

THE WOODLAND ACADEMY TRUST

ACADEMIES

MASTER FUNDING AGREEMENT

July 2011

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CONTENTS:

SECTION	CLAUSE NO
INTRODUCTION	1 – 10
LEGAL AGREEMENT	11
CHARACTERISTICS OF AN ACADEMY	12
CONDITIONS OF GRANT	
General	13
Governance	14-15
Conduct	16
Criminal Records Bureau Checks	17
Pupils	18
Designated Teacher for Children in Care	18A
Teachers and other staff	19-22
Curriculum, curriculum development and delivery and RE and collective worship	23-29
Assessment	30
Exclusions Agreement	31
School meals	32-33
Charging	34
GRANTS TO BE PAID BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE	
General	35-36
Capital Grant	37-40
Arrangements for Payment of Capital Grant	41
Implementation Grant	42-47

General Annual Grant	48-60
Earmarked Annual Grant	61-62
Arrangements for payment of GAG and EAG	63-67
Other relevant funding	68-71
FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS	
General	72-86
Borrowing Powers	87-88
Disposal of Assets	89-95
TERMINATION	
General	96-99
Effect of Termination	100
GENERAL	
Information	101-102
Access by Secretary of State's Officers	103-105
Notices	106-107
Appointment of Additional and Further	
Directors by the Secretary of State	108
General	109
SCHEDULE 1	
Model Supplemental Agreement	
ANNEXES TO THE MASTER FUNDING AGREEMENT	
Memorandum and Articles of the Company	Annex A
Arrangements for pupils with SEN and disabilities at each Academy	Annex B
Serious incidents of misbehaviour leading to fixed period or permanent exclusion.	Annex C

INTRODUCTION

- 1) This Agreement is made under Section 1 of the Academies Act 2010, between the Secretary of State for Education (“the Secretary of State”) and The Woodland Academy Trust (the “Company”).
- 2) The Company is a company incorporated in England and Wales, limited by guarantee with registered Company number 7694050.
- 3) The Company intends to establish and maintain, and to carry on or provide for the carrying on of a number of Academies in accordance with this Agreement and the Supplemental Agreements.
- 4) This Agreement and the Supplemental Agreements will apply in respect of an Academy from such time as a Supplemental Agreement relating to that Academy shall have been entered into between the Secretary of State and the Company.
- 5) The following expressions used in this Agreement have the respective meanings assigned to them by the numbered clauses of this Agreement referred to immediately after the reference to the expressions -
 - a) “Academies Financial Handbook” - clause 73;
 - b) "Academy Financial Year" - clause 67;
 - c) “Accounting Officer” – clause 72;
 - d) "Annual Letter of Funding" - clause 66;
 - e) "GAG" – clause 36;
 - f) "Capital Expenditure" - clause 37;
 - g) “Capital Grant” – clause 37;
 - h) "EAG" - clause 36;
 - i) “Local Governing Body” – clause 15;
 - j) “Recurrent Expenditure” – clause 36;
 - k) “Start-up Period” – clause 56;

6) In this Agreement the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings:-

“Additional Directors” means Directors who may be appointed by the Secretary of State following a warning notice in accordance with the Articles of Association;

“Academy” – an Academy in respect of which a Supplemental Agreement has been entered into between the Secretary of State and the Company and the expression “Academies” shall refer to all or any of such Academies;

“admission requirements” – are annexed to the relevant Supplemental Agreement;

“this Agreement” means this agreement and its annexes and a reference in this Agreement to a numbered clause or annex is a reference to the clause or annex of this Agreement bearing that number or letter as the same may be amended or supplemented from time to time;

“Business Day” means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a day which is a bank holiday with the meaning given to that expression in the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971;

“DfE” means Department for Education;

“Further Directors” means Directors who may be appointed by the Secretary of State under the Articles of Association if a Special Measures Termination Event, as defined in the relevant Supplemental Agreement, occurs;

“Executive Head Teacher” means the head teacher of every Academy in the Trust and “Head of School” means the teacher in charge at an individual Academy;

“Principal Regulator” means the body or person appointed as the Principal Regulator under the Charities Act 2006.

“LA” means the Local Authority in the area in which the relevant Academy is situated;

“Memorandum” and “Articles” means the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company for the time being in force, a copy of the current version of which is annexed to this Agreement as Annex A;

“parents” means parents or guardians;

“persons” includes a body of persons, corporate or incorporate;

references to “school” shall where the context so admits be references to an Academy;

“SEN” means Special Educational Needs;

“Supplemental Agreement” means an agreement supplemental to this Agreement, substantially in the form set out in Schedule 1 to this Agreement to be entered into by the Secretary of State and the Company pursuant to which the Company agrees to establish and maintain, and to carry on or provide for the carrying on, and the Secretary of State agrees to fund, an Academy in accordance with the terms and conditions of that Supplemental Agreement and this Agreement;

7) The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Agreement and any Supplemental Agreement as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

8) Expressions defined in this Agreement shall have the same meaning where used in any Annex to this Agreement or Supplemental Agreement.

9) Questions arising on the interpretation of the arrangements in this Agreement shall be resolved by the Secretary of State after consultation with the Company

10) Section 1 (3) of the Academies Act 2010 states that -

(3) An Academy agreement is an agreement between the Secretary of State and the other party under which-

(a) the other party gives the undertakings in subsection (5), and

(b) the Secretary of State agrees to make payments to the other party in consideration of those undertakings."

LEGAL AGREEMENT

11) In consideration of the Company undertaking to establish and maintain, and to carry on or provide for the carrying on of, of a number of independent schools in England having such characteristics as are referred to in clause 12, the Secretary of State agrees to make payments to the Company in accordance with the conditions and requirements set out in this Agreement and Supplemental Agreements. If it is agreed between the Secretary of State and the Company that the Company will establish and maintain, and to carry on or provide

for the carrying on of an Academy, the parties will enter into a Supplemental Agreement in relation to that Academy. For the avoidance of doubt, any obligations imposed upon or powers given to an Academy by this Agreement or any Supplemental Agreement are also imposed upon the Company.

CHARACTERISTICS OF AN ACADEMY

12) The characteristics of an Academy set down in Section 1(6) of the Academies Act 2010, are that:

- a) The school has a curriculum satisfying the requirements of section 78 of EA 2002 (balanced and broadly based curriculum)
- b) If the school provides secondary education, its curriculum for the secondary education has an emphasis on a particular subject area, or particular subject areas, specified in the Agreement;
- c) The school provides education for pupils of different abilities¹
- d) the school provides education for pupils who are wholly or mainly drawn from the area in which the school is situated.

CONDITIONS OF GRANT

General

13) Other conditions and requirements in respect of an Academy, unless specified otherwise in a Supplemental Agreement, are that:

- a) the school will be at the heart of its community, promoting community cohesion and sharing facilities with other schools and the wider community;
- b) there will be assessments of pupils performance as they apply to maintained schools and the opportunity to study for external qualifications in accordance with clause 30 (d);
- c) the admissions policy and arrangements for the school will be in accordance with admissions law, and the DfE Codes of Practice, as they apply to maintained schools;

¹ This clause will not apply to any Supplemental Funding Agreement entered into in relation to an Academy which is a "selective school" within the meaning of Section 6[4] of the Academies Act 2010

d) teachers' levels of pay and conditions of service for all employees will be the responsibility of the Company save that when entering into a contract of employment with any person the Academy Trust shall be bound by and act in accordance with such guidance as the Secretary of State may publish in relation to the maximum salary that may be paid to employees of Academies;

e) there will be an emphasis on the needs of the individual pupils including pupils with special education needs (SEN), both those with and without statements of SEN;

f) there will be no charge in respect of admission to the school and the school will only charge pupils where the law allows maintained schools to charge.

g) the Company shall as soon as reasonably practicable establish an appropriate mechanism for the receipt and management of donations and shall use reasonable endeavours to procure donations through that mechanism for the purpose of the objects specified in the Articles.

Governance

14) Each Academy will be governed by the Company. The Company shall have regard to (but for the avoidance of doubt shall not be bound by) any guidance as to the governance of academies that the Secretary of State may publish.

15) The Company shall establish, for each Academy, an Advisory Body, whose role shall be to provide advice to the Company in relation to the functioning of that Academy. The role of the Advisory Body and the membership of it shall be for the Company to decide, but the Company will, as a minimum, ensure that:

a) a minimum of two parents of a pupil at the Academy (to be elected by the parents of registered pupils of the Academy) shall be a member of the Advisory Body;

b) any advice of the Advisory Body is brought to the attention of the Directors of the Company; and

c) to the extent that the Company may, in accordance with the Articles, choose to establish a Local Governing Body, then the Company may additionally constitute the Advisory Body as the Academy's Local Governing Body.

Conduct

16) Each Academy shall be conducted in accordance with:

- a) the Memorandum and Articles, which shall not be amended by the Company without the written consent of the Secretary of State, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld;
- b) all provisions by or under statute which confer rights or impose obligations on Academies including, without limitation, the independent schools standards prescribed under section 157 of the Education Act 2002 to the extent they apply to the Academy;
- c) the terms of this Agreement and the relevant Supplemental Agreement.

