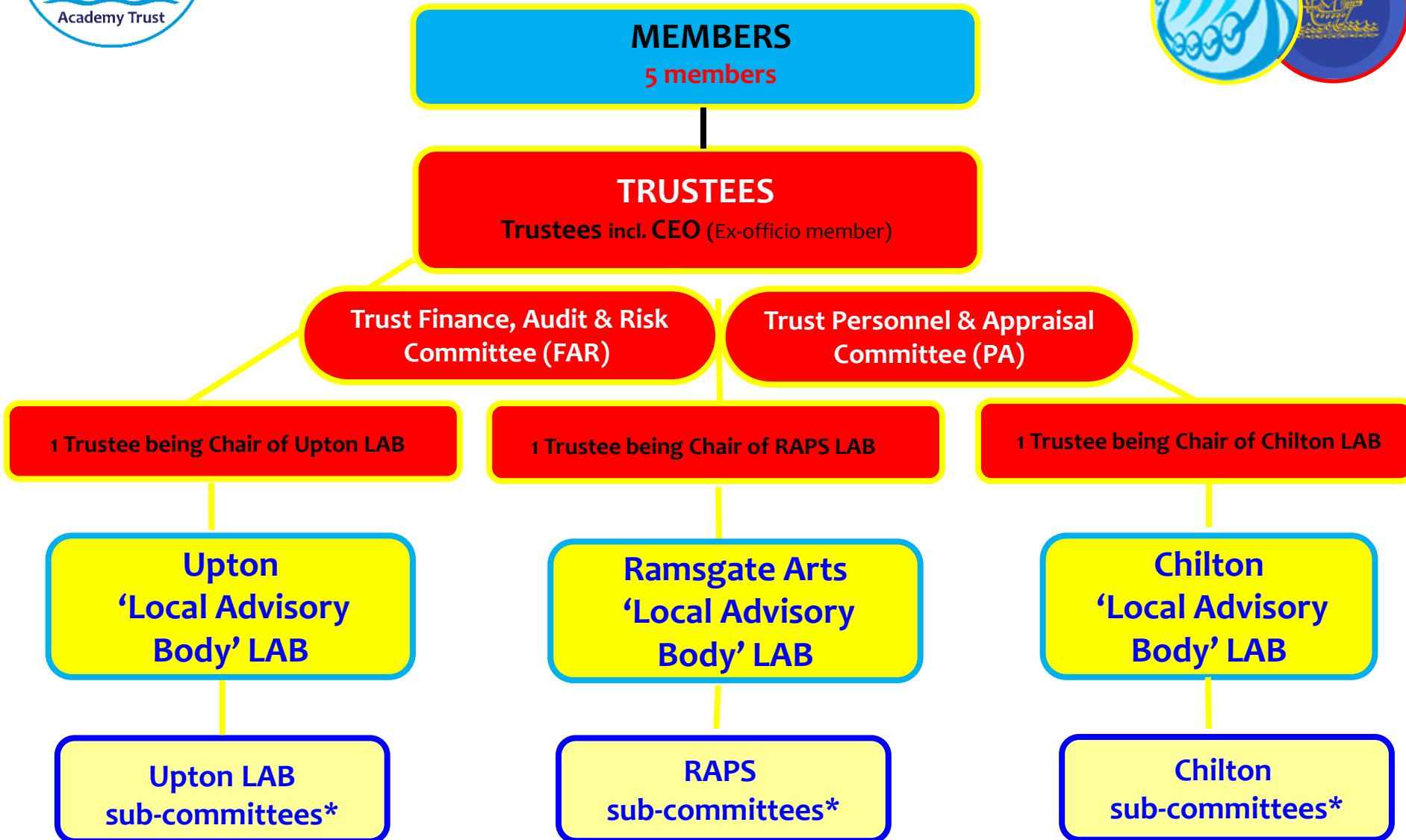




# VIKING ACADEMY TRUST

## Governance Structure



\* sub-committee established by LAB as required



# VIKING ACADEMY TRUST

## Governance Structure



We recognise just how vital the role of the governance has become in raising standards.

