

# Clerking in new contexts: MAT local governance tier

## Other areas of compliance

### How to use this document

It is important for every academy committee and its clerk to be clear as to what the academy committee's responsibility is for compliance matters. Given the differences in roles and responsibilities between MATs, and also between academy committees in the same MAT, it isn't always easy to work out what this responsibility is. The information in this document will provide you with examples of some key areas not specifically covered in the module, but is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

### Audit and risk

- Other areas of compliance will vary from the position in maintained schools, at trust board level in SATs and MATs, and between MATs, so you will need to check the requirements in any MAT you clerk for.
- It is a requirement under the Academy trust handbook for a trust to have an audit and risk committee, and to maintain a risk register for the trust. There will usually also be an individual risk register for each school. The academy committee may be required to monitor this and you will need to understand what happens when you clerk.

### Safeguarding

- It is the responsibility of the academy trust board to: safeguard and promote the welfare of children; have regard to any statutory guidance on safeguarding issued by the Secretary of State; and to ensure the suitability of permanent staff, supply staff, volunteers, contractors and proprietors. The trust will set out the role of the academy committee regarding safeguarding, whether they require a safeguarding governor and which parts of Keeping children safe in education they expect committee members to read.

### Companies House

- It is not a requirement to register the local governance tier on Companies House, as you may have done previously as a trust clerk.

### Get information about schools (GIAS)

- Where the MAT has established academy committees for its schools, the committee members must be published on Get information about schools, or GIAS. Even if you are not responsible for updating GIAS, you will need to supply the information to the staff member who does this.

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### **Publication of information on the school website**

- The website requirements for academy committees, in terms of governance information, are similar to maintained schools and it will generally be your responsibility to collate the information to publish on the website. This could include meeting attendance registers and pecuniary interest registers.

For more information on this see the DfE website: [What academies and further education colleges must or should publish online - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/what-academies-and-further-education-colleges-must-or-should-publish-online)