



Cornovii Trust – Alsager School Local Governing Board Terms of Reference and Membership 2026-2027

The Cornovii Trust (TCT) is constituted as a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) which has more than one Local Governing Body (LGB) reporting to the Board of Trustees.

These are the main responsibilities and terms of reference of the Local Governing Board. These terms of reference should be read alongside the Cornovii Trust's scheme of delegation.

Each Local Governing Board shall comprise of between 9 and 12 members unless otherwise agreed by the Trust Board.

Membership as of September/October 2026

No.	Name	Role/Position on LGB	Link responsibility
1	Mrs A Wheaver/	Co-Chair of Governors Appointed by LGB	Safeguarding Link Governor
2	Mr R Fisher	Co-Chair of Governors Appointed by LGB	Careers Link Governor
3	Mrs A O'Neill	Headteacher	
4	Vasos Bata	Appointed by Board	
5	Andrew Bennett	Appointed by Board Vice Chair of Governors	
6	David Edwards	Appointed by Board	
7	Colin Christian	Appointed by Board	Attendance Link Governor H&S Link Governor
8	Mark Bayley	Appointed by Board	
9	Andrew Cliffe	Appointed by Board	Priority Link Governor
10	Harriette Instrell Rebecca Howeltt	Staff Governor	Term ends 20/09/2026 Term starts 20/09/2026
11	Laura Carrigg Christian Marper	Staff Governor	Term ends 06/10/2026 Term starts 06/10/2026
12	Finty Clarke	Staff Governor	
13	David Dunne	Parent governor	SEN/LAC Link governor
14	Stephen Bailey	Parent governor	

Role of the Local Governing Body

The Local Governing Body (LGB) shall fulfil its role pursuant to Articles 100–104 and in accordance with the Trust's Scheme of Delegation.

The LGB provides focused governance at school level, operating within the framework of the Trust as a single legal entity, where ultimate accountability remains with the Trust Board.

The LGB will:

- Act within delegated authority from the Trust Board
- Focus on school-level oversight, scrutiny and local governance
- Provide assurance to the CEO and Trust Board on school performance and compliance
- Ensure decisions are taken in line with Trust policies and statutory requirements

Chair/Vice Chair of LGB

The Governors shall appoint a Chair and Vice Chair annually following an election within the Local Board of Governors in the autumn term.

- LGB meetings will be chaired by the Chair of Governors
- In the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair will chair the meeting on his/her behalf

Role of the Chair of the LGB

The Chair of the LGB has a fundamental role in leading the business of the LGB and providing an essential communication link between the LGB and the Trust Board.

Core Functions of the LGB

1. Strategy, Ethos and Direction (School Level)

The LGB will:

- Determine and monitor the ethos and local strategic direction of the school, within the Trust's mission
- Determine and review school-level strategic objectives
- Monitor delivery of those objectives and report progress to the Trust

2. School Improvement and Educational Performance

The LGB will:

- Review and challenge the educational performance of the school
- Hold the Headteacher and leadership team to account for outcomes
- Review progress against KPIs and improvement priorities
- Determine and monitor the School Improvement Plan
- Report significant concerns or risks to the CEO and Trust Board

3. Safeguarding and Compliance

The LGB will:

- Ensure effective oversight of safeguarding arrangements
- Monitor compliance with statutory guidance and Trust policy
- Appoint a link governor for safeguarding
- Seek assurance regarding:
 - Single Central Record
 - DSL capacity
 - Safeguarding culture and effectiveness

4. Finance and Resource Oversight

The LGB will:

- Review and monitor school financial performance and management accounts
- Ensure expenditure aligns with the approved budget
- Report concerns to the CEO/CFO
- Determine school budget requirements, monitor delivery of the agreed budget and approve variances within the limits specified in the MIFP.

The LGB does not:

- Set Trust budgets
- Control overall funding allocations

5. Policies

The LGB will:

- Review and approve school-level policies, where responsibility is delegated
- Review implementation and impact of policies
- Consult on Trust-wide policies and ensure compliance once approved

The LGB must not approve policies where responsibility is retained at Trust level.

6. Curriculum and Standards

The LGB will:

- Review the effectiveness of the curriculum
- Ensure statutory requirements (including SEND) are met
- Appoint link governors (e.g. SEND, Pupil Premium)
- Monitor performance of key groups, including disadvantaged pupils (priority learners)

7. Stakeholder Engagement

The LGB will:

- Engage with parents, pupils, staff and the wider community
- Ensure stakeholder views inform decision-making
- Act as a link between the school and its community

8. Governance and Accountability

The LGB will:

- Appoint and remove governors in accordance with the Trust's delegated arrangements, Articles of Association and agreed appointment procedures
- Review its own effectiveness and skills
- Ensure governors receive appropriate training
- Maintain a register of interests and manage conflicts

The LGB is accountable to:

- The CEO
- The Trust Board

and must:

- Provide reports and assurance as required

9. Panels and Decision-Making Functions

Where delegated, the LGB will:

- Undertake panel work including:
 - Complaints
 - Admissions (appeals where delegated)
 - Exclusions
- Ensure panels operate in line with statutory guidance and Trust policy (In accordance with terms of reference provided by the trust board)

Delegated Authority and Limitations

The LGB operates under the following principles:

- The Trust Board retains ultimate accountability for all decisions
- The LGB exercises only those powers explicitly delegated
- Responsibilities fall into the following types (as defined in the Scheme):
 - Determine (limited school-level decisions)
 - Review / Challenge (primary LGB role)
 - Deliver / Report (assurance and monitoring)

Where there is ambiguity, the Scheme of Delegation takes precedence.

The LGB will exercise delegated responsibilities relating to school hours, term dates and health and safety oversight in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.

Chair's Action

The Chair may take urgent action on behalf of the LGB:

- In consultation with the Headteacher
- Within delegated authority
- Reported to the next LGB meeting

Delegation of functions and committees

The Local Governing Body may establish sub-committees and/or link governors as it considers desirable to carry out its responsibilities. The powers of any such committees, their terms of reference and membership shall be determined by the Local Governing Body.

Clerk

The Clerk to Governors shall be appointed by the LGB.

Quorum

The quorum for meetings of the LGB and for any vote on a matter at such meetings is one half of the total number of Local Governors in office at that time (rounded up to the nearest whole number).

Meetings

The LGB shall meet as often as is necessary to fulfil their responsibilities and not less than three times in every school year. The Clerk will record minutes of meeting in sufficient time for inclusion on the agenda and among the supporting papers for the next meeting of the Board.

Agendas & Supporting Papers

The Clerk shall circulate in advance an agenda for each meeting, together with any supporting papers, in order to give all Governors sufficient time to familiarise themselves with the papers.

Decisions

Decisions may only be taken by the LGB. When required each question shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Governors present and voting on the question. Every Governor will have one vote. Where necessary, the Chair will have a second or casting vote.

Code of Conduct

All Governors agree to sign up to the LGB Governor Code of conduct.