

Summary Information about Trusteeship 2024/2025

Information about the Trust

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The Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust operates 28 primary schools in the Diocese of Salisbury, across Wiltshire and Dorset. We have almost 5,000 pupils on roll.

We work through our values of *love, hope and joy*. Our vision statement - *'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'* - is brought to life through our Strategy 2030:

- growing thriving Christian schools
- enabling all to flourish
- serving communities
- collaborating for excellence.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- **strategic leadership of the Trust** - defining the trust vision, establishing and fostering the trust's culture, setting and championing the trust strategy
- **accountability and assurance** - robust effective oversight of the operations and performance of the Trust including education, pupil welfare, effective financial performance and keeping the estate safe and well-maintained
- **engagement** - strategic oversight of relationships with stakeholders, involving parents, schools and communities.

The Board of Trustees normally meets five times per year, including one strategy day.

Each of our four Board committees meets three times per year. All Trustees serve on at least one committee:

- Audit and Risk – internal and external audit and oversight of the risk register
- People – personnel and pay considerations
- Standards and Ethos – oversight of education and safeguarding
- Stewardship – oversight of financial policy and performance including budgeting.

The Board of Trustees devolves responsibility for day-to-day management of the Trust to the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT comprises the Chief Executive, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, Deputy Chief Executive, and the Business Support Administrator. The Board is advised and supported by the Head of Governance and Compliance, and a team of Governance Professionals.

Our Academy Improvement Team operates under the leadership of our Deputy CEO. Our Trust Improvement Model provides a template for the Trust's support and intervention in our schools.

Local governance in our schools is maintained through Academy Standards and Ethos Committees (ASECs), with responsibility for local oversight of schools' educational performance and safeguarding. We support our schools through centralised financial and premises administration.

Our schools are organised into five regional 'hubs'. Each term, ASEC chairs meet together with designated Trustees as Hub Committees, to exchange information and updates, providing a bridge between local and strategic governance.

For further information about the Trust, including details of our schools, our Scheme of Delegation, our Trust Improvement Model, policies and strategic planning, please visit our [website](#).

The Role of Trustee

The role of Trustee is immensely rewarding. Working together, Trustees encourage and support our Trust and school leaders, holding them to account for the best possible experience and outcomes for all of our children and staff.

We are looking to recruit people onto our Board who can actively support our vision, values and ethos.

Experience and insight from the fields of business, communication, finance, health, human resources, premises/estates, and technology, are all of interest but not essential.

Induction and training is made available to new Trustees, suited to experience and skills. An experienced Trustee acts as mentor and every opportunity is provided for new trustees to get to know the Trust and our schools. We ask that Trustees are generally available to attend Board meetings in person, but flexibility is available around online attendance at committee meetings.

If you are interested in finding out more, please indicate use our [Expression of Interest](#) form. We will use the contact details you provide to respond.

We much look forward to hearing from you.

Siân Thornton

Chair, Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust

