



Risk Management Policy

Avonreach Academy Trust

Approved By:	AAT Board of Trustees
Approved On:	21st November 2017
Next review date:	Autumn Term 2020

Associated documentation	
Academies Financial Handbook	Sept 2016
AAT Financial Regulations Policy	Sept 2017

This document sets out the regulations for the MAT and member academies

Rationale

The risk management policy is to be read in conjunction with the Risk Register.

Policy

The Trustees shall appoint a suitable person to take overall control of the risk management process; this shall either be a Trustee, a Governor or a member of the Leadership Team, whose role gives a global view of the activities of the trust.

A risk review panel or group shall be a responsibility of the Audit Committee.

The annual meeting may form part of a regular governors' meeting; the first meeting of the Audit Committee each academic year may be considered the most appropriate. The risk management meeting should take place before the budget setting process begins. Prior to the meeting, the strategic objectives of the academy (as stated in the academy development plan) will be circulated to the panel members, who shall be asked to submit what they consider to be risks to the achievement of those objectives.

Other Trustees/governors and staff members may be consulted at this stage of the process. The CFO shall consider the risks and compile a list of the main risks facing the Trust.

The objectives of the risk meeting are as follows:

- discuss and agree that all involved are satisfied with the list of risks;
- determine the appropriate response to each risk;
- assess existing controls and determine appropriate action;
- allocate responsibility for action; and
- agree future reporting and review procedures.

The group shall use the model format from the Academies' Financial Handbook to classify the risks according to potential impact and decide whether to treat, terminate or tolerate each risk, according to impact and likelihood of each risk identified. Value for money shall be considered in formulating an appropriate response to each risk, to avoid the over control of minor risks and the under-control of major ones.

It is likely that the assessment of controls will produce a list of actions required to produce an acceptable internal control system. Clear responsibilities should be allocated to these actions along with a deadline for the action to be completed and a scheduled date for review.

A final version of the risk register may be circulated to all relevant members of the trust (trustees/governors and leadership team) who shall be asked to confirm the accuracy of the register. A copy shall be placed on the trust's server so that all staff and trustees/governors are aware of the risks and the strategies in place to deal with them.