ....., or in his absence, ..... of ..... as my/our proxy to vote in my/our name[s] and on my/our behalf at the annual general meeting/ general meeting of the Academy Trust to be held on .....20[ ], and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed on ..... 20[ ]"

41. Where it is desired to afford Members an opportunity of instructing the proxy how he shall act the instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form (or in a form as near thereto as circumstances allow or in any other form which is usual or which the Governors may approve)-

"I/We, ....., of ....., being a Member/Members of the above-named Academy Trust, hereby appoint .... of ....., or in his absence, ..... of ....., as my/our proxy to vote in my/our name[s] and on my/our behalf at the annual general meeting/ general meeting of the Academy Trust, 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.

- Strike out whichever is not desired.

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

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 Members 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;

(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 chairman or to the Secretary or to any Governor;

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

43. A vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be valid notwithstanding the previous determination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll unless notice of the determination was received by the Academy Trust at the office or at such other place at which the instrument of proxy was duly deposited before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote given or the poll demanded or (or in the case of a poll taken otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll.

44. Any organisation which is a Member of the Academy Trust may by resolution of its board of directors or other governing body authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Academy Trust, and the person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the organisation which he represents as that organisation could exercise if it were an individual Member of the Academy Trust.

## GOVERNORS

45. The number of Governors shall be not less than three nor more than 15 except for appointments of any Additional Governors made by the Secretary of State under Articles 62, 62A, 63 or 68A.
- 45A All Governors shall upon their appointment give a written undertaking to the Foundation Members to uphold the Object of the Academy Trust
46. Subject to Articles 48-49 and 64, the Academy Trust shall have the following Governors:
- a. Up to 4 Governors, appointed under Article 50;
  - b. Foundation Governors, appointed and/or holding office further to Article 51;
  - c. 1 Governor appointed by The Herefordshire Marches Federation of Academies (company number 07578861)
  - d. any Staff Governors, if appointed under Article 50A;
  - e. a minimum of 2 Parent Governors appointed under Articles 53-58 ;
  - f. the Principal;
  - g. any Additional Governors, if appointed under Article 62, 62A or 68A; and
  - h. any Further Governors, if appointed under Article 63 or Article 68A;
47. The Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Governor appointed under Article 59.
48. The first Governors shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006.
49. Future Governors shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Where it is not possible for such a Governor to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established or the Principal has not been appointed, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply.

## APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS

50. The Members may appoint up to 4 Governors.
- 50A. The Members may appoint Staff Governors through such process as they may determine, provided that the total number of Governors (including the Principal) who are employees of the Academy Trust does not exceed one-third of the total number of Governors.
51. The Foundation Governors shall be two persons appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education after consultation with Canon Pyon Parochial Church Council plus the principal officiating minister for the time being in the parish of Canon Pyon or in the event of there not being such an officiating minister then such person as may be appointed by the Archdeacon of Hereford (such principal officiating minister or substituted person to be treated for all purposes as an ex officio governor). Further, the Foundation Members may appoint further additional Foundation Governors provided that the total number of Foundation Governors (including ex officio Foundation Governors) would not thereby exceed 25% of the total number of Governors (excluding any Additional or Further Governors).
52. The Principal shall be treated for all purposes as being an ex officio governor.
53. Subject to Article 57, the Parent Governors shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Governor must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he is elected.
54. The Governing Body shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Governors, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at the Academy. Any election of Parent Governors which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.
55. The arrangements made for the election of a Parent Governor shall provide for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so by post or, if he prefers, by having his ballot paper returned to the Academy Trust by a registered pupil at the Academy.
56. Where a vacancy for a Parent Governor is required to be filled by election, the Governing Body shall take such steps as are reasonably practical to secure that every person who is known to them to be a parent of a registered pupil at the

Academy is informed of the vacancy and that it is required to be filled by election, informed that he is entitled to stand as a candidate, and vote at the election, and given an opportunity to do so.

57. The number of Parent Governors required shall be made up by Parent Governors appointed by the Governing Body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.
58. In appointing a Parent Governor the Governing Body shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at the Academy; or where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age.

