

Governance in Catholic Multi Academy Trusts

Neil Weightman

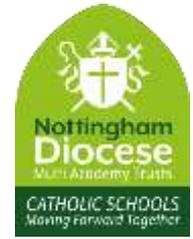
June 2017



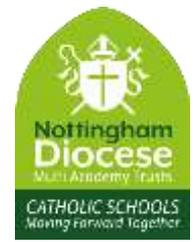
Welcome...

- Strategic Plan recap and developments since January 2017
- The Governance Structure
- Role of the Governors
- Working together
- Support for governors and testing the Governance structure
- Down the line
- Your questions

Strategic Plan



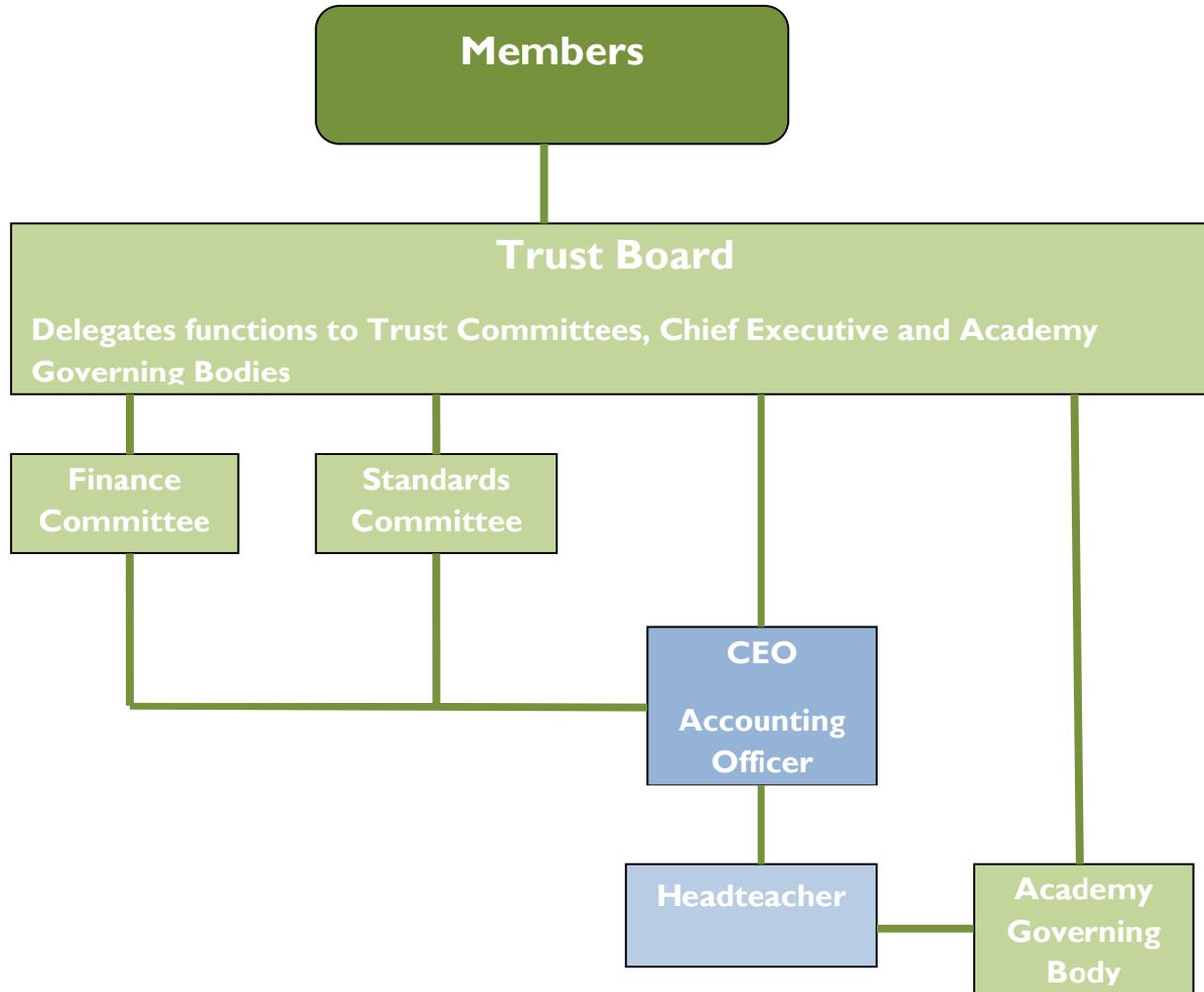
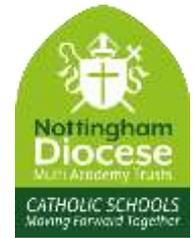
- Launch event January 2017
- Key points
 - To protect and secure Catholic education in the Diocese for the long-term
 - To ensure financial viability and most efficient use of resources
 - Focus on school improvement and robust governance
 - To ensure Catholic schools continue to be led by highly skilled and dedicated leaders
 - Enhanced focus on Catholicity including lay chaplaincy
 - Four larger MATs
 - Full academisation for all schools – Bishop’s Directive
 - Achieved for 1st September 2018
 - Supported by the RSC
- Working Groups
- Part 2

