



## **THE CAM ACADEMY TRUST – ROLE DESCRIPTOR FOR MEMBERS**

The members of an academy trust are the guardians of the governance of the trust with a limited and distinct role. Members hold the trust board to account for the effective governance of the trust but have a minimal role in the actual running of the trust. While members don't make the actual governance decisions, they need to ensure they are satisfied that the standard of governance across the trust is high.

Members are essential to the integrity of an academy trust governance structure. They are the last line of defence from failures of governance and failure to uphold the charitable purpose of the organisation and must therefore remain informed of trust performance and be clear on how to appropriately interact with the trustee board.

### **Desirable competencies:**

- Non-executive/Trustee
- Corporate Governance
- Audit

### **Person Specification:**

Members should have a good understanding of the role of governance in public life. This may have been gained in a wide range of senior leadership roles. Previous experience as a non-executive director or trustee role is an advantage, however, the key competences required are the ability to take a strategic view of the trust, the board and act in the long-term interest of the pupils. Members are expected to demonstrate the Nolan principles of public life i.e. selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

### **Responsibilities of the Members:**

The responsibilities of members are high level, comprising in summary the responsibility the following:

- To define the trust's charitable object and governance structure
- To amend the Articles of Association
- To appoint or remove trustees
- To appoint the Trust's auditor
- To receive the trust's annual audited accounts
- In conjunction with the DfE, to dissolve the trust



### **Role of Members:**

- To hold the trust board to account through monitoring the work of the trust board
- To ensure that the trust board reflects the ethos and values of the trust
- To ensure the board is effectively fulfilling its core governance functions and that it has a clear vision for progression
- To ensure the financial oversight is sound
- To ensure that the trust board is meeting the needs of the schools within the trust
- To ensure that stakeholders are engaged
- To identify any skill gaps within the trust board
- To ensure the trust has a clerk/governance professional

### **Time Commitment:**

Members are invited to attend all Board meetings, but the expectation is that they attend the AGM and keep up to date on developments by reading relevant paperwork.