Criminal Records Bureau Checks

17) The Company shall comply with the requirements of paragraph 4 of the Schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) in relation to carrying out enhanced criminal records checks, obtaining enhanced criminal records certificates and making any further checks, as required and appropriate for members of staff, supply staff, individual Directors and – where appointed - the Chair of the Local Governing Body.

Pupils

18) Each Academy will be an all ability inclusive² school whose requirements for:

- a) the admission of pupils to an Academy are set out in the relevant annex to the Supplemental Agreement;
- b) the admission to the Academy of and support for pupils with SEN and with disabilities (for pupils who have and who do not have statements of SEN) are set out in Annex B to this Agreement;
- c) pupil exclusions are set out in Annex C to this Agreement.

Designated Teacher for Children in Care

18A) The Company will in respect of each Academy act in accordance with, and be bound by, all relevant statutory and regulatory provisions and have regard to any guidance and codes of practice issued pursuant to such provisions, as they apply at any time to a

² If one of the Academies is a “selective school” within the meaning of Section 6(4) of the Academies Act 2010 then the Supplemental Funding Agreement for that Academy will provide that that Academy is not required to be an all ability inclusive school.

maintained school, relating to the designation of a person to manage the teaching and learning programme for children who are looked after by an LA and are registered pupils at the school. For the purpose of this clause, any reference to the governing body of a maintained school in such statutory and regulatory provisions, or in any guidance and code of practice issued pursuant to such provisions, shall be deemed to be references to the Directors of the Company.

Teachers and other staff

19) Subject to clause 20, the Company shall not employ anyone under a contract of employment or for services to carry out planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils, delivering lessons to pupils, assessing the development, progress and attainment of pupils, and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils (“specified work”) who is not either:-

- a) a qualified teacher within the meaning of regulations made under section 132 of the Education Act 2002; or
- b) otherwise eligible to do specified work under the Education (Specified Work and Registration) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1663), which for the purpose of this clause shall be construed as if the relevant Academy were a maintained school.

20) Clause 19 does not apply to anyone who:

- a) was transferred to the employment of the Company by virtue of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006; and
- b) immediately prior to the transfer, was employed to do specified work; and
- c) immediately prior to the transfer, was not:
 - i) a qualified teacher within the meaning of regulations made under section 132 of the Education Act 2002 and registered with full registration with the appropriate body, or
 - ii) eligible to do specified work under the Education (Specified Work and Registration) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1663)

(“transferred staff member”). The Company shall use its best endeavours to ensure that any transferred staff member who undertakes specified work and does not meet the

requirements of either clause 20(a) or clause 20(b) meets such requirements as soon as possible.

21) The Company shall ensure that all teachers employed at each Academy have access to the Teachers Pension Scheme and, in so doing, will comply with the statutory provisions underlying the scheme.

22) The Company shall ensure that all employees at each Academy other than teachers have access to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Curriculum, curriculum development and delivery and RE and collective worship

23) The curriculum provided by each Academy to pupils up to the age of 16 shall be broad and balanced. The specialism for each Academy in relation to its secondary curriculum will be set out in the relevant Supplemental Agreement.

24) The Company shall ensure that the broad and balanced curriculum includes English, Mathematics and Science.

25) The Company shall make provision for the teaching of religious education and for a daily act of collective worship at each Academy.

26) Where an Academy is designated with a religious character³ in accordance with section 124B of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 or further to section 6(8) of the Academies Act 2010:

- a) subject to clause 28, the Company shall ensure that provision is made for Religious Education to be given to all pupils at the Academy in accordance with the tenets of the specified religion or religious denomination of the Academy;
- b) subject to clause 28, the Company shall comply with the requirements of section 70(1) of, and Schedule 20 to, the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as if the Academy were a foundation school with a religious character or a voluntary school, and as if references to 'the required collective worship' were references to collective worship in accordance with the tenets and practices of the specified religion or religious denomination of the Academy;

³ Alternative provisions are available and would be potentially appropriate for non-denominational faith schools.

- c) the Company shall ensure that the quality of Religious Education given to pupils at the Academy and the contents of the Academy's collective worship given in accordance with the tenets and practice of the specific religion or religious denomination are inspected. Such inspection shall be conducted by a person chosen by the Company and the Academy shall secure that such inspection shall comply with the requirements set out in any statutory provision and regulations as if the Academy were a foundation of voluntary school which has been designated under section 69(3) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as having a religious character.