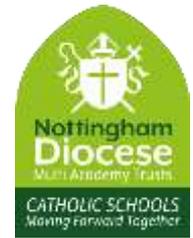


Governance Working Group

- Structure of governance in the Catholic MAT
- Role and composition of the Trust Board
- Composition and responsibilities of Local Governing Bodies
- Accountability
- Communication
- Working together effectively and efficiently

Governance Structure

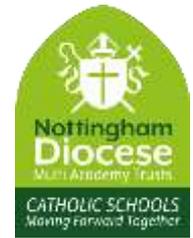




Role of the Trust Board

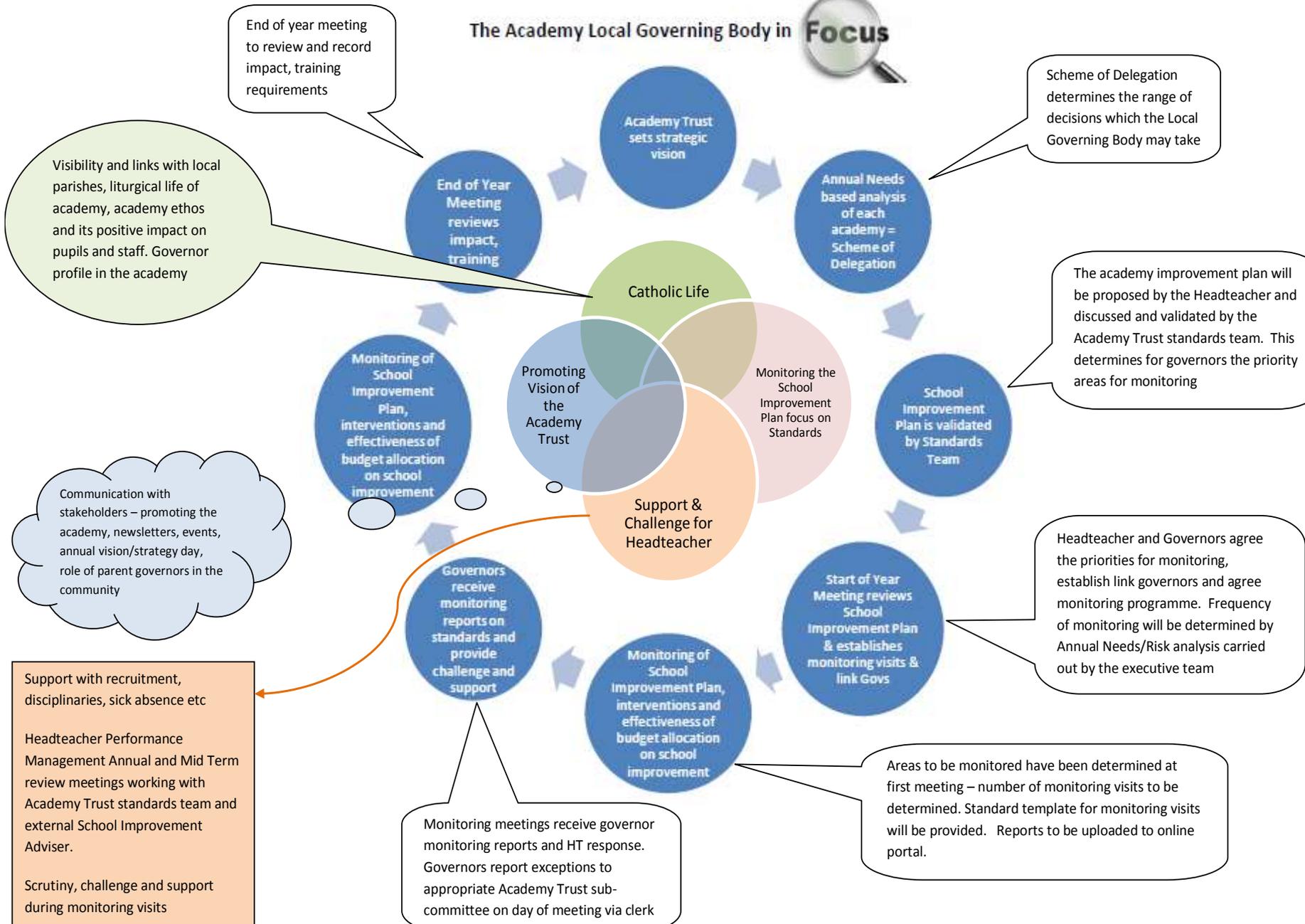
- Deliver the vision for Catholic MATs as set out by Bishop Patrick
- To ensure all academies in the MAT are at least Good – responding to Canon 806
- Safeguarding Catholic Education in the Diocese –
 - Ensuring all academies in the Trust are supported by high quality school improvement support
 - Having in place a strong model for developing and retaining staff
 - Developing future Catholic Leaders of Education
 - Developing Catholicity including lay chaplaincy provision
 - Developing National and Local Leaders of Governance
- Recruitment and composition of Boards

