FURNESS EDUCATION TRUST

Seamless education built on collaboration.

Furness Education Trust Committee Structure 2026-2027

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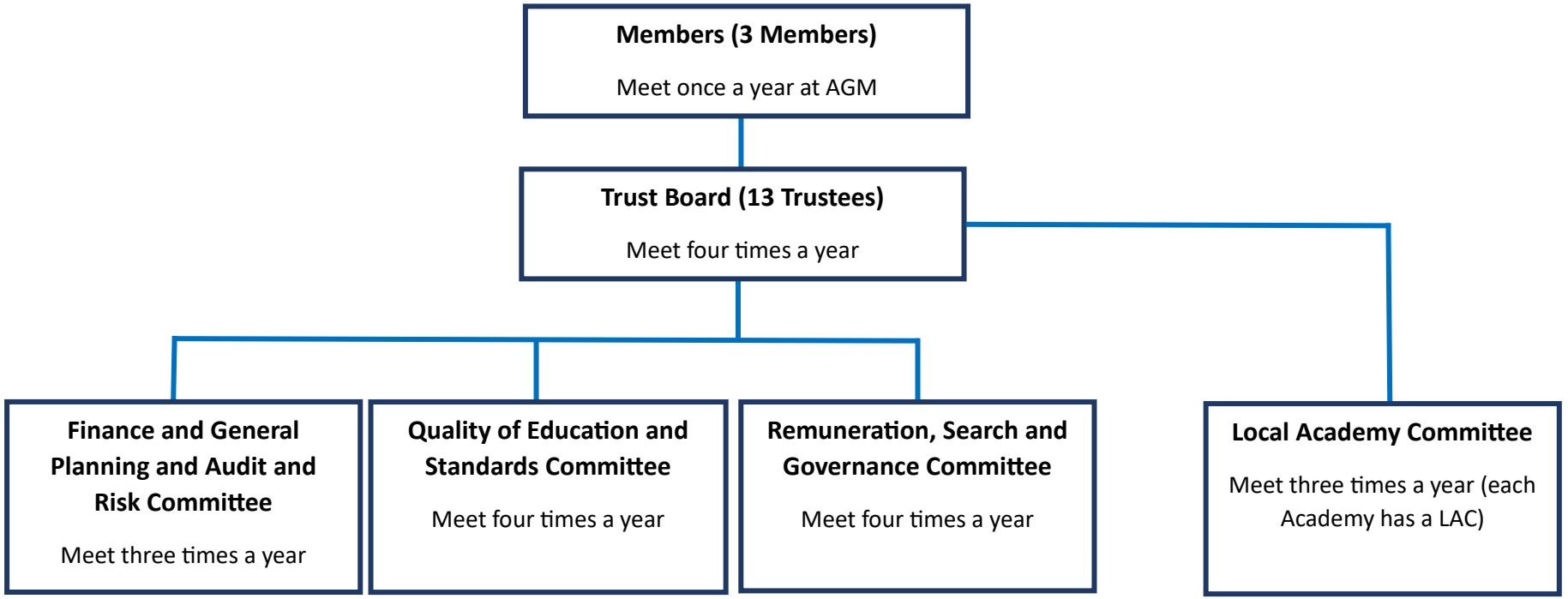

Furness Education Trust Committee Structure 2026-2027

Furness Education Trust Members

Every trust has members who have a similar role to shareholders of a company limited by shares. Member powers are set out in the trust's articles of association.

Members are kept informed by Trustees about Trust business so they can be assured that the board is exercising effective governance and use their powers to step in if governance is failing. This includes providing the members with the Trust's audited annual report and accounts and appointing external auditors.

Members, like shareholders, have limited powers regarding the day-to-day operation of the Trust but they are responsible for holding the Trustees to account.

They meet formally once per year, at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Name	Role
Steve Timms	**Managing Director** BAE Systems Submarines
Janet Garner	**Future Workforce Director** BAE Systems Submarines
Richard Hamer	**HR Director, Education & Skills** BAE Systems Group

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Furness Education Trust Board

Trustees of Furness Education Trust are responsible, under the Articles, for having collective accountability and responsibility for the academy trust and assuring itself that there is compliance with regulatory, contractual, and statutory requirements.

The Trust Board's responsibilities include:

- To approve the Trust's educational vision, mission, strategy and long-term business plans.
- To comply with the Funding Agreements and the requirements of the DfE's Academy Trust Handbook and to approve the systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls and risk assessment.
- To monitor the Trust's performance against approved plans (SIP etc) and KPIs, particularly with regards to teaching & learning.
- To decide which functions of the Board will be delegated to committees, Local Academy Committees, groups and individuals, including the Headteacher.
- To approve policies as specified in the scheme of delegation, and specifically the whistleblowing policy (see appendix 1 – policy approval schedule).
- To approve the three-year budget forecast return

Full details of the Trust Board remit can be found in the Furness Education Trust Terms of Reference.