### **CO-OPTED GOVERNORS**

59. The Governors may appoint up to 2 Co-opted Governors. A 'Co-opted Governor' means a person who is appointed to be a Governor by being Co-opted by Governors who have not themselves been so appointed. The Governors may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Governor if thereby the number of Governors who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Governors (including the Principal).

### **APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL GOVERNORS**

60. The Secretary of State may give a warning notice to the Governors (which he shall copy to the Diocesan Board of Education) where he is satisfied—
  - i) that the standards of performance of pupils at the Academy are unacceptably low, or
  - ii) that there has been a serious breakdown in the way the Academy is managed or governed, or
  - iii) that the safety of pupils or staff of the Academy is threatened (whether by a breakdown of discipline or otherwise).
61. For the purposes of Article 60 a 'warning notice' is a notice in writing by the Secretary of State to the Academy Trust delivered to the Office setting out—
  - a) the matters referred to in Article 60 ;
  - b) the action which he requires the Governors to take in order to remedy those

matters; and

c) the period within which that action is to be taken by the Governors ('the compliance period').

62. The Secretary of State may appoint such Additional Governors as he thinks fit (after consultation with the Diocesan Board of Education) if the Secretary of State has:

a) given the Governors a warning notice in accordance with Article 60 ; and

b) the Governors have failed to comply, or secure compliance, with the notice to the Secretary of State's satisfaction within the compliance period.

62A The Secretary of State may also appoint such Additional Governors (after consultation with the Diocesan Board of Education) where following an Inspection by the Chief Inspector in accordance with the Education Act 2005 (an "Inspection") the Academy Trust receives an Ofsted grading (being a grade referred to in The Framework for School Inspection or any modification or replacement of that document for the time being in force) which amounts to a drop, either from one Inspection to the next Inspection or between any two Inspections carried out within a 5 year period, of two Ofsted grades. For the purposes of the foregoing the grade received by Canon Pyon C of E Primary School shall be regarded as the grade received by the Academy.

63. The Secretary of State may also appoint such Further Governors as he thinks fit (after consultation with the Diocesan Board of Education) if a Special Measures Termination Event (as defined in the Funding Agreement) occurs in respect of the Academy.

64. Within 5 days of the Secretary of State appointing any Additional or Further Governors in accordance with Articles 62, 62A or 63, any Governors appointed under Article 50 and holding office immediately preceding the appointment of such Governors, shall resign immediately and the Members' power to appoint Governors under Article 50 shall remain suspended until the Secretary of State removes one or more of the Additional or Further Governors.

## **TERM OF OFFICE**

65. The term of office for any Governor shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not

apply to the Principal and the principal officiating minister for the time being in the parish of Canon Pyon (or person substituted for the principal officiating minister in accordance with Article 51). Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor may be re-appointed or re-elected.

## **RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL**

66. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he resigns his office by notice to the Academy Trust (but only if at least three Governors will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect).
67. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he is removed by the person or persons who appointed him. This Article does not apply in respect of a Parent Governor.
68. Where a Governor resigns his office or is removed from office, the Governor or, where he is removed from office, those removing him, shall give written notice thereof to the Secretary.
- 68A. Where an Additional or Further Governor appointed pursuant to Articles 62, 62A or 63 ceases to hold office as a Governor for any reason, other than being removed by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall be entitled to appoint an Additional or Further Governor in his place.

## **DISQUALIFICATION OF GOVERNORS**

69. No person shall be qualified to be a Governor unless he is aged 18 or over at the date of his election or appointment. No current pupil of the Academy shall be a Governor.
70. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing or administering his own affairs.
71. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he is absent without the permission of the Governors from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the Governors resolve that his office be vacated.
72. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if—

- a) his estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
  - b) he is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order; or
  - c) notice has been served upon such person pursuant to Article 13A.
73. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor at any time when he is subject to a disqualification order or a disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 or to an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order).
74. A Governor shall cease to hold office if he ceases to be a Governor by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act 2006 or is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision).
75. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if he has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which he was responsible or to which he was privy, or which he by his conduct contributed to or facilitated.
76. A person shall be disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a Governor at any time when he is:
- a) included in the list kept by the Secretary of State under section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1999; or
  - b) disqualified from working with children in accordance with Section 35 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; or
  - c) barred from regulated activity relating to children (within the meaning of section 3(2) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006); or
  - d) unwilling to give the undertaking required pursuant to Article 45A when requested in writing to provide this by the Foundation Members,; or

e) a person who has previously been disqualified from being a governor of a Church of England designated school.

77. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if he is a person in respect of whom a direction has been made under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 or is subject to any prohibition or restriction which takes effect as if contained in such a direction.
78. A person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor where he has, at any time, been convicted of any criminal offence, excluding any that have been spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as amended, and excluding any offence for which the maximum sentence is a fine or a lesser sentence except where a person has been convicted of any offence which falls under section 72 of the Charities Act 1993.
79. After the Academy has opened, a person shall be disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a Governor if he has not provided to the chairman of the Governors a criminal records certificate at an enhanced disclosure level under section 113B of the Police Act 1997. In the event that the certificate discloses any information which would in the opinion of either the chairman or the Principal confirm their unsuitability to work with children that person shall be disqualified. If a dispute arises as to whether a person shall be disqualified, a referral shall be made to the Secretary of State to determine the matter. The determination of the Secretary of State shall be final.
80. Where, by virtue of these Articles a person becomes disqualified from holding, or continuing to hold office as a Governor; and he is, or is proposed, to become such a Governor, he shall upon becoming so disqualified give written notice of that fact to the Secretary.
81. Articles 69 to 80 and Articles 98-99 also apply to any member of any committee of the Governors who is not a Governor.

## **SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNORS**

82. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Governors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them. The Secretary shall not be a Governor or a Principal. Notwithstanding this Article, the Governors may, where the Secretary fails

to attend a meeting of theirs, appoint any one of their number or any other person to act as Secretary for the purposes of that meeting.

#### **CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNORS**

83. The Governors shall each school year, at their first meeting in that year, elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among their number. A Governor who is employed by the Academy Trust shall not be eligible for election as chairman or vice-chairman.
84. Subject to Article 85, the chairman or vice-chairman shall hold office as such until the start of the first meeting of the Governors in the following school year.
85. The chairman or vice-chairman may at any time resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Secretary. The chairman or vice-chairman shall cease to hold office if—
- a) he ceases to be a Governor;
  - b) he is employed by the Academy Trust;
  - c) he is removed from office in accordance with these Articles; or
  - d) in the case of the vice-chairman, he is elected in accordance with these Articles to fill a vacancy in the office of chairman.
86. Where by reason of any of the matters referred to in Article 85, a vacancy arises in the office of chairman or vice-chairman, the Governors shall at their next meeting elect one of their number to fill that vacancy until the start of the first meeting of the Governors in the following school year.
87. Where the chairman is absent from any meeting or there is at the time a vacancy in the office of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall act as the chair for the purposes of the meeting.
88. Where in the circumstances referred to in Article 87 the vice-chairman is also absent from the meeting or there is at the time a vacancy in the office of vice-chairman, the Governors shall elect one of their number to act as a chairman for the purposes of that meeting, provided that the Governor elected shall not be a person who is employed by the Academy Trust.
89. The Secretary shall act as chairman during that part of any meeting at which the

chairman is elected.

90. Any election of the chairman or vice-chairman which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.
91. The Governors may remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office in accordance with these Articles.
92. A resolution to remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office which is passed at a meeting of the Governors shall not have effect unless—
  - a) it is confirmed by a resolution passed at a second meeting of the Governors held not less than fourteen days after the first meeting; and
  - b) the matter of the chairman's or vice-chairman's removal from office is specified as an item of business on the agenda for each of those meetings.
93. Before the Governors resolve at the relevant meeting on whether to confirm the resolution to remove the chairman or vice-chairman from office, the Governor or Governors proposing his removal shall at that meeting state their reasons for doing so and the chairman or vice-chairman shall be given an opportunity to make a statement in response.

## **POWERS OF GOVERNORS**

94. 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 Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors by the Articles and a meeting of Governors at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Governors.
95. In addition to all powers hereby expressly conferred upon them and without detracting from the generality of their powers under the Articles the Governors shall have the following powers, namely:
  - a) to expend the funds of the Academy Trust in such manner as they shall consider

most beneficial for the achievement of the Object and to invest in the name of the Academy Trust such part of the funds as they may see fit and to direct the sale or transposition of any such investments and to expend the proceeds of any such sale in furtherance of the Object; and

b) to enter into contracts on behalf of the Academy Trust.

