



Sutton Benger C of E VA Primary School

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT

1. The name of the school is **Sutton Benger Church of England Aided Primary School**.
2. The school is a voluntary aided school.
3. The name of the governing body is '**The Governing Body of Sutton Benger Church of England Aided Primary School**'.
4. The Governing Body is constituted in accordance with Part 3 of The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 and shall consist of:
 - a. 3 elected Parent Governors
 - b. 1 Local Authority Governor
 - c. 1 elected Staff Governor
 - d. 1 Head Teacher
 - e. 8 Foundation Governors

For the purposes of this document Head Teacher (Staff Governor ex-officio) shall be defined as Executive and/or Associate Head Teacher, as applicable.

5. The total number of Governors is 14. The number of Foundation Governors shall always outnumber all the other Governors by two. The term of office is 4 years for all Governors, except the elected Staff Governor who will have a term of office of 2 or 4 years.
6. **Co-opted Governors:** The Governing Body may in addition appoint such number of Co-opted Governors as they consider necessary provided that the number of Foundation Governors is increased in line with 5 above. A "Co-opted Governor" means a person who is appointed as a Governor by the Governing Body and who, in the opinion of the Governing Body, has the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. Staff can be included in the co-opted category, and Co-opted Governors have full voting rights. The total number of Co-opted Governors, who are also eligible to be elected as Staff Governors, when counted with the Staff Governor and the Head Teacher, must not exceed one third of the total membership of the governing body. They are voted on by the FGB, with a term of office of up 2 or 4 years.

7. **Associate Members:** The Governing Body may in addition appoint such numbers of Associate Members as they consider necessary. An “Associate Member” means a person who is appointed by the governing body as a member of any committee established by them but who is not a governor. An associate member may hold office for a period of four years, or such shorter period (not being less than one year) as may be determined by the Governing Body at the date of the appointment.
8. **Foundation Governors:** Foundation Governors are nominated by Sutton Benger Parochial Church Council and their appointments are ratified by the Diocese of Bristol’s Board of Education.
9. **Staff Governor Ex-officio:** The holder of the following office shall be a Staff Governor ex-officio:
The Headteacher (except at any time when they have given written notice to the Clerk to the Governing Body of the school that they choose not to be a Governor).
10. **Foundation Governor Ex-officio:** The holder of the following office shall be a Foundation Governor ex-officio:

The principal officiating minister for the Parish of Sutton Benger.
11. The Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry in which the school is situated shall be entitled to appoint a Foundation Governor to act in the place of the ex-officio Foundation Governor whose governorship derives from the office named in 10 above, in the event that the ex-officio Foundation Governor is unable or unwilling to act as a Foundation Governor, or has been removed from office under regulation 21 (1) of the Regulations, or there is a vacancy in the office by virtue of which his/her governorship exists.
12. The Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry in which the school is situated shall be entitled to request the removal of any ex-officio Foundation Governor and to appoint any substitute Governor.
13. A Trust exists dated 1st June 1850 between Lord Viscount Wellesley and the Vicar and Churchwardens of Sutton Benger.
14. Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.
15. This instrument of government came into effect on 5th October 2017.
16. This instrument was made by order of Wiltshire Council on 11th October 2017.
17. A copy of the instrument must be supplied to every Governor and Associate Member of the Governing Body of the school, any trustees and to the Diocese of Bristol Board of Education.