



BrightTribe
learn grow prosper

Trust Governance – September 2016





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1. Background Information

Historically schools within the control of a Local Authority were each required to have a Local Governing Body who held a responsibility to hold the relevant Head teacher to account and to actively challenge and support the decisions and direction of the school. However, The Department for Education now allows for changes to the Local Governing Body model and a new Trust wide structure will be implemented from September 2016 onwards.

2. Legislative requirements

The most recent Department for Education guidance includes the following:

- 2.1. A Multi Academy Trust can now establish Local Governing Bodies that are responsible for more than one academy. (*The principle no longer being that a single body must exclusively serve each academy*).
- 2.2. Local Governing Bodies may be established solely for the purpose of fulfilling an advisory function to the directors. (*Thus removing any function of governance*).
- 2.3. The requirement that, where an academy does not have a Local Governing Body, it must have an Advisory Body has been removed. However, where the trust does not appoint any Local Governing Body there is still a requirement to have a minimum of 2 parent directors.

The Trust therefore has opportunities to establish new regional bodies, supported with CPD where appropriate, which will assist the Trust in the delivery of school improvement.

3. Trust Governance Structure from September 2016

The main purpose of the governance structure is to drive school improvement and improve the outcomes for the children and young people within our academy. Representatives with high quality skill sets and experience will sit on the appropriate groups within the structure and reporting will be clear and rigorous.

Drive Teams provide local governance for each academy within each region and act as a vehicle for driving school improvement at academy level through the direction of the academy Rapid Improvement Group.

The Rapid Improvement Group (RIG) has a management function of ensuring school improvement takes place with pace and focus. It identifies the priority areas for the Drive Team to focus on and reports into the ARC group.

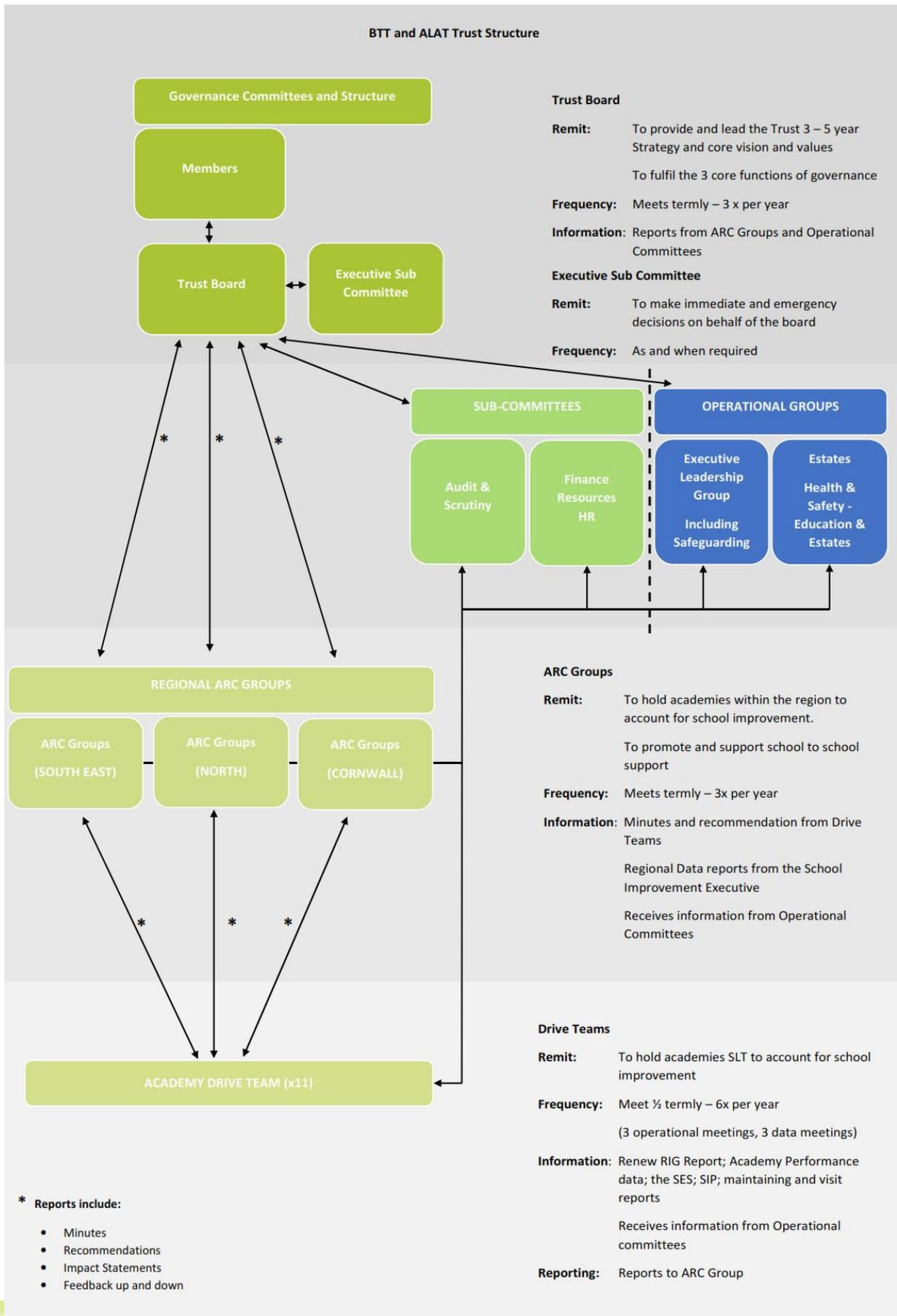
Regional Accountability, Review and Challenge (ARC) groups provide the opportunity to provide a professional and fit for purpose body with a clear governance remit and purpose. This group formally reports to the Trust Board but communicates with other Trust sub-committees and operational groups such as the Estates Group and the Executive Leadership Group for information.

ARC groups are established for regional clusters of Trust academies which will also include necessary interim associations of 'lone' academies.

The positioning of the ARC in the school's improvement structure is shown at *Appendix 1*.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – School Improvement Structure





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