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Jackie Arnold	**Chair** Member Appointed Trustee	27 Sept 2023	4 Years
Steve McKinnell	**Vice Chair** Member Appointed Trustee	16 Nov 2022	4 Years
Phil Athersmith	Member Appointed Trustee	28 Jul 2026	4 Years
Russell Davison	Member Appointed Trustee	25 Mar 2026	4 Years
Mark Duncan	Member Appointed Trustee	17 Jul 2024	4 Years
Hilary Ellam	Member Appointed Trustee	1 Sept 2026	4 Years
Janet Garner	Member Appointed Trustee	27 Mar 2024	4 Years
Connor Pearce	Member Appointed Trustee	10 Jul 2025	4 Years
VACANT	Member Appointed Trustee		4 Years
Karen Hadley	Co-opted Trustee	27 Mar 2024	4 Years
Jayne Moorby	Co-opted Trustee	25 Mar 2026	4 Years
Joe Warner	Co-opter Trustee	17 Jul 2024	4 Years
Mike Toyn	Co-opted Trustee	24 Sept 2025	4 Years
Scott Cubitt	Co-opted Trustee	01 Jul 2026	4 Years
VACANT	Co-opted Trustee		

In attendance

Simon Laheney	Chief Executive Officer
Amy Warner	Chief Operating Officer
Maya Wright	Chief Financial Officer

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Finance and General Planning and Audit and Risk Committee

The Furness Education Trust Finance and General Planning and Audit and Risk Committee is responsible, for considering, approving and, where required, advising the Board of Trustees, or to act under delegation on behalf of the Board, on financial and risk related matters.

The Finance and General Planning and Audit and Risk Committee responsibilities include:

- To consider the Trust's annual income and expenditure budget and three-year financial forecast, together with planned capital expenditure, resulting balance sheet and financial health assessment and to recommend to the Trust Board.
- To receive, consider and approve (or not) management reports and recommendations regarding monthly management accounts, capital expenditure, pupil premium income and expenditure, SEN income and expenditure, the Trust's balance sheet and resulting ratios.
- To review of all non-academic policies that may be delegated by the Trust Board.
- To approve contracts with a value in excess of £40,000 in accordance with the financial scheme of delegation.
- To monitor Finance, Human Resources and Estate related risks.
- To review annual audit plans, setting out the scope, objectives and fees of the work to be undertaken by the internal and external auditors
- To consider the Trust's risk management/assurance policy, and to receive at each meeting a report highlighting emerging and current issues, along with variances between residual risks and the established risk appetites, together with any mitigating actions.

Full details of the Finance and General Planning and Audit and Risk Committee remit can be found in the Furness Education Trust Terms of Reference.

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Connor Pearce	**Chair** Member Appointed Trustee	10 Jul 2025	4 Years
Hilary Ellam	Member Appointed Trustee	1 Sept 2026	4 Years
Joe Warner	Co-opter Trustee	17 Jul 2024	4 Years
Russell Davison	Member Appointed Trustee	25 Mar 2026	4 Years

In attendance

Simon Laheney	Chief Executive Officer
Amy Warner	Chief Operating Officer
Maya Wright	Chief Financial Officer

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Quality of Education and Standards Committee

The Furness Education Trust Quality of Education and Standards Committee is responsible, for considering, approving and, where required, advising the Board of Trustees, or to act under delegation on behalf of the Board, on education and performance related matters.

The Quality of Education and Standards Committee responsibilities include:

- To provide challenge and hold the Headteacher and other senior leaders to account for improving the quality of teaching, students' achievement and students' behaviour and safety, including by using the data dashboard, other progress data and pupil premium.
- To consider the progress and performance of academies within the Trust, in particular, during external examinations.
- To review of all academic policies and procedures.
- To approve and monitor the Trust's Development Plans.
- To review management of Trust progress and performance in teaching & learning.
- To review Ofsted preparedness, supporting academies and managing risk.

Full details of the Quality of Education and Standards Committee remit can be found in the Furness Education Trust Terms of Reference.

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Karen Hadley	**Chair** Co-opted Trustee	27 Mar 2024	4 Years
Phil Athersmith	Member Appointed Trustee	28 Jul 2026	4 Years
Hilary Ellam	Member Appointed Trustee	1 Sept 2022	4 Years
Jayne Moorby	Co-opted Trustee	23 Mar 2022	4 Years
Mike Toyn	Co-opted Trustee	24 Sept 2025	4 Years

In attendance

Simon Laheney	Chief Executive Officer
Janine Pierce	Director of Education

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Remuneration, Search and Governance Committee

The Remuneration, Search and Governance Committee is responsible, for considering, approving and, where required, advising the Board of Trustees, or to act under delegation on behalf of the Board, on remuneration and governance matters.

