

This code sets out the expectations on and commitment required from Members in order for The Circle Trust to properly carry out its work.

Members are akin to the shareholders of a company and play a very important role in overseeing governance arrangements of the Trust; however, they will typically be less directly involved in the running of it and will most likely meet less frequently, maybe as little as once per year. The Members have three main functions:¹

1. Ultimate control over the academy trust, with the ability to appoint and remove trustees
2. The right to amend the trust's articles of association.
3. Responsibility for the trust achieving its charitable objectives (including financial.)

The Trust will ideally have 5 Members

The Members:

Sets the strategic direction of The Circle Trust by:

- Having ultimate control over The Circle Trust, with the ability to appoint and remove Trustees
- Having the right to amend the Trust's Articles of Association
- Providing oversight and challenge of the Trust's achievements of its charitable objectives including financial responsibilities

Challenges and supports the Trustees by monitoring, reviewing and evaluating:

- The strategic direction of the Trust
- Progress towards objectives
- The implementation and effectiveness of the Trust's improvement strategy

Ensures accountability by:

- receiving the Trust's Annual Accounts
- appointing the auditors
- maintaining awareness and understanding of external

We will observe complete confidentiality when matters are deemed confidential or



The Seven Principles of Public Life

(originally published by the Nolan Committee: The Committee on Standards in Public Life was established by the then Prime Minister in October 1994, under the Chairmanship of Lord Nolan, to consider standards of conduct in various areas of public life, and to make recommendations).

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Disqualification for serving as a Member

