



QUANTOCK
EDUCATION TRUST

**Trustee
Recruitment
Information Pack**

Introduction

The Quantock Education Trust (formerly known as the Haygrove Academy Trust) was created in 2016 and the founding school, Haygrove School, was joined in September 2019 by Stogursey and Spaxton C of E Primary Schools and by Sexey's School in Bruton at the beginning of October 2021. As a mixed Multi Academy Trust (MAT) we value and celebrate the diversity and distinctiveness of our schools, given the different age ranges from early years to sixth form; church and non-church status and including a boarding provision.

We are united by our joint vision and values which prioritise the life opportunities for all our children, their achievements, wellbeing and character. Relationships and meaningful and wide-ranging collaboration provide our member schools with a tangible sense of belonging, where mutual support, high expectations and agreed principles helps us to maintain a 'family' and 'one team' culture. We are proud of our children and staff, their achievements and commitment, which we seek to celebrate at every opportunity.

Our vision is To enrich life opportunities for all members of our Trust community, working and learning together with aspiration, ambition and care, in our schools and wider society

We have a governance structure consists of three layers: the Members, Trustees and Local Governors. It is designed to enable the effective delivery of the trust vision, mission and strategic aims, always prioritising the best use of resources in order to secure high educational outcomes for pupils- see Appendix 1.

We currently have four Trustee vacancies and at least one of which will be a Foundation appointment. Two of the vacancies relate to an increase in the size of the Trust Board required to enable our Growth Strategy of inviting additional schools to join our Trust who are aligned with our Vision and Values. This is therefore an exciting time to join an ambitious MAT which is looking to make a real difference to the children, schools and communities that we serve.

We are seeking to appoint individuals who are able to demonstrate in particular experience and skills in any or across the following areas: Human Resources, Legal Corporate, Business, Finance, Estate Management, PR or Strategic Partnerships. The role also requires a range of competencies and attributes which are outlined in Appendix 2.

Time commitment is **eight hours minimum per month**. Board meetings are held face to face at Haygrove School, Durleigh Road, Bridgwater, TA6 7HW with sub-committee meetings being held virtually.

For a more detailed description of the role of a Trustee see Appendix 3.

At this stage we would welcome interested individuals to send a CV and a one side expression of interest to Rob Brown, Trustee, at rbrown@quantockedtrust.co.uk.

We hope that you will find this prospect interesting and potentially fulfilling and that you will contact us to an express an interest or simply find out more.



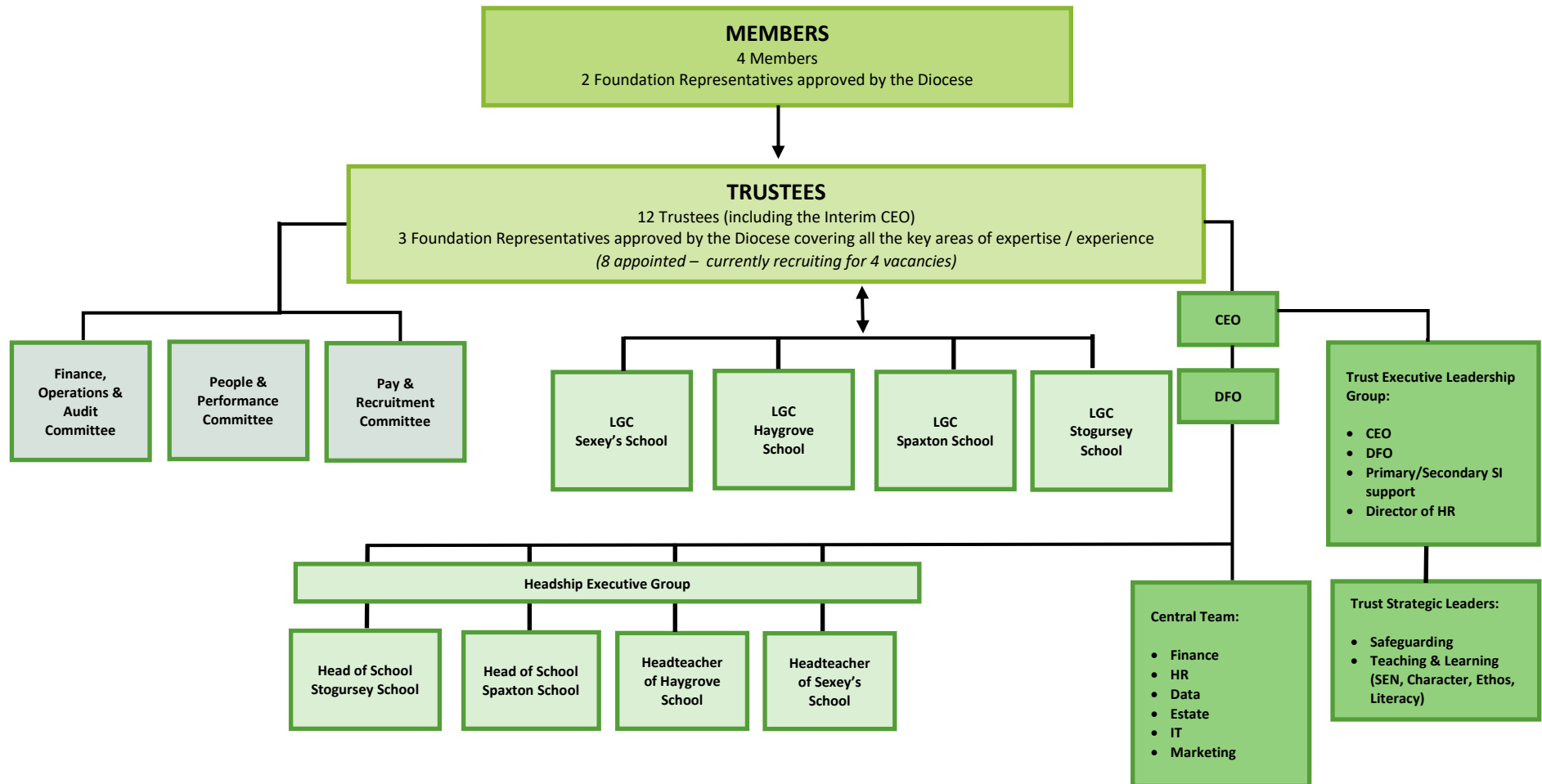
Chrysta Garnett
Interim Chief Executive Officer