The Remuneration, Search and Governance Committee responsibilities include:

- To advise on the appraisal, KPIs and remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer.
- To determine and facilitate the mechanism for the appraisal of the Board, Trustees and members of the Local Academy Committees.
- To consider the Scheme of Delegation.
- To receive and consider the blend of skills present and required by the Board.
- To conduct the appropriate procedure if there appears to the Committee that there are grounds for removing a Trustee or member of the Local Academy Committees.

Full details of the Remuneration, Search and Governance Committee remit can be found in the Furness Education Trust Terms of Reference.

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Steve McKinnell	**Chair** Member Appointed Trustee	16 Nov 2022	4 Years
Jackie Arnold	Member Appointed Trustee	27 Sept 2023	4 Years
Mark Duncan	Member Appointed Trustee	17 Jul 2024	4 Years
Janet Garner	Member Appointed Trustee	27 Mar 2024	4 Years
Connor Pearce	Member Appointed Trustee	10 Jul 2025	4 Years
Karen Hadley	Co-opted Trustee	27 Mar 2024	4 Years

In attendance

Simon Laheney	Chief Executive Officer
Amy Warner	Chief Operating Officer

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Local Academy Committees

The Local Academy Committees are responsible for considering, approving and, where required, advising the Board of Trustees, or to act under delegation on behalf of the Board, on individual Academy matters, including progress, performance, curriculum and safeguarding.

The Trust Board's responsibilities include:

- To consider the designated Academies Self Evaluation Form.
- To approve the designated Academy's mission and strategy in accordance with Trust's values, principles and policies.
- To receive the financial budget for the Academy and monthly financial monitoring reports.
- To consider and approve safeguarding procedures and updates.
- To review evidence about the academic attainment and progress of students over time, attendance and behaviour of students, the quality of teaching and learning provided to students and the range and quality of extra-curricular provision experienced by students.

Full details of the Local Academy Committees remit can be found in the Furness Education Trust Terms of Reference.

Furness Academy Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Hilary Ellam	**Chair**	12 Aug 2023	4 Years
Sam Taylor	Vice Chair	21 Jun 2024	4 Years
Lauren Dixon	Governor	07 Oct 2024	4 Years
Caitlin Bates	Governor	22 Jun 2026	4 Years
Geoff Jolliffe	Governor	21 Jun 2024	4 Years
Laura Lake	Governor	8 Mar 2023	4 Years
Jayne Moorby	Governor	01 Sep 2023	4 Years
Stephen Oldfield	Governor	22 Jun 2026	4 Years
Robin White	Governor	26 Jan 2022	4 Years
VACANT	Governor		
VACANT	Governor		
Rahmat Brinmo	Parent Governor	22 Jun 2026	4 Years
Laurie Goulding	Parent Governor	21 Jun 2024	4 Years
Helen Robinson	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Jayne Beach	Staff Governor	29 Feb 2024	4 Years
Rachel Lappin	Staff Governor	21 Nov 2024	4 Years

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Lindal and Marton Primary School Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Scott Houston	**Chair**	13 Mar 2025	4 Years
Sonia Watson	Governor	27 Nov 2025	4 Years
Chris Kendrick	Governor	12 Mar 2026	4 Years
VACANT			
Cate Blanshard	Parent Governor	12 Mar 2026	4 Years
Andy Payne	Parent Governor	1 Apr 2023	4 Years
Louise Page	Parent Governor	7 Dec 2023	4 Years
Fiona Doran	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Stephanie Mitson	Staff Governor	7 Dec 2023	4 Years

Newton Village Academy Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Neil Ward	**Chair**	1 Sept 2025	4 Years
Paul Fussell	**Vice Chair**	3 Sept 2023	4 Years
Charlotte Cowan	Governor	3 Jul 2023	4 Years
Allan Milne	Governor	1 Jul 2024	4 Years
VACANT	Governor		
VACANT	Governor		
VACANT	Governor		
VACANT	Parent Governor		
Liam Reid	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Clare Molyneux	Staff Governor	3 Jul 2023	4 Years
Hannah Moore	Staff Governor	3 Jul 2023	4 Years

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Parkside Academy Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Katherine Parkinson	**Chair**	26 Nov 2024	4 Years
Emily Watkin	**Vice Chair**	25 Nov 2025	4 Years
Shaun Hannaway	Governor	24 Jun 2025	4 Years
Rachel McIlvogue	Governor	26 Nov 2024	4 Years
Rebecca Noble-Gay	Governor	25 Nov 2025	4 Years
VACANT	Governor		
VACANT	Governor		
Helena Southall	Parent Governor	1 Sep 2021	4 Years
VACANT	Parent Governor		
Anthony Costa	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Roxanne Marks	Staff Governor	01 Sept 2025	4 Years
Jo Bolton	Staff Governor	26 Nov 2024	4 Years