There is only one legal entity accountable for all schools within the Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

The MAT has one set of Articles which governs all academies within the MAT.

### MEMBERS

### TRUSTEES

### 'Local Advisory Body' LAB

**Members:** The guardians of the Viking Academy Trust. Academy Trusts do not have shareholders; they have members. The role and rights of members is analogous to that of shareholders. They hold the AGM and appoint Trustees.

**Trustees:** The legal powers & responsibilities of the Trust are held with VAT Board of Trustees who are accountable to the DfE. As a group, the Board set the overall strategic direction of the Trust. They scrutinise, challenge & support our educational & operational performance data, stability & emerging risks/opportunities. Accordingly, the Board delegate certain powers & duties to committees. This is explained in our Scheme of Delegation (SoD)

**Local Advisory Body LAB:** provide support and challenge to the school Leadership Team as the school implements policies & improvement plan priorities. Most of the LAB will not be Trustees of the MAT and will mainly be representatives from the school & wider community. They have duties delegated to them by the Board of Trustees. The LAB has a vital role to play in providing assurance to the Trustees that the standards they and the VAT Executive Team set are being met & that resources are used efficiently to give every child the best possible education. They also play a key role in ensuring VAT schools are at the heart of their local communities. The LABs advise and make recommendations to the Board through regular meetings with the Board's Chair and via minutes of LAB meetings. Members of LAB are 'Local Governors'.



Viking Academy Trust



**Academic Year: 2026-27**

# VIKING GOVERNANCE

Strong governance is essential to the successful running of any academy trust. Viking Academy Trust is a charitable voluntary organisation, which relies on the valuable input of a considerable number of non-executive volunteers, supported by an experienced team of staff.

Due to the number of schools for which it is responsible, coupled with its drive for accountability, it is also a complex organisation with various important elements of governance. This is reviewed regularly to ensure it remains fit-for-purpose and to identify areas for improvement.

## Governance Structure

### Executive Leadership Team (VELT):

Comprised of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial & Operations Officer (CFOO).

The role of the VELT is to design and implement a strategic development plan, VAT Key Priorities, which will enable the mission and vision of the Trust to be achieved.

*Report to: Trust Board*

**MEMBERS**

**TRUSTEES**

**'Local Advisory Body'  
LAB**

**Executive  
Leadership Team  
(VELT)**

**VAT Leadership Team**

**VAT School  
Leadership Team**

### Viking Leadership Team (VLT):

The Executive leaders are joined by the Headteachers and other central team leaders, including Estates and IT Manager and Trust Business Manager.

The VLT are responsible for developing & implementing Trust & School level improvement plans, including central plans, so that all parts of the organisation achieve key priorities & meet the KPIs.

*Report to: Trust Board.*

### VAT School Leadership:

VAT school SLT is comprised of the school's senior and wider leaders.

They are responsible for implementing each school's Improvement Plan and regularly reviewing and updating the school's Self-Evaluation (SEF).

The LAB committee provide the support and challenge from evidence provided in these documents & presented at termly meetings & monitoring visits to the school.

*Report to: LAB.*



# VIKING ACADEMY TRUST

## VAT Safeguarding Overview



**Safeguarding Trust Leaders:**  
**Lisa Blatchford & Kate Law**



**Chilton DSL: Alex McAuley  
Hannah Cheshire**  
**Deputy DSL: Carly Reavill,  
Emily Davey, Kirby Walker**

**RAPS DSL: Nick Budge/Vicki Elliott**  
**Deputy DSL: Emily Hughes, Louise  
Chidwick-Day, Daniel Holliday**

**Upton DSL: Darci Arthur,  
Emma Hill**  
**Deputy DSL: Gemma Scarr,  
Ross Kettle & Zoe Danson**

**Chilton  
'Local Advisory  
Body' LAB**

**Safeguarding  
Governor:  
Claire Roby**

**RAPS  
'Local Advisory  
Body' LAB**

**Safeguarding  
Governor:  
Joanna Brand**

**Upton  
'Local Advisory  
Body' LAB**

**Safeguarding  
Governor:  
Lesley White**