Governance within the
Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust
2017-2018
Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust
Governance Structure

Sponsor (Diocesan Board of Education)

Members (MAT Company)
- The Bishop of Coventry,
- The Diocesan Board of Education Corporate, represented by the Diocesan Director of Education
- The Chair of the DBE,
- The Chair of the DBE Business Committee,
- One person nominated by the Bishop of Coventry,
- The Chair of the MAT Board

Directors (MAT Executive Board)
- Minimum of 5 Directors, appointed by the Members
- Chief Executive Officer of Multi Academy Trust
- Company Secretary

Local Governing Body
- 12 governors including:
  - 3 elected parents
  - 3 staff governors
  - 3 community governors
  - 3 foundation governors

Local Governing Body
- 12 governors including:
  - 3 elected parents
  - 3 staff governors
  - 3 community governors
  - 3 foundation governors

Local Governing Body
- 8 governors including:
  - 2 elected parents
  - 2 staff governors
  - 2 community governors
  - 2 foundation governors

Mechanism for Governance

Memorandum and Articles of Association between the MAT and the Secretary of State for Education setting out the funding agreement

Scheme of Delegation between MAT Board and Academies establishing reporting and operating structures

Terms of Reference setting out roles and responsibilities of the Local Governing Bodies
The Diocesan Board of Education is responsible for 75 church schools and academies across Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull. As an academy sponsor the Diocesan Board of Education has received approval from the Department for Education (DfE) to establish a multi-academy trust to support schools requiring a sponsor to become an academy within a church led multi-academy trust.

Sponsors work with the academies they support through the academy trust.
The members of the Multi Academy Trust enter into the funding agreement with the Secretary of State and are legally responsible both to the Secretary of State and to parents and pupils for the running of the Academy Trust and the academies within the Trust. They are also responsible for holding the directors to account for the running of the Trust.

The functions of the members of the Academy Trust include:

- Overseeing the achievement of the objectives of the company
- Taking part in annual and extraordinary general meetings
- Appointing and/or removing directors
- Appointing the auditors
- Signing off the company’s financial accounts and annual report

**The Right Reverend Dr Christopher Cocksworth** (The Bishop of Coventry)

Christopher Cocksworth read Theology at the University of Manchester. After teaching RS and Economics in secondary education, he trained for ordination and pursued doctoral studies. Dr Cocksworth has served in parochial and chaplaincy ministry and in theological education, latterly as Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge. In 2010 he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by the University of London for his services to education. He has written a number of books and articles in the area of Christian theology and worship with his last book, *Holding Together: Gospel, Church and Spirit* being shortlisted for the 2011 Michael Ramsey Prize. His latest book, *Seeing Jesus and being seen by Him* is SPCK’s Lent Book for 2015.

Bishop Christopher is Co-Chair of the Joint Implementation Commission of the Anglican-Methodist Covenant, and is Chair of the Faith and Order Commission of the Church of England. He entered the House of Lords in January 2013 where he contributes on international matters, education and ethics of beginning and end of life; he also seeks to give voice to life on the ground in Coventry and Warwickshire. Christopher is married to Charlotte and they have five sons, two daughters-in-law, and an eighteen-month old granddaughter. Among his hobbies, is organic fruit and vegetable gardening, and although a latecomer this is increasingly becoming quite a passion.
**Canon Linda Wainscot** (Diocesan Director of Education)

Linda is the Diocesan Director of Education responsible for 75 Schools across the Diocese. Currently the Diocese has over 80% of the Schools which are good or outstanding. Linda has been at the forefront of the Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust from its inception and continues to advise the National Society on issues around Academies.

Linda has over 35 years’ experience in a variety of educational contexts with teaching and leadership experience in Secondary, Primary, Teacher training and Further Education. As DDE, Linda serves on the National Executive Committee of the Association of Anglican Directors of Education.

**The Reverend Elaine Scrivens** (Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education)

Elaine is a former teacher and school chaplain. She is passionate about education and the role that Church Schools play. She is particularly interested in SIAMS and Collective Worship.

**Mrs Ruth Marlow** (Bishop’s Nominee)

Ruth was born and brought up in Sheffield before going to the University of Birmingham where she studied biological sciences and geography. After completing her degree Ruth moved to Nottingham and joined Nottingham City Council where she worked in the council’s Housing Department. In 1985 Ruth qualified as a member of the Chartered Institute of Housing. Ruth continued her career in Housing over the next twelve years, before becoming the Chief Executive of North Kesteven District Council in Lincolnshire and then Managing Director of Mansfield District Council. In these roles Ruth focused on organisational development and service improvement as well as staff training and development. She qualified as an Executive Coach and Leadership Mentor in 2010.

In 2014 Ruth became a trustee of TNT – Transforming Notts Together – a member of the CUF Together Network. Here her keen interest in housing and homelessness issues were put to good use in helping to establish and develop TNT’s cold weather night shelter project in Mansfield. In September 2016 Ruth was appointed to be the Diocesan Secretary for the Diocese of Coventry.

**Peter Law** (Chair of the Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust)

Peter is a retired solicitor and local government lawyer. Peter is a Founder, Trustee and the Chairman of South Warwickshire Plato Trust which provides housing for persons recovering from mental illness. Peter worked with in private practice for a number of years before bringing his property experience to head up Leicestershire’s Conveyance department.
Peter has been involved in the conversion of a number of schools to academies within Leicestershire and brings an enormous amount of legal expertise, especially around property.