96. In the exercise of their powers and functions, the Governors may consider any advice given by the Principal and any other executive officer.

97. Any bank account in which any money of the Academy Trust is deposited shall be operated by the Governors in the name of the Academy Trust. All cheques and orders for the payment of money from such an account shall be signed by at least two signatories authorised by the Governors.

## **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

98. Any Governor who has or can have any direct or indirect duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest) which conflicts or may conflict with his duties as a Governor shall disclose that fact to the Governors as soon as he becomes aware of it. A Governor must absent himself from any discussions of the Governors in which it is possible that a conflict will arise between his duty to act solely in the interests of the Academy Trust and any duty or personal interest (including but not limited to any Personal Financial Interest).

99. For the purpose of Article 98, a Governor has a Personal Financial Interest in the employment or remuneration of, or the provision of any other benefit to, that Governor as permitted by and as defined by articles 6.5-6.9.

## **THE MINUTES**

100. The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Governors shall be drawn up and entered into a book kept for the purpose by the person acting as Secretary for the purposes of the meeting; and shall be signed (subject to the approval of the Governors) at the same or next subsequent meeting by the person acting as chairman thereof. The minutes shall include a record of:

a) all appointments of officers made by the Governors; and

b) all proceedings at meetings of the Academy Trust and of the Governors and of

committees of Governors including the names of the Governors present at each such meeting.

## **COMMITTEES**

101. Subject to these Articles, the Governors may establish any committee. Subject to these Articles, the constitution, membership and proceedings of any committee shall be determined by the Governors. The establishment, terms of reference, constitution and membership of any committee of the Governors shall be reviewed at least once in every twelve months. The membership of any committee of the Governors may include persons who are not Governors, provided that a majority of members of any such committee shall be Governors. The Governors may determine that some or all of the members of a committee who are not Governors shall be entitled to vote in any proceedings of the committee. No vote on any matter shall be taken at a meeting of a committee of the Governors unless the majority of members of the committee present are Governors.

## **DELEGATION**

102. The Governors may delegate to any Governor, committee, the Principal or any other holder of an executive office, such of their powers or functions as they consider desirable to be exercised by them. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions the Governors may impose and may be revoked or altered.
103. Where any power or function of the Governors is exercised by any committee, any Governor, Principal or any other holder of an executive office, that person or committee shall report to the Governors in respect of any action taken or decision made with respect to the exercise of that power or function at the meeting of the Governors immediately following the taking of the action or the making of the decision.

## **PRINCIPAL AND STAFF**

104. The Governors shall appoint the Principal. In relation to such appointment, the Governors (after having consulted the Diocesan Director of Education and having regard to the Object) may appoint a Principal having regard to that person's ability and fitness to preserve and develop the religious character of the Academy. The Governors shall determine at the time whether the Principal is to be a Reserved Teacher. The Governors may delegate such powers and functions as they consider

are required by the Principal for the internal organisation, management and control of the Academy (including the implementation of all policies approved by the Governors and for the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the Academy).

104A. In appointing staff other than the Principal the Governors shall use their powers further to the Funding Agreement (being powers equivalent to the powers of Voluntary Controlled schools as set out sections 58 to 60 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998):

(a) so as to ensure that at least two Reserved Teachers (although the Principal may be one of the two) are appointed, and

(b) having regard to their entitlement under the Funding Agreement to appoint up to one fifth of staff as Reserved Teachers.

#### **MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNORS**

105. Subject to these Articles, the Governors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.

106. The Governors shall hold at least three meetings in every school year. Meetings of the Governors shall be convened by the Secretary. In exercising his functions under this Article the Secretary shall comply with any direction—

a) given by the Governors; or

b) given by the chairman of the Governors or, in his absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice-chairman of the Governors, so far as such direction is not inconsistent with any direction given as mentioned in (a).

