DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR GOVERNORS POLICY

TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL	**Reviewed by:**	Governors' Audit and Risk Committee
	Approved by:	Full Governing Body
	Date approved:	15th May, 2025
	Date adopted:	1st September, 2025
	Next review due by:	End of 2027/28 academic year

AIM/PURPOSE

Governors and trustees have a legal duty to act in the best interests of their schools. Where there are personal or financial interests which may conflict with this duty, they must identify, prevent and record the conflict.

Governing bodies of maintained schools and academies are therefore required to maintain a register which lists for any governor or member, including the Head, any interest that they, their partner or member of their immediate family may have that might affect their relationship with the school or their ability to make impartial decisions.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

An important part of strong governance and accountability relates to the management of conflicts of interest and related party transactions.

In order to provide transparent and open governance, it is important to seek to avoid and manage not just conflicts of interest but also the perception of them. The overall approach taken is to avoid conflicts of interest wherever possible and, where it is not possible, to manage and declare them.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR GOVERNORS AT TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

All governors and members are to declare any association they have with companies or individuals from whom the school may wish to obtain goods or services or any member of staff who is related in any way. The reason for the register is to ensure that individuals responsible for managing and spending public money demonstrate that they do not benefit personally from decisions that they make.

Governors and members also have to declare details of any other educational establishments they govern and any relationship between themselves and members of school staff, including spouses, partners and relatives. As from 01.09.2015, all schools have a duty to publish interests on their website. The register of interests for all governors and members can be found in the 'governance' section of the school website. The school must continue to state the interests of any governor or member during their term of office and for 12 months after their term of office has ended or if they resigned.

For full transparency, it is recommended that governors declare every entity in which they are a director, trustee, partner or key management personnel and any entities in which close family are directors/trustees/partners etc. The school's auditors check if our governors and members are listed as a director for any company through Companies House, so it is important for this information to be declared.

All declarations are to be made at the start of each new academic year and will made using Governor Hub. All governors are required to complete this before the first Full Governing Body meeting at the start of the new academic year. Any changes can be made at any point during the academic year, and notice must also be given to the school's Governance Professional so that the register of interest can be updated on the school's website.

Governors are also given the opportunity to declare any interests at the start of every committee and Full Governing Body meeting. This is then recorded in the minutes from the meeting.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Declarations of Interests for Governors Policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Governors' Audit and Risk Committee and ratified by the Full Governing Body.