27) Where an Academy has not been designated with a religious character in accordance with section 124B of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 or further to Section 6(8) of the Academies Act 2010:

- a) subject to clause 28, the Company shall ensure that provision shall be made for religious education to be given to all pupils at the Academy in accordance with the requirements for agreed syllabuses in section 375(3) of the Education Act 1996 and paragraph 2(5) of Schedule 19 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998;

- b) subject to clause 28, the Company shall ensure that the Academy complies with the requirements of section 70(1) of, and Schedule 20 to, the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as if it were a community, foundation or voluntary school which does not have a religious character, except that the provisions of paragraph 4 of that Schedule do not apply. The Academy may apply to the Secretary of State for consent to be relieved of the requirement imposed by paragraph 3(2) of that Schedule, the Secretary of State's consent to such an application not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

28) Section 71(1) – (6) and (8) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 shall apply as if each Academy were a community, foundation or voluntary school, and as if references to "Religious Education" and to "Religious Worship" in that section were references to the religious education and religious worship provided by each Academy in accordance with clauses 26 or 27 as appropriate.

29) The Company shall have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State on sex and relationship education to ensure that children at each Academy are protected from inappropriate teaching materials and they learn the nature of marriage and its importance for family life and for bringing up children.

Assessment

30) The Secretary of State will notify the appropriate body for assessment purposes about each Academy.

- a) The Company shall ensure that the Academy complies with any guidance issued by the Secretary of State from time to time to ensure that pupils take part in assessments and in teacher assessments of pupil's performance as they apply to maintained schools.
- b) The Company shall report to any body on assessments under clause 30 as the Secretary of State shall prescribe and shall provide such information as may be required by that body as applies to maintained schools.
- c) In respect of all Key Stages, the Company will submit each Academy to monitoring and moderation of its assessment arrangements as prescribed by the Secretary of State.
- d) The Company may not offer courses at any Academy which lead to external qualifications, as defined in section 96 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000, unless the Secretary of State gives specific approval for such courses.

Exclusions Agreement

31) From 1 April 2009, the Company shall, if invited to do so by an LA, enter into an agreement in respect of an Academy with that LA, which has the effect that where:

- a) the Company admits a pupil to the Academy who has been permanently excluded from a maintained school, the Academy itself or another Academy with whom the LA has a similar agreement; or
- b) the Company permanently excludes a pupil from the Academy

payment will flow between the Company and the LA in the same direction and for the same amount that it would, were the Academy a maintained school, under Regulations made under section 47 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 relating to the addition or deduction of a maintained school's budget following a permanent exclusion or the admission of a permanently excluded pupil. At the date of this Agreement, the applicable Regulation is Regulation 23 of the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008.

School Meals

32) The Company shall, if requested to do so by or on behalf of any pupils at any Academy, provide school lunches for those pupils unless it would be unreasonable for it to do so. Subject to the provisions of clause 33 charges may be levied for lunches, but the Company shall otherwise fund the cost of such school lunches from its GAG.

33) In relation to a pupil who is himself or whose parents are in receipt of benefits mentioned in section 512ZB of the Education Act 1996 (or equivalent provision governing the entitlement to free school lunches of pupils at maintained schools), the Company shall ensure that a school lunch is provided for such a pupil free of charge to be funded out of the Company's GAG.

Charging

34) Sections 402 (Obligation to enter pupils for public examinations), 450 - 457 (charges), 459 (regulations about information about charges and school hours) and 460 (voluntary contributions), 461 (recovery of sums as civil debt) - 462 (Interpretation re charges) of the Education Act 1996 shall be deemed to apply to each Academy with the following modifications:

- a) references to any maintained school shall be treated as references to an Academy;
- b) references to registered pupils shall be treated as references to registered pupils at an Academy;
- c) references to the governing body or the local education authority shall, in each case, be treated as references to the Company;
- d) the charging and remissions policies required to be determined under section 457, and any amendment thereto, shall require the approval of the Secretary of State; and
- e) the Company may charge persons who are not registered pupils at an Academy for education provided or for facilities used by them at that Academy.

GRANTS TO BE PAID BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

General

35) The Secretary of State shall pay grants towards capital and Recurrent Expenditure for each Academy. Except with the Secretary of State's prior agreement, the Company shall

not budget for its expenditure in any Academy Financial Year in excess of expected income. The Company shall not enter into commitments which are likely to have substantial implications for future levels of grant, or for the period for which grant may be required. No decision by the Company shall commit the Secretary of State to paying any particular amount of grant.