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

108. Each Governor shall be given at least fourteen clear days before the date of a meeting –

a) notice in writing thereof, signed by the Secretary, and sent to each Governor at the address provided by each Governor from time to time; and

b) a copy of the agenda for the meeting;

provided that where the chairman or, in his absence or where there is a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice-chairman, so determines on the ground that there are matters demanding urgent consideration, it shall be sufficient if the written notice of a meeting, and the copy of the agenda thereof are given within such shorter period as he directs.

109. The convening of a meeting and the proceedings conducted thereat shall not be invalidated by reason of any individual not having received written notice of the meeting or a copy of the agenda thereof.
110. A resolution to rescind or vary a resolution carried at a previous meeting of the Governors shall not be proposed at a meeting of the Governors unless the consideration of the rescission or variation of the previous resolution is a specific item of business on the agenda for that meeting.
111. A meeting of the Governors shall be terminated forthwith if—
  - (a) the Governors so resolve; or
  - (b) the number of Governors present ceases to constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Governors in accordance with Article 114 , subject to Article 116 .
112. Where in accordance with Article 111 a meeting is not held or is terminated before all the matters specified as items of business on the agenda for the meeting have been disposed of, a further meeting shall be convened by the Secretary as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within seven days of the date on which the meeting was originally to be held or was so terminated.
113. Where the Governors resolve in accordance with Article 111 to adjourn a meeting before all the items of business on the agenda have been disposed of, the Governors shall before doing so determine the time and date at which a further meeting is to be held for the purposes of completing the consideration of those items, and they shall direct the Secretary to convene a meeting accordingly.
114. Subject to Article 116 the quorum for a meeting of the Governors, and any vote on any matter thereat, shall be any three Governors, or, where greater, any one third (rounded up to a whole number) of the total number of Governors holding office at the date of the meeting. If the Secretary of State has appointed Additional or Further Governors then a majority of the quorum must be made up of Additional or Further

Governors.

115. The Governors may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the numbers of Governors is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing Governors may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.
116. The quorum for the purposes of—
- a) appointing a parent Governor under Article 57;
  - b) any vote on the removal of a Governor in accordance with Article 67;
  - c) any vote on the removal of the chairman of the Governors in accordance with Article 91;
- shall be any two-thirds (rounded up to a whole number) of the persons who are at the time Governors entitled to vote on those respective matters.
117. Subject to these Articles, every question to be decided at a meeting of the Governors shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the Governors present and voting on the question. Every Governor shall have one vote.
118. Subject to Article 114-116, where there is an equal division of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
119. The proceedings of the Governors shall not be invalidated by
- a. any vacancy among their number; or
  - b. any defect in the election, appointment or nomination of any Governor.
120. A resolution in writing, signed by all the Governors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Governors or of a committee of Governors, shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of Governors or (as the case may be) a committee of Governors duly convened and held. Such a resolution may consist of several documents in the same form, each signed by one or more of the Governors.
121. Subject to Article 122, the Governors shall ensure that a copy of:
- a. the agenda for every meeting of the Governors;

- b. the draft minutes of every such meeting, if they have been approved by the person acting as chairman 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 the Academy to persons wishing to inspect them.

122. There may be excluded from any item required to be made available in pursuance of Article 121, any material relating to—

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

123. Any Governor shall be able to participate in meetings of the Governors by telephone or video conference provided that:

- a. he has given notice of his intention to do so detailing the telephone number on which he can be reached and/or appropriate details of the video conference suite from which he shall be taking part at the time of the meeting at least 48 hours before the meeting; and
- b. the Governors have access to the appropriate equipment if after all reasonable efforts it does not prove possible for the person to participate by telephone or video conference the meeting may still proceed with its business provided it is otherwise quorate.

## **PATRONS AND HONORARY OFFICERS**

124. The Governors may from time to time appoint any person whether or not a Member of the Academy Trust to be a patron of the Academy Trust or to hold any honorary office and may determine for what period he is to hold such office.

## **THE SEAL**

125. The seal, if any, shall only be used by the authority of the Governors or of a committee of Governors authorised by the Governors. The Governors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a Governor and by the Secretary or by a second Governor.

## **ACCOUNTS**

126. Accounts shall be prepared in accordance with the relevant Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was a non-exempt charity and Parts 15 and 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and shall file these with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

127. The Governors shall prepare its Annual Report in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was a non-exempt charity and shall file these with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year.

