

TPLT Governance Overview for Inspectors

Traditional governance roles in TPLT are divided between the board of trustees, trust leaders, and community councils. This document provides an overview of our governance arrangements. Further information and documents are available on the [TPLT website](#).

Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the 'accountable body' for the trust and its schools. The Scheme of Delegation sets out which authority the trustees choose to delegate. The board's Education Committee meets six times a year and reviews in detail:

- TPLT's education strategies
- School standards & improvement priorities
- Educational policies & compliance

Chief Executive

The Chief Executive is the lead professional for the trust and all schools. The Chief Executive is directly accountable to the Board of Trustees. The Chief Executive is supported by trust leaders including the Director of Primary Schools and Director of Secondary Schools, who oversee the trust's educational strategies supported by a specialist improvement team.

Headteacher

The Headteacher is the lead professional in the school, and is directly accountable to the Director of Primary/Secondary Schools who provides ongoing support and challenge. Standards & Priorities Reviews for each school are held with the Chief Executive, providing formal oversight of educational standards, and priorities for improvement.

Community Councillors

The local tier of governance for each TPLT school is undertaken by a Community Council. Through their representation of different stakeholder groups (parents, staff, community), Community Councillors have a strong understanding of the school and its community. The council has no direct decision making powers, but acts as a 'critical friend' to school leaders, providing a local community perspective on the activities of the school.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of children's welfare is the first duty of all adults in the trust. We therefore have special governance arrangements in place for Safeguarding and Child Protection:

- Each school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, who is accountable for Safeguarding through the Headteacher and Chief Executive to Trustees.
- The trust Safeguarding Lead provides professional governance support and challenge to DSLs, and reports through the Chief Executive to Trustees.
- Each Community Council appoints a Safeguarding Councillor who provides local perspective on safeguarding arrangements. Safeguarding Councillors meet regularly with the Trust Safeguarding Lead and the Safeguarding Trustee who reports to the Board.

Policies

All policies are trust-wide and the latest versions are on the TPLT website. Headteachers are accountable for the implementation of policies at each school. Policy implementation is monitored by trust leaders who provide feedback to the Trustees including through board committees. Where relevant, supplementary information is provided on school websites.

Inspections

Inspectors will wish to meet those responsible for governance during the course of an inspection. In TPLT, this has usually been achieved through a meeting with the Chief Executive, and a meeting with a Trustee who sits on the Education Committee along with the Chair of the Community Council.