

Differences between categories of Church Schools

	Voluntary Aided Schools	Voluntary Controlled Schools	Academies
Buildings	Owned by the trustees. The trust deed determines the basis on which the school is run. Capital projects are the responsibility of the governors (supported by grant from the Department of Education – up to 90% of approval expenditure). Playing fields are provided by the Local Authority (LA).	Owned by the trustees. The trust deed determines how the school shall be run where the law does not make this clear. All replacement, capital and repairs building costs fall on the Local Authority (LA).	Owned by the original / foundation trustees. Managed by the governors under the Supplementary Agreement. The trust deed determines the basis on which the school shall be run where the law is silent. Playing fields are under a 125 year lease from the Local Authority.
Staff a) Teaching	Employed by the governors, paid by the LA. Governors make seek evidence of Christian commitment from applications for head teacher and teaching posts.	Appointed by the governors, employed and paid by the LA. Governors are bound by LA appointing policies. Governors will be able to satisfy themselves that a candidate for the post of head teacher is suitable to support and develop the ethos of a church school.	Employed by the Academy Trust. Governors are bound by Trust appointing policies. Governors will be able to satisfy themselves that a candidate for the post of head teacher is suitable to support and develop the ethos of a church academy.
Staff b) Support	Employed either by governors or contractors. If employed by governors they are paid by the LA.	Employed either by the LA or contractors. LA employees usually appointed by governors.	Employed either by the Academy Trust or contractors.
Worship	Reflects the Anglican tradition and can include worship in the parish church.	Reflects the Anglican tradition and can include worship in the parish church.	Reflects the Anglican tradition and can include worship in the parish church.
RE	Governors determine a syllabus that reflects the Anglican traditions. They may make use of the Diocesan syllabus where this exists.	The school must follow the local syllabus unless the parents request a denominational one. The foundation governors have rights in	The school must follow the local syllabus unless the parents request a denominational one. The foundation governors have rights in

		the appointment of staff (called reserved teachers) to teach denominational Religious Education.	the appointment of staff (called reserved teachers) to teach denominational Religious Education.
Membership of the Governing Body	Church (foundation) governors have an absolute majority over all other governors. The parish priest usually <i>ex officio</i> a member of the governing body.	Church (foundation governors) are in a minority. The parish priest usually <i>ex officio</i> a member of the governing body.	The Diocese is a corporate Member of the Trust. Church (foundation governors) reflect the previous status of the school before conversion to academy. The parish priest usually <i>ex officio</i> a member of the governing body.
Funding	LA LMS formula. Governors' 10% contribution for building work often from locally raised funds, PCC's, local trusts and, usually, trusts administered by the Diocese.	LA LMS formula.	Direct from Central Government via the Funding Agency (EFA).
Admissions	Governors determine the policy and make the decisions. They must consult the LA each year.	The LA is responsible for admissions, but must consult the governing body each year.	Academy Trust determine the policy and make the decisions. They must consult the LA each year.
Advice	LA Chief Education Officer has certain rights to attend governor meetings to give advice. Diocesan Directors of Education have parallel rights.	LA Chief Education Officer has certain rights to attend governor meetings to give advice. Governors may give similar rights to the Diocesan Director of Education.	As an independent school the LA Chief Education Officer has no rights to attend governor meetings to give advice. As the Diocese is a corporate Member of the Trust the Diocesan Director of Education has certain rights to attend governor meetings and give advice.
Inspection	OFSTED inspectors look at most issues. Statutory Inspection of	OFSTED inspectors look at general issues and RE. Statutory Inspection of	OFSTED inspectors look at most issues. Statutory Inspection of

	Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) inspectors inspect meeting the needs of all learners through distinctive Christian character, RE, worship, and leadership and management.	Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) inspectors inspect meeting the needs of all learners through distinctive Christian character, worship, and leadership and management.	Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) inspectors inspect meeting the needs of all learners through distinctive Christian character, RE, worship, and leadership and management.
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Adapted/Amended From: Church Schools Review Group Consultation Report (Copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000).

DIOCESAN NOTE

Governors must obtain approval from their Trustees in writing before any school building works commence for all structural work, major alterations or new build.

The Trustees are usually the Minister and Churchwardens or the Diocesan Board of Education (DBE). Governors should contact Rob Stephens the Diocesan Strategic Lead for Buildings and Admissions (rstephens@glosdioc.org.uk) who will be pleased to confirm school Trustees, and offer advice.

Please ensure plenty of time for Trustees to consider projects, as they do not meet frequently. Until Trustees approve the governors' project, the building works may not start.