36) "Recurrent Expenditure" means any expenditure on the establishment, conduct, administration and maintenance of the Academy which does not fall within the categories of capital expenditure set out at clause 37. The Secretary of State shall pay two separate and distinct grants in respect of recurrent expenditure: General Annual Grant ("GAG") and Earmarked Annual Grant ("EAG").

Capital Grant

37) "Capital Expenditure" means expenditure on:

- a) the acquisition of land and buildings;
- b) the erection, enlargement, improvement or demolition of any building including fixed plant, installation, wall, fence or other structure, or any playground or hard standing;
- c) the installation of electrical, mechanical or other services;
- d) the purchase of vehicles and other self-propelled mechanical equipment;
- e) the installation and equipping of premises with furnishings and equipment, other than necessary replacements, repairs and maintenance due to normal wear and tear;
- f) the installation and equipping of premises with computers, networking for computers, operating software and information and communication technology equipment, other than necessary updates or necessary replacements, repairs and maintenance due to normal wear and tear;
- g) the provision and equipping of premises, including playing fields and other facilities for social activities and physical recreation;
- h) works of a permanent character other than the purchase or replacement of minor day-to day items;
- i) any major repairs or replacements which are specified as constituting capital expenditure in any grant letter relating to them;

j) such other items (whether of a like or dissimilar nature to any of the foregoing) of a substantial or enduring nature as the Secretary of State may agree shall constitute capital expenditure for the purposes of this Agreement;

k) all professional fees properly and reasonably incurred in connection with the provision of any of the above;

l) VAT and other taxes payable on any of the above.

“Capital Grant” means grant paid to the Company in respect of Capital Expenditure.

38) Where an Academy is to open in new premises, or where existing premises are to be substantially refurbished or remodelled to enable the Academy to open in such premises, the Secretary of State, may, in his absolute discretion be responsible for meeting the incurred Capital Expenditure for that Academy. To that end, the Secretary of State will consider providing funding in accordance with any arrangements as he considers appropriate.

39) Any Capital Expenditure incurred in respect of each Academy on which Capital Grant payments are sought from the Secretary of State will require the specific prior written agreement of the Secretary of State, which agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

40) Any payment of Capital Grant to the Company under this Agreement is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

a) such grants are used solely to defray expenditure approved by the Secretary of State;

b) the Company certifying and providing evidence that all planning and other consents necessary for the development and all related infrastructure to be completed have been obtained or put in place.

Arrangements for Payment of Capital Grant

41) Capital Grant will be paid by the Secretary of State to the Company on the basis of claims for grant submitted to the Secretary of State in the notified format with supporting invoices and certificates as required by the Secretary of State. Capital Grant will be paid within 21 days from the day on which a claim for grant is received if the claim is in the proper format, supported by the appropriate documentation and the conditions on its payment set out at clause 40 are complied with. If a dispute arises as to whether a claim is or is not acceptable both parties undertake to attempt to resolve it in good faith. In the event of such

a dispute, the Secretary of State shall pay to the Company so much of the claim as shall not be in dispute.

Implementation Grant⁴

42) "Implementation Grant" means payments towards Recurrent Expenditure incurred for the establishment of an Academy prior to it opening.

43) The Secretary of State may enter into an agreement with a third party ("Project Management Company") for the provision of project management services to assist in the establishment of an Academy. Where such an agreement has been entered into, the Secretary of State shall pay Implementation Grant to the Project Management Company in accordance with that agreement.

44) If the Secretary of State has indicated that Implementation Grant will be payable, the Company shall prepare and submit to the Secretary of State a budget, for each Academy, showing expected Recurrent Expenditure to be incurred by the Company before the Academy opens and for which grant is sought. This budget must either be agreed to or modified by the Secretary of State as he considers appropriate ("Approved Implementation Budget").

45) Both parties recognise that as the project develops it may be necessary to revise individual costs in an Approved Implementation Budget and to move costs between budget headings in order to ensure that the project remains within its approved budget. Where the Company wishes to make such an adjustment of over £10,000, the reason for the change and a revised budget must be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

46) The Secretary of State will pay Implementation Grant to the Company on the basis of claims for grant submitted to the Secretary of State in accordance with the Approved Implementation Budget and in the notified format with supporting invoices, receipts and documents as required by the Secretary of State. If the grant claim is acceptable, the Secretary of State undertakes to pay the amount due within 21 days from the day on which it was received. If a dispute arises over whether a grant claim or part of it is acceptable, both parties undertake to attempt to resolve the dispute in good faith.

