

Clerking in new contexts: academy trust board

Other areas of compliance

Risk Register

There is a statutory requirement for the trust board to manage risk across the trust and maintain a trust-wide risk register, with financial and other risks identified for the school(s). You may not have seen one of these before if your maintained school did not have one so this will be an area you need to understand.

Safeguarding

It is the responsibility of the trust board, as the proprietor, to:

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Have regard to any statutory guidance on safeguarding issued by the Secretary of State
- Ensure the suitability of staff, supply staff, volunteers, contractors and proprietors.

For all schools in the trust, the board should set out the role of any committees regarding safeguarding, appoint a safeguarding trustee and ensure all trustees are aware of their and the trust's responsibilities under KCSiE. As governance professional, you should ensure that safeguarding stays on the agenda and trustees are aware of their responsibilities, alert the board when KCSiE is updated, and advise them of relevant training to help them fulfil this role.

GIAS

All trustees and changes to the board must be recorded on GIAS. As governance professional you will need to either update GIAS or supply the information to the person who is.

Companies House requirements

As the trust is a charitable company and the trustees are also directors, they must be registered with companies house. This may fall under your remit as the governance professional and if it does not, you will need to ensure that the person updating this is informed of all appointments and resignations. The audited accounts also need to be filed annually with Companies House.

Website requirements

The website requirements for governance information are not dissimilar to academies, although there are other differences to a maintained school or a school in a MAT, i.e. there is a requirement to publish the audited accounts, any notice to improve, the annual report, the articles of association. It will be your responsibility to collate the governance website information as set out in the academies trust handbook and advise the board of their responsibility to monitor website compliance. For more information on this see the [DfE website](#).

See the Academy Trust Handbook for full requirements.