Academy Governing Bodies

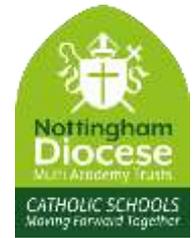


Governor Role in Focus

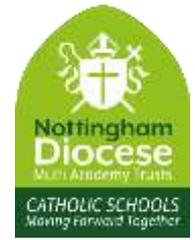
The Academy Local Governing Body in Focus



Accountability

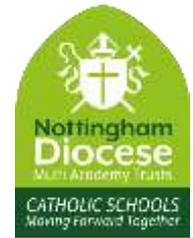


- CEO and Governors hold school leaders to account
- Directors hold the CEO and executive to account
- Members and NRCDES hold CEO and Directors to account
- But also Directors hold Governors to account and vice-versa



Communication

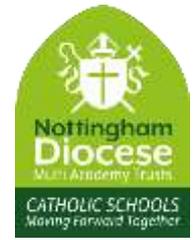
- Regular reporting between Trust Board and Governors
- Governors briefed regularly by Clerk/Company Secretary
- Governors/Directors briefed by NRCDES through Bulletins
- CEO to report to Directors but also reporting and briefing for Governors
- Ongoing training for governors



Working together efficiently and effectively

- Governance arrangements across the MAT
 - Including calendar of governance meetings – Board/MAT committees including Academy Governing Bodies
 - Common agendas set for the year, standard formats for reports
 - Governor training coordinated by the MAT
 - Clerking co-ordinated by the MAT
 - Clerks briefed by the MAT Company Secretary
- More qualitative rather than quantitative
- Trust Governor used across all schools

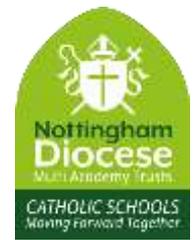
Academy Governing Bodies



Supporting Governors and challenging the model

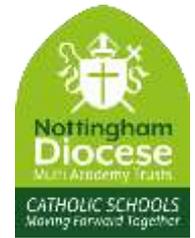
What governors can do to help

- Roadtesting the governance structure
- Positive messages to staff and parents
- Recognising that change is not easy and supporting staff and one another with that



Roadtesting the structure

- Request for support to ensure we have got this right
 - Identify scenarios with which to ‘roadtest’ the model
 - To be undertaken in September.
 - Submit to academies@nottingham-des.org.uk put ‘Governance model roadtesting’ in the subject heading



What next?

- Implementation phase - local partners to lead
- Project Management teams coming together in the autumn
- Continued engagement and dialogue - important this comes from the local partners
- More specific briefing on the role of governors including the specifics of monitoring role of governors and reporting and communication within the new MAT
- More in depth training on the role of the governor