## **ANNUAL RETURN**

128. The Governors shall comply with their obligations under Part 24 of the Companies Act 2006 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the preparation of an annual return to the Registrar of Companies and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Academy Trust was a non-exempt charity and to the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year.

## **NOTICES**

129. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of the Governors) shall be in writing or shall be given using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice. In these Articles, "Address" in relation to electronic communications, includes a number or address used for the purposes of such communications.

130. A notice may be given by the Academy Trust to a Member either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the Member at his registered address or by leaving it at that address or by giving it using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to the Academy Trust by the Member. A Member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Academy Trust an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him, or an address to which notices may be sent using electronic communications, shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address, but otherwise no such Member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Academy Trust.
131. A Member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Academy Trust shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where necessary, of the purposes for which it was called.
132. Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and 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 Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators 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**

133. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Governor 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 him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him 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**

134. The Governors may from time to time 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, and in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, they may by such rules or bye laws regulate:

- a. the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Academy Trust's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes;
- b. the procedure at meetings of the Governors and committees of the Governors in so far as such procedure is not regulated by the Articles; and
- c. generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of company rules.

135. The Academy Trust in general meeting shall have power to alter, add or to repeal the rules or bye laws but only with the consent of the Diocesan Board of Education and the Governors shall adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring to the notice of Members of the Academy Trust all such rules or bye laws, which shall be binding on all Members of the Academy Trust. Provided that no rule or bye law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Articles.

#### **AVOIDING INFLUENCED COMPANY STATUS**

136. 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.
137. No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person may be appointed as a Governor if, once the appointment had taken effect, the number of Governors who are Local Authority Associated Persons would represent 20% or more of the total number of Governors. Upon any resolution put to the Governors, the maximum aggregate number of votes exercisable by any Governors who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall represent a maximum of 19.9% of the total number of votes cast by the Governors on such a resolution and the votes of the other Governors having a right to vote at the meeting will be increased on a pro-rata basis.
138. No person who is a Local Authority Associated Person is eligible to be appointed to the office of Governor unless his appointment to such office is authorised by the local authority to which he is associated.

139. If at the time of either his becoming a Member of the Academy Trust or his first appointment to office as a Governor any Member or Governor was not a Local Authority Associated Person but later becomes so during his membership or tenure as a Governor he shall be deemed to have immediately resigned his membership and/or resigned from his office as a Governor as the case may be.
140. If at any time the number of Governors or Members who are also Local Authority Associated Persons would (but for Articles 136 to 139 inclusive) represent 20% or more of the total number of Governors or Members (as the case may be) then a sufficient number of the Governors or Members (as the case may be) who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall be deemed to have resigned as Governors or Members (as the case may be) immediately before the occurrence of such an event to ensure that at all times the number of such Governors or Members (as the case may be) is never equal to or greater than 20% of the total number of Governors or Members (as the case may be). Governors or Members (as the case may be) who are Local Authority Associated Persons shall be deemed to have resigned in order of their appointment date the most recently appointed resigning first.
141. The Members will each notify the Academy Trust and each other if at any time they believe that the Academy Trust or any of its subsidiaries has become subject to the influence of a local authority (as described in section 69 of the Local Government and Housing Act).

## Annex B

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO THE CANON PYON CE ACADEMY

#### GENERAL

1. This annex may be amended in writing at any time by agreement between the Secretary of State and the Academy Trust.
2. Except as provided in paragraphs 2A to 2B below the Academy Trust will act in accordance with, and will ensure that an Independent Appeal Panel is trained to act in accordance with, all relevant provisions of the School Admissions Code, and the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education ("the Codes") as they apply at any given time to maintained schools and with equalities law and the law on admissions as they apply to maintained schools. For this purpose, reference in the Codes or legislation to "admission authorities" shall be deemed to be references to the governing body of the Academy Trust.

2A The Academy Trust is permitted to determine admission arrangements (subject to consultation in accordance with the School Admissions Code) that give priority for admission (but not above looked after children and previously looked after children<sup>1</sup>) to other children attracting the pupil premium, including the service premium ("the pupil premium admission criterion"). Where an Academy Trust exercises this freedom it will provide information in its admission arrangements of eligibility for the premiums.

