



Royal Academy of Music

Statement of Primary Responsibilities of the Governing Body

The Royal Academy of Music was established by Royal Charter in 1830 (supplemental charter granted in 1998), is a registered charity, number 310007, and a company registered with Companies House, number RC000438.

The powers, duties and responsibilities of the Governing Body are laid down by the Supplemental Royal Charter and its Schedule of Bye-Laws. The Governing Body is also required, where appropriate, to conduct its business in line with the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of London of which the Academy is a member and in their capacity as trustees with the Academy's charitable objects.

The Academy endeavours to conduct its business in accordance with the seven principles identified by the Committee on Standards in Public life, and in accordance with the guidance of universities provided by the Committee of University of Chairmen in The Higher Education Code of Governance.

The principal responsibilities of its Governing Body are:

1. To approve the mission and strategic vision of the Academy, and to approve and monitor the long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders and where possible and appropriate, are benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
2. To delegate authority to the Principal, as Chief Executive and head of the institution, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the Academy, and to establish and keep under regular review the policies and procedures and limits within such management functions as shall be taken by and under the authority of the head of the institution.
3. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls, risk assessment and management, and procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interests.
4. To be the principal financial and business authority of the Academy, to ensure that proper accounts are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall responsibility for the Academy's assets, property and estate.
5. To be the Academy's legal authority and, as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the institution's legal and regulatory obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the Academy's name.
6. To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in higher education corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the committee on Standards in Public Life (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership).

7. To seek assurance from the Academic Board that academic governance is operating effectively, to encourage student engagement in academic governance, and receive reassurance that students receive a high quality education.
8. To oversee the use of the Academy's Taught Degree Awarding Powers and ensure that they are exercised responsibly and in line with the Academy's mission.
9. To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students.
10. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Governing Body itself.
11. To safeguard the good name and values of the Academy.
12. To appoint the Principal as chief executive and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance.
13. To appoint a Secretary to the Governing Body and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the institution, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
14. To be the employing authority for all staff in the Academy, setting a framework for the pay and conditions of service of all staff, and to be responsible for establishing a Human Resources Strategy.
15. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the Academy and to fulfil the requirements and obligations of charity law as they apply to the Academy.
16. To ensure that the Academy's constitution is followed at all times and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.

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