47) Any amount in the Approved Implementation Budget in respect of which the expenditure

⁴ Note that the Secretary of State will not pay Implementation Grant pursuant to these clauses in relation to schools applying to convert further to the Academies Act 2010.

has not been incurred by the Company by the date on which the applicable Academy opens will lapse and no Implementation Grant will be payable in respect of that part of the Approved Implementation Budget. Any amount of Implementation Grant which has been paid but remains unexpended on relevant expenditure by the date on which the applicable Academy opens will, without prejudice to any other mode of recovery, be taken into account in determining the total amount of grant to be paid to the Company in respect of the applicable Academy after that Academy has opened. Any amount of Implementation Grant which is found to have been used on ineligible expenditure will, without prejudice to any other mode of recovery, be taken into account in determining the total amount of grant to be paid to the Company.

General Annual Grant

48) GAG will be paid by the Secretary of State to the Company in order to cover the normal running costs of each Academy. These will include, but are not limited to:

- a) teachers' salaries and related costs (including full and part time teaching staff and seconded teachers);
- b) non-teaching staff salaries and related costs (including pension contributions, educational support staff, administrative and clerical staff and manual and premises related staff);
- c) employees' expenses;
- d) the purchase, maintenance, repair and replacement:
 - (i) of teaching and learning materials and other educational equipment, including books, stationery and ICT equipment and software, sports equipment and laboratory equipment and materials;
 - (ii) of other supplies and services;
- e) examination fees;
- f) repairs, servicing and maintenance of buildings (including redecoration, heating, plumbing, lighting etc); maintenance of grounds (including boundary fences and walls); cleaning materials and contract cleaning; water and sewage; fuel and light (including fuel oil, solid and other fuel, electricity and gas); rents; rates; purchase, maintenance, repairs and replacement of furniture and fittings;

- g) insurance;
- h) medical equipment and supplies;
- i) staff development (including in-service training);
- j) curriculum development;
- k) the costs of providing school meals for pupils (including the cost of providing free school meals to pupils who are eligible to receive them), and discretionary grants to pupils to meet the cost of pupil support, including support for pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (taking account of the fact that separate additional money will be available for pupils with statements of special educational needs);
- l) administration;
- m) establishment expenses and other institutional costs.

48a) Grants paid to the Academy Trust by the Secretary of State may not be used for the purposes of any Children's Centre without the prior written consent of the Secretary of State.

49) Subject to clauses to 57-58, GAG for each Academy Financial Year for each Academy will be the total of the following areas of funding;

a) Formula Funding: Funding equivalent to the level of funding which would be provided through the funding formula of the LA to a maintained school which had all of that Academy's relevant characteristics, including its number of pupils;

b) Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent: Funding representing a proportion of the LA Education Budget money which the LA would be able to retain, from the non-delegated elements of the Schools Budget and the relevant items in the LA Budget, if that Academy were a maintained school. The proportion which this funding will represent will be based on the elements of the LA's Section 251 Budget Return which are relevant to that Academy.

c) Specialist Schools Allowance: Funding equivalent to that which a maintained school with that Academy's characteristics would receive in respect of their participation in the specialist schools programme. In the year of conversion, this may continue to be paid by the Local Authority;

50) The GAG for each Academy Financial Year for each Academy will also include, payable on a basis equivalent to that applied to maintained schools:

- n) funding for matters for which it is necessary for that Academy to incur extra costs, for as long as those costs are deemed necessary by the Secretary of State; and
- o) payments in respect of further, specific grants made available to maintained schools, where the relevant Academy meets the requisite conditions and criteria necessary for a maintained school to receive these grants.

51) Subject to clause 52, the basis of the pupil number count for the purposes of determining GAG for an Academy Financial Year for an Academy will be in the first year of conversion, the same basis as that used by the Local Authority for determining the budget share of the predecessor maintained school as adjusted by numbers counted in any subsequent Schools Census, as determined by the Secretary of State. In subsequent years the basis of the pupil count will be as determined by the Secretary of State.

52) Once the conditions specified in clause 53 have been satisfied with respect to an Academy for the Academy Financial Year for which funding is being calculated, the basis of the pupil number count for the purpose of determining GAG for that Academy will be:

- a) for the pupil number count for pupils in Year 11 and below, the Schools Census for the January preceding the Academy Financial Year in question; and
- b) for the pupil number count for pupils in Year 12 and above, the formula which for the time being is in use for maintained schools for the calculation of pupil numbers for pupils in Year 12 and above for the purpose of calculating their level of funding.