2B For the purposes of applying the pupil premium admission criterion only, sections 1.9(f) and 2.4(a) of the School Admissions Code do not apply insofar as they prevent admission authorities from giving priority to children according to the financial or occupational status of parents or using supplementary forms that ask for:

- any personal details about their financial status; or
- whether parents are serving in the armed forces (of any nation), stationed in England, and exercising parental care and responsibility for the child in question.

3. Notwithstanding the generality of paragraph 2 of this Annex, the Academy Trust will participate in the co-ordinated admission arrangements operated by the Local Authority (LA) and the local Fair Access Protocol.

4. Notwithstanding any provision in this Annex, the Secretary of State may:

- (a) direct the Academy Trust to admit a named pupil to the Canon Pyon CE Academy on application from an LA. This will include complying

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in the School Admissions Code.

with a School Attendance Order<sup>2</sup>. Before doing so the Secretary of State will consult the Academy Trust;

- (b) direct the Academy Trust to admit a named pupil to the Canon Pyon CE Academy if the Academy Trust has failed to act in accordance with this Annex or has otherwise failed to comply with applicable admissions and equalities legislation or the provisions of the Codes;
- (c) direct the Academy Trust to amend its admission arrangements where they fail to comply with the School Admissions Code or the School Admission Appeals Code.

4A. Canon Pyon CE Academy is a Church of England Academy in the Diocese of Herefordshire.

5. The Academy Trust shall ensure that parents and 'relevant children'<sup>3</sup> will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the Academy Trust. The Independent Appeal Panel will be independent of the Academy Trust. The arrangements for appeals will comply with the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education as it applies to Foundation and Voluntary Aided schools. The determination of the appeal panel is binding on all parties.

### **Relevant Area**

6. Subject to paragraph 7, the meaning of "Relevant Area" for the purposes of consultation requirements in relation to admission arrangements is that determined by the local authority for maintained schools in the area in accordance with the Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation on Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999.

7. If the Academy does not consider the relevant area determined by the local authority for the maintained schools in the area to be appropriate, it must apply to the Secretary of State by 1 August for a determination of the appropriate relevant area for the Academy, setting out the reasons for this view. The Secretary of State will consult the Academy and the LA in which the Academy is situated in reaching a decision.

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<sup>2</sup> Local authorities are able to issue school attendance orders if a child is not attending school. These are legally binding upon parents. Such an order might, for instance, be appropriate where a child has a place at an Academy but his/her parents are refusing to send him/her to school. The order will require a parent to ensure his/her child attends a specified school.

<sup>3</sup> 'relevant children' means:

- a) in the case of appeals for entry to a sixth form, the child, and;
- b) in any other case, children who are above compulsory school age, or will be above compulsory school age by the time they start to receive education at the school.

## **Requirement to admit pupils**

8. Pupils on roll in any predecessor maintained or independent school will transfer automatically to the Academy on opening. All children already offered a place at any predecessor school will be admitted.

9. The Academy will:

- a. subject to its right of appeal to the Secretary of State in relation to a named pupil, admit all pupils with a statement of special educational needs naming the Academy; and
- b. determine admission oversubscription criteria that give highest priority to looked after children and previously looked after children, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the School Admissions Code.

## **Oversubscription criteria, admission number, consultation, determination and objections.**

10. The Academy admission arrangements will include oversubscription criteria, and an admission number for each relevant age group<sup>4</sup>. The Academy will consult on its admission arrangements and determine them in line with the requirements within the School Admissions Code.

11. The Office of the School's Adjudicator (OSA) will consider objections to the Academy's admission arrangements<sup>5</sup>. The Academy Trust should therefore make it clear, when determining the Academy's admission arrangements, that objections should be submitted to the OSA.

12. A determination of an objection by the OSA will be binding upon the Academy and the Academy Trust will make appropriate changes as quickly as possible.

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<sup>4</sup> 'Relevant age group' means 'normal point of admission to the school, for example, year R, Year 7 and Year 12.

<sup>5</sup> The OSA has no jurisdiction to consider objections against the agreed variation from the Codes set out in paragraphs 2A and 2B.