Jenny Ashworth
Chair of Trustees

Appendix 1

Governance & Leadership Structure



Appendix 2

A competency framework for governance



Appendix 3



Role of a Non-executive/Trustee

Trustees of an Academy Trust are both Trustees of the trust as a charity and directors of the trust as a Company limited by guarantee. The Charities Act 2011 defines charity trustees as the people responsible under the charity's governing document for controlling the administration and management of the charity, regardless of what they are called. They are known collectively as the trustee board.

Under charity law the trustees have the ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of the trust, and ensuring that it is solvent, well run and delivering the charitable outcomes for which it has been set up. In law trustees have several legal duties, which are often described as those of compliance, care and prudence.

Non-executive directors work in partnership with the chair of Members, the CEO and the Trust's leadership team to provide clarity, clear vision, mission and strategic direction for the trust to:

- contribute to the development of the Trust's future strategic goals, ensuring that the best interests of pupils and local communities are always top of the agenda and that they are fully engaged throughout this period of change for the trust;
- ensure the highest standards of educational provision across all academies within the Trust, and that the leaders of the Trust and all academies are held to account to deliver outstanding outcomes for pupils;
- ensure the highest levels of transparency, audit, governance and accountability in the education, corporate and financial affairs of the Trust;
- provide strategic leadership and direction to the Trust through oversight of and contribution to key strategy documents as well as by setting the strategic priorities;
- have an awareness and understanding of the national policy context and of local needs for education;
- develop and review the Trust's internal controls and an audit regime to ensure that these identify the risks and opportunities to enable the Trust to be sustainable and relevant for all of the stakeholders;
- work in a supportive, helpful and constructive way to ensure the board is effective when it meets;
- ensure that effective arrangements are in place to provide assurance on risk management, governance and internal control whilst ensuring openness and transparency in decision making;
- ensure the Trust establishes key objectives and control and management frameworks to deliver the agreed plans, identifies and assesses the risk of achieving them and regularly monitors performance to ensure appropriate corrective action can be taken;
- ensure consistent focus upon what is best for the trust's schools and their students by providing challenge and advice to the trust's executive leadership team;

- be familiar with the articles of association of the Trust and awareness of its powers, duties and objectives;
- be familiar with and ensure compliance with the Trust's funding agreements and the Academies Financial Handbook published from time to time by the Education and Skills Funding Agency or its successor organisation;
- be familiar with the code of conduct and the standing orders of the Trust;
- represent the Trust in a positive manner with national, regional or local bodies or individuals in order to enhance the position of the Trust;
- lead or participate in relevant board committees or task groups of the Trust;
- contribute to the appointment and, if necessary, removal of the chair as well as participation in the recruitment and selection;
- work as part of a team, and to accept shared responsibility and accountability, as well as to commit to undergoing a personal annual appraisal, reviewing own performance and that of board members, then to abide by its outcome in terms of personal development.

Non-executive Trustees are subject to company legislation and are obliged to:

- Act within your powers (for example in accordance with the constitution and any agreements with the DfE);
- Promote the success of the Trust;
- Exercise independent judgment;
- Exercise reasonable skill, care and diligence;
- Avoid conflicts of interest;
- Not to accept benefits from third parties; and
- Declare any interest in transactions.

Nolan Principles

All those elected or appointed to boards should fulfil their duties in line with the seven principles of public life, the Nolan principles. These are:

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability • Openness
- Honest
- Leadership