53) For the purpose of clause 52, the conditions are:

- a) all planned Year-groups will be present at the Academy (that is, all the pupil cohorts relevant to the age-range of the Academy will have some pupils present); and
- b) the total number of pupils as measured in the Schools Census for the preceding January is 90% or more of the planned final size of the Academy, as specified in the Academy's Supplemental Agreement.
- c) The Secretary of State had determined that the basis shall be as provided for in Clause 52.

54) For any Academy Financial Year in which GAG for an Academy has been calculated in accordance with clause 51, no adjustment shall be made to the following Academy Financial Year's formula funding element of GAG for that Academy to recognise variation from the pupil count basis used.

55) For any Academy Financial Year in which GAG for an Academy is calculated in accordance with clause 52, no adjustment will be made to the formula funding element in the following Academy Financial Year's formula funding element of GAG unless the Company demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State that there has been a significant impact on costs, such as an extra class. For any other element of GAG the Secretary of State may make adjustments to recognise a variation in pupil numbers from that used to calculate the element of grant in question; the basis of these will be set out in the annual letter of funding.

56) The Secretary of State recognises that:

- a) in relation to Academies which open with intakes representing only a proportion of the final planned size of the Academy, payments based simply upon the number of pupils present are unlikely to be sufficient to meet the Academy's needs in the Academy Financial Years before all age groups are present at their planned size (the "Start-up Period") because of a lack of economies of scale. The Secretary of State may pay an appropriately larger GAG in the Start-up Period than would be justified solely on the basis of the methods set out in clauses 49-55, in order to enable the Academy to operate effectively⁵;
- b) in relation to Academies which open with pupils transferred from one or more maintained schools which have closed, additional GAG resources may be required to take account of transitional costs including any costs associated with supporting the integration of pupils from the closed schools and, where necessary, to offer a dual curriculum. If the Secretary of State has indicated that such additional GAG will be payable, the Company will make a bid for this addition to GAG based upon need and providing appropriate supporting evidence.

57) During the Start-up Period or during the period when year groups are present who have transferred from a predecessor school or schools, the Secretary of State will pay a further element of GAG additional to that calculated in accordance with the methods set out in

⁵ Note that a larger GAG for the Start-Up Period is not applicable to schools applying to convert further to the Academies Act 2010.

clauses 49-55 to allow the relevant Academy to:

- a) purchase a basic stock of teaching and learning materials (including library books, text books, software, stationery, science equipment and equipment for physical education) and other consumable materials;
- b) meet the costs associated with the recruitment and induction of additional teaching and other staff.

After the Start-up Period these costs will be met through the ordinary GAG.

58) The Secretary of State recognises that if he serves notice of intention to terminate a Supplemental Agreement under that agreement the intake of new pupils during the notice period is likely to decline and that in such circumstances payments based simply upon the number of pupils attending the relevant Academy are unlikely to be sufficient to meet the Academy's needs during the notice period. The Secretary of State undertakes to pay a reasonable and appropriately larger GAG with respect to that Academy in the notice period than would be justified solely on the basis of the methods set out in clauses 49-55, in order to enable the Academy to operate effectively.

59) The Secretary of State also recognises that if this Agreement or a Supplemental Agreement is terminated for any reason by either party the number of pupils at the relevant Academy or Academies is likely to decline. In these circumstances both parties undertake to attempt to resolve issues arising from such termination in good faith and with the aim of protecting the interests and the education of the pupils at the Academy.

60) Subject to clause 79, GAG paid by the Secretary of State in respect of an Academy shall only be spent by the Company towards the normal running costs of that Academy.

Earmarked Annual Grant

61) Earmarked Annual Grant ("EAG") shall be paid by the Secretary of State to the Company in respect of either recurrent or Capital Expenditure for such specific purposes as may from time to time be agreed between the Secretary of State and the Company and as described in the relevant funding letter. The Company shall only spend EAG in accordance with the scope, terms and conditions of the grant set out in the relevant funding letter.

62) Where the Company is seeking a specific EAG in relation to any Academy Financial Year, it shall submit a letter outlining its proposals and the reasons for its request to Academies Division, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

Arrangements for Payment of GAG and EAG

63) The Secretary of State shall notify the Company at a date preceding the start of each Academy Financial Year of the GAG and EAG figures in respect of each Academy which, subject to Parliamentary approval, the Secretary of State plans for that Academy Financial Year and of the assumptions and figures on which these are based.

64) If GAG or EAG is calculated incorrectly due to a mistake of the Secretary of State then:

- a) if this leads to an underpayment of GAG, the Secretary of State will correct the underpayment in subsequent Academy Financial Years;
- b) if this leads to an overpayment of GAG, the Secretary of State reserves the right to recover any overpaid grant in subsequent Academy Financial Years, as appropriate, having considered all the relevant circumstances and taking into account any representations from the Company.

