



Bridges Schools (Magdalen Academy, St Germans Academy,  
Wimbotsham and Stow Academy)  
Governance Statement 2024-2025



**Annual Governance Statement for Magdalen Academy, St Germans  
Academy and Wimbotsham and Stow Academy  
Academy Review Board  
July 2025**

Following the review of Governance( Autumn 2022) the core governance responsibilities of;

- School Improvement and Academic standards,
- Quality of Curriculum and Teaching and Learning
- Pupil development, attendance, Behaviour and Safeguarding ,
- Wellbeing,
- Finance,
- Premises,
- Health and Safety
- Compliance

at Magdalen, St Germans and Wimbotsham have been scrutinised, challenged and supported by the Academy Review Board which met 6 times throughout the year. This structure has been agreed with consideration as to where oversight responsibilities are best exercised and to ensure clear lines of accountability with no duplication of roles within the Trust.

School improvement this year has been informed by the School Self Evaluation, SIDP (School Improvement and Development Plan – St Germans, Magdalen and Wimbotsham and key issues continuing from any previous Ofsted inspection, specifically.....

- A range of reports relating to safeguarding, attendance and pupil progress
- Presentations relating to SEND developments, EYFS and Subject Leadership.
- Developments with RWI implementation.



## Local Governance arrangements

Governors Constitute the Academy Stakeholder Committee (from April 2023) the principal duty of which is to support the Trust Board and the school in developing and maintaining effective links within the school's communities, communicating openly and frequently as appropriate and ensuring the school meets its responsibilities to its stakeholders by supporting the Headteacher in implementing and monitoring arrangements to ensure:

- that pupils are listened to, feel safe in the school and are successful learners
- that parents and carers are kept informed about their child's progress and that any concerns they have are listened and responded to
- that effective arrangements are in place for staff wellbeing
- that there is regular communication with parents and the wider community
- that examples of the activities of the school and the ASC are provided to the Trust for its termly newsletter to all stakeholders

The Bridges School ASC currently has 5 members comprising of Executive Headteacher,

1 co-opted governor,  
2 staff governors

2 parent governors (one resignation July 2025 due to child moving to high school.  
There is a chair of the ASC and a vice-chair of governors

There is currently a vacancy for

2 parent governors (from September 2025)  
1 Co opted governor

The ASC met three times this year and focused on:

- Environment Walks
- Gathering pupil voice (one school per visit)
- School events.

The ASC were closely involved in supporting at a range of school and parent events  
The ASC were immensely proud of:

- their conversations with the children and how positively they spoke about the schools.
- The feedback received from pupil, parent and staff surveys.
- The range of events and workshops provided to families including church events, celebration assemblies, open mornings

ASC members attended annual safeguarding training

Minutes of meetings include clear actions and evidence of contributions to review, challenge and support from governors and can be requested from the school office once they are available to the public

Dates for all meetings are published at the beginning of the school year by Unity Education Trust

Governance arrangements will be maintained for the next academic year 2024-2025 in line with UET Scheme of Delegation (March 2024), details of which are on the School and Trust website.



<b>Future plans for the governors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· On-going recruitment of Governors to ensure continued effectiveness of ASC</li><li>· To access and participate in all relevant support and training for governors</li><li>· To support in creating further links with in the school communities particularly opportunities for parents.</li></ul>
<b>How you can contact the Academy Stakeholder Committee</b>	We always welcome suggestions, feedback and ideas from parents/ stakeholders – please contact the Chair of ASC Robyn Press or the Executive Headteacher – Louise Arrowsmith, via the school office or via ASC clerks; details on school’s website.