Victoria Academy Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Cheryl Smillie	**Chair**	29 Jun 2023	4 Years
Ade Goulding	**Vice Chair**	1 Jun 2022	4 Years
Alana Faal	Governor	8 Mar 2023	4 Years
Jane Ridyard	Governor	1 Sep 2022	4 Years
Ryan Rodgers	Governor	5 Mar 2025	4 Years
Janet Trainer	Governor	6 Sep 2023	4 Years
Ann Turner	Governor	1 Sep 2024	4 Years
Leanne Ensor	Parent Governor	12 Apr 2026	4 Years
Sally Hazlett	Parent Governor	8 Mar 2023	4 Years
Matt Connell	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
VACANT	Staff Governor		

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Walney School Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Callum Ryan	**Chair (joint)**	10 Nov 2025	
Mollie Litherland	**Chair (joint)**	2 Mar 2026	
Ian Crawshaw	Governor	24 Apr 2023	4 Years
Caroline Hindmarch		21 Apr 2026	4 Years
VACANT	Governor	10 Nov 2025	4 Years
VACANT	Governor		4 Years
VACANT	Governor		4 Years
Jennifer Dickinson	Parent Governor	24 Apr 2024	4 Years
Michelle Hughes	Parent Governor	3 Mar 2025	4 Years
Jennifer Wildman	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Cora Hambleton	Staff Governor	24 Apr 2024	4 Years
Kristie Lourie	Staff Governor	3 Sep 2022	4 Years

Yarlside Academy Local Academy Committee Membership

Name	Role	Date Appointed	Term
Tim Clark	**Chair**	3 Sep 2023	4 Years
Jade White	Vice Chair	21 Sep 2023	4 Years
Emily Wilson	Governor	21 Sep 2023	4 Years
Sam Kell	Governor	25 Jan 2024	4 Years
Sandra Johnson	Governor	21 Sep 2023	4 Years
Catherine Reay	Parent Governor	16 Mar 2026	4 Years
Rory Marshall	Parent Governor	16 Mar 2026	4 Years
Deborah Oates	Parent Governor	16 Mar 2026	4 Years
Janine Pierce	Headteacher	N/A	N/A
Jill Reid	Staff Governor	21 Sep 2023	4 Years

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Appendix 1 : Approval Plan for Statutory and Critical Policies and Documents

Statutory Policies/Documents

Policy/Document	Approval Required	Approved by
Acceptance of gifts, hospitality, awards, prizes or benefits	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Accessibility plan	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Accounting	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Admissions arrangements	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Admissions register	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Allergy Safety	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Attendance register	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Anti bullying strategy	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Attendance	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Audited annual reports and accounts	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Behaviour	Can be delegated by the headteacher	LAC
Business continuity	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Charging and Remissions	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Child protection policy and procedures	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Competitive tendering and procurement	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Data protection	Board of Trustees can delegate	Board of Trustees
Details of careers programme	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) policies	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Equality information and objectives statement	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Examination contingency plan	Board of Trustees can delegate	QES Committee
Exclusions	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
External audit contract	Board of Trustees and Members	Board of Trustees
First aid	The Employer/The Trust	LAC
Freedom of information publication scheme	Board of Trustees can delegate	Board of Trustees
Governors' allowances	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee

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Governors Code of Conduct	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Health and safety	The Employer/The Trust	Board of Trustees
Investment	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Minutes of, and papers considered at, meetings of the governing board	Board of trustees or committee as appropriate	Board of trustees or committee as appropriate
Non-examination assessment	Board of Trustees can delegate	QES Committee
Premises management documents	Board of Trustees can delegate	
Privacy notices (protection of children's biometric information)	Board of Trustees can delegate	Board of Trustees
Provider Access	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Register of business interests	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Recruitment of ex-offenders	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Relationships and sex education	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Reserves	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Risk assessment	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Risk register	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Safer recruitment	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Scheme of delegation	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
School complaints	Board of Trustees can delegate	Board of Trustees
Special educational needs (SEN) and disability policy	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
SEN information report	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Staff conduct	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Staff discipline	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Staff grievance	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Supporting pupils with medical conditions	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Uniform	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Whistle-blowing procedures	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees

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Critical Policies/Documents

Policy/Document	Approval Required	Approved by
Anti fraud	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Capability of staff	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Cyber Response Plan	Board of Trustees	Board of Trustees
Family and parental leave	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Financial Regulations and scheme of delegation	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Menopause	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Mobile Phone	Board of Trustees can delegate	LAC
Pay Policy (Teaching and Non-Teaching)	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Risk management	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Staff Wellbeing	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee
Staff sickness and absence	Board of Trustees can delegate	FGP & ARA Committee