Mrs Sybil Hanson (Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education Business Committee)

Sybil has a mathematics degree from Manchester University and has been teaching since 1961. After moving to Coventry she spent 25 years at Blue Coat CofE School, initially as Head of Mathematics and later as Deputy Head from 1977. Sybil retired from teaching in 1997 and became a Diocesan Board of Education member, setting up a DBE Visitor Scheme to support all the Diocesan church schools.

Sybil has been involved with school governance since 1997 including the role of chair at two of our Diocesan church schools. She is currently vice chair at St John’s CofE Academy. Sybil also represents the DBE on Coventry City Education & Children’s Scrutiny Board, both Coventry and Warwickshire School Forums and is chair Coventry School Forum.
The Executive Board of the Multi Academy Trust, fulfilling the role of both directors under company law and trustees under charity law, exercise the powers and carry out the duties of the Multi-Academy Trust. The Board of Directors are responsible to the members of the Multi-Academy Trust as well as the parents, pupils and staff at the academies. Directors may also be known as governors of the Trust.

The directors are responsible for the three core governance functions – setting the strategic direction of the Trust and the academies within the Trust, holding the Headteachers to account and ensuring financial probity. Directors work with the local governing bodies to ensure the quality of education and financial management provided at each academy.

Two committees operate under the MAT Board. The **Academy Effectiveness Committee** monitors academy performance, Christian distinctiveness and pupil welfare. The **Resources Committee** focuses on finance, buildings and staffing issues.

**Peter Law (Chair)** (see Members information)

**David Morris – Chief Executive Officer** - David joined the Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy trust from another national Academy sponsor, Landau Forte Charitable Trust, where he was in charge of Operations and Projects for three years opening 5 schools over this time, including two new school buildings through the old Building Schools for the Future schemes. David previously spent ten years as an Officer in the British Army serving in a number of hot spots across the world including Northern Ireland, Bosnia and latterly Afghanistan. When he left the Arm he ran a number of large multi-million pound contracts, providing all the cultural support and training for troops deploying to Afghanistan.

**Andrew Armbrister** - Andrew recently retired from a senior position at RBS where he was an executive-level Programme, Risk and Controls Director. He has a strong background in Change leadership, business improvement and practical Corporate and Commercial Banking. He is a specialist in Operational Risk and Credit Risk oversight, the development and the implementation of Risk Assessment and Control frameworks and policies across large populations. Andrew has extensive knowledge of Financial Crime Compliance, including s166 reviews and attestation.
Mandy Coalter - Mandy joined United Learning in November 2012 having previously worked in local government, health, the voluntary sector and with schools. United Learning is one of the largest charities in the UK, running nearly 60 schools across State and Independent sectors. The Group won the HR Excellence Award for Employee Engagement in 2016. Mandy and her team also won the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development ‘HR Team of the Year’ in the Public/Third Sector in 2016. HR Magazine listed Mandy in the ‘HR Most Influential in the not for profit sector’ category in both 2015 and 2016. Mandy is a graduate in Law, a Fellow of the CIPD and is a trained Executive Coach (ILM7).

Ian Dewes - Currently the Headteacher of an outstanding infant school and National Leader of Education Ian has taught across Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in Warwickshire and Haringey, London, where he was one of the L.A.’s “Leading Teachers”. In 2012 Ian completed an M.A. in Education which focused on leadership and management in schools. Ian is interested in school governance having led governor professional development sessions at several schools on understanding achievement data and is currently undertaking a professional doctorate with a focus on governance within multi academy trusts.

Ruth Marlow (see Members information)

Roger Medwell - Roger has spent his complete career in the development and production advanced composite materials and products – including producing perhaps the first carbon fiber leaf spring in 1969. Roger joined Courtaulds Ltd., Coventry as an apprentice in 1960 and retired recently as Chairman and CEO of NP Aerospace Ltd., Coventry after leading the team for 32 years.

During this time the NP Team transformed the company from the in house moulding department of Courtaulds to a Composite and Defence Company with products in service throughout the world. Roger is Chairman of Imagineer Technologies and involved in Imagineering an independent education charity, with the aim to introduce young people of 8-16 years to the exciting world of engineering, science and technology through fun, hands-on activities and personal involvement.

John Wade - John is a Director of Bromford, a social enterprise business that helps people realise their potential through the provision of affordable homes, support and training and employment opportunities. In 2013 the company had a turnover of £160m.

John brings an expertise around social enterprise and especially an understanding of charitable structures. He has worked within the leaders around social housing for 15 years and continues to be one of the foremost experts in the country.
Canon Linda Wainscot (see Members information)

Term of office for a director is four years. The chair is elected annually.

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<tr>
<th>Academy Effectiveness Committee</th>
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For further information on the Board of Directors go to [http://www.covmat.org/The_MAT_Board](http://www.covmat.org/The_MAT_Board)
Parent and staff governors are elected, except for the Headteacher and Executive Headteacher (where appointed) who hold ex-officio staff governor positions on the local governing body. Parent governors must have a child currently at the academy to be eligible; Staff governors must be employed at the academy.

Community governors are nominated by the local governing body and appointed by the Multi Academy Trust.

Foundation governors are nominated by the parochial church council (PCC) and appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education. Foundation Governors have a specific role in preserving and developing the Christian ethos of the school. One foundation position is reserved for a member of the clergy from the parish in which the academy exists.

Term of Office for Governors is 4 years. The chair is elected annually.