## **Arrangements for pupils with Special Educational Needs ('SEN') and disabilities at Canon Pyon CE Academy**

### **Duties in relation to pupils with SEN**

1. The Governing Body of the Academy Trust must comply with all of the duties imposed upon the governing bodies of maintained schools in:
  - Part 4 of the Education Act 1996 as amended from time to time<sup>1</sup>;
  - The Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999 as amended from time to time;
  - The Education (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 as amended from time to time<sup>2</sup>.
2. Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement, the Secretary of State may (whether following a complaint made to him or otherwise) direct the Academy Trust to comply with an obligation described in this Annex where the Academy Trust has failed to comply with any such obligation.
3. Where a child who has SEN is being educated in the Academy, those concerned with making special educational provision for the child must secure that the child engages in the activities of the school together with children who do not have SEN, so far as is reasonably practicable and is compatible with:
  - (a) the child receiving the special educational provision which his learning difficulty calls for,
  - (b) the provision of efficient education for the children with whom he will be educated, and
  - (c) the efficient use of resources.
4. In addition to complying with the duties imposed upon the governing bodies of maintained schools set out in The Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999 (as amended from time to time), the Academy Trust must ensure that the Academy's website includes details of the implementation of its policy for pupils with special educational needs; the arrangements for the admission of disabled pupils; the steps taken to prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favourably than other pupils; and the facilities provided to assist access to the Academy by disabled pupils (disabled pupils meaning pupils who are disabled for the purposes of the Equality Act

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<sup>1</sup> Currently these duties are in sections 313 (Duty to have regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2001); 317 (Duties in relation to pupils with special educational needs), 317A (Duty to advise parents that special educational provision is being made); and 324(5)(b) (Duty to admit the child where a school is named in the statement).

<sup>2</sup> These Regulations are amended by The Education (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009 No 1387).

2010<sup>3</sup>).

## **Admissions**

5. The Academy Trust must ensure that pupils with SEN are admitted on an equal basis with others in accordance with its admissions policy.
6. Where a local authority ("LA") proposes to name the Academy in a statement of SEN made in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996, it must give the Academy Trust written notice that it so proposes. Within 15 days of receipt of the LA's notice that it proposes to name the Academy in a statement, the Academy Trust must consent to being named, except where admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education for other children; and where no reasonable steps may be made to secure compatibility. In deciding whether a child's inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children, the Academy Trust must have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State to maintained schools.
7. If the Academy Trust determines that admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education, it must, within 15 days of receipt of the LA's notice, notify the LA in writing that it does not agree that the Academy should be named in the pupil's statement. Such notice must set out all the facts and matters the Academy relies upon in support of its contention that: (a) admitting the child would be incompatible with efficiently educating other children; and (b) the Academy Trust cannot take reasonable steps to secure this compatibility.
8. After service by the Academy Trust on the LA of any notice (further to paragraph 7 above) stating that it does not agree with the LA's proposal that the Academy be named, the Academy Trust must seek to establish from the LA, as soon as is reasonably practicable, whether or not the LA agrees with the Academy Trust. If the LA notifies the Academy that it does not agree with the Academy Trust's response, and names the Academy in the child's statement, the Academy Trust must admit the child to the school on the date specified in the statement or on the date specified by the LA.
9. Where the Academy Trust considers that the Academy should not have been named in a child's statement, they may ask the Secretary of State to determine that the LA has acted unreasonably in naming the Academy and to make an order directing the LA to reconsider.
10. The Secretary of State's determination shall, subject only to any right of appeal which any parent or guardian of the child may have to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), be final.
11. If a parent or guardian of a child in respect of whom a statement is maintained by the local authority appeals to the First-tier Tribunal

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<sup>3</sup> For the meaning of 'disabled', see section 6 of the Equality Act 2010.

(Special Educational Needs and Disability) either against the naming of the Academy in the child's SEN statement or asking the Tribunal to name the Academy, then the decision of the Tribunal on any such appeal shall be binding and shall, if different from that of the Secretary of State under paragraph 9 above, be substituted for the Secretary of State's decision.

12. Where the Academy, the Secretary of State or the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) have determined that it should be named, the Academy Trust shall admit the child to the Academy notwithstanding any provision of Annex B to this agreement.