65) If GAG or EAG is calculated incorrectly because the Company provides incorrect information to the Secretary of State then;

- a) if this leads to an underpayment of GAG, the Secretary of State may correct the underpayment in subsequent Academy Financial Years;
- b) If this leads to an overpayment of GAG, the Secretary of State reserves the right to recover any overpaid grant in subsequent Academy Financial Years, as appropriate, having considered all the relevant circumstances and taking into account any representations from the Company.

66) The amounts of GAG for an Academy Financial Year will be determined annually by the Secretary of State. The amount of GAG for each Academy for the initial Academy Financial Year will be notified to the Company in a funding letter at a date preceding that year. For subsequent years the amount of GAG will be notified to the Company in a funding letter not later than 1 April preceding that Academy Financial Year (the "Annual Letter of Funding"). The Annual Letter of Funding will not include the amount that the Company will receive in respect of grants for which information to enable timely calculation is not available or is incomplete, such grants will be notified as soon as practicable later in the year. Amounts of EAG will be notified to the Company wherever possible in the Annual Letter of Funding or as soon as practicable thereafter.

67) For the purposes of this Agreement, an Academy Financial Year shall be deemed to run

from September to August, in order to align it to the school academic year. The Secretary of State undertakes to pay GAG in monthly instalments on or before the twenty fifth day of each month, each such instalment to fund the salaries and other payroll costs for the relevant month of all monthly paid employees and all other costs payable during the next following month. The detailed arrangements for payment will be set out in the Annual Letter of Funding.

Other relevant funding

68) Not used.⁶

69) The Secretary of State may meet costs incurred by the Company in connection with the transfer of employees from any predecessor school under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006. Payment of grant in respect of such costs is to be agreed between the parties on a case by case basis and the Company shall not budget on the basis that it will receive any grant in respect of such costs unless it is specifically notified that such grant will be paid.

70) The Company may also receive funding from an LA in respect of the provision detailed in statements of SEN for pupils attending an Academies in accordance with the provisions of Section 483A of the Education Act 1996 and regulations made under that section. The Company shall ensure that all provision detailed in statements of SEN is provided for such pupils.

71) The Company may also receive grant funding for each Academy from the relevant LA's Standards Fund. The extent of any grant funding received by the Academy Trust from the

⁶ For "converter" Academies, include words "Not used".

If the project is for Sponsored Academies then insert, in place of "Not used", the following provision:

"The Secretary of State shall meet a proportion of the Company's costs arising from the inclusion of Academies in the Schedules to the Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government) (Modification) Order 1999. The Secretary of State shall meet the costs of the employees' prior eligible service, being service prior to the opening of an Academy, and the Company will meet the costs of service after the opening of an Academy. The Company shall seek the Secretary of State's consent for these redundancies, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, before committing to the redundancies."

Local Authority may be equivalent to that which a Local Authority would pay to a maintained school using grant monies paid to it by the Secretary of State. Grants paid to the Company from the Standards Fund are not paid under this Agreement.

FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS

General

72) The Company shall appoint an Accounting Officer and shall notify the Secretary of State of that appointment.

73) In relation to the use of grant paid to the Company by the Secretary of State, the Company shall abide by the requirements of and have regard to the guidance in the Academies Financial Handbook published by the DfE and amended from time to time and as modified to take account of the fact that the Company manages more than one Academy, which sets out in detail provisions for the financial management of each Academy including guidance on financial systems and controls and accounting and reporting requirements, in so far as these are not inconsistent with any accounting and reporting requirements and guidance that it may be subject to by virtue of its being a charity.

74) The formal budget plan must be approved each Academy Financial Year by the Directors of the Company.

75) Any payment of grant by the Secretary of State in respect of each Academy is subject to his being satisfied as to the fulfilment by the Company of the following conditions:

- a) in its conduct and operation it shall apply financial and other controls which conform to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management;
- b) arrangements have been made to maintain proper accounting records and that statements of income and expenditure and balance sheets may be produced in such form and frequency as the Secretary of State may from time to time reasonably direct;
- c) in addition to the obligation to fulfil the statutory requirements referred to in sub-clause f) below, the Company shall prepare its financial statements, Directors' report, Annual Accounts and its Annual Return in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice as if the Company was a non-exempt Charity and/or in such form or manner as the Secretary of State may reasonably direct and shall file these

with the Secretary of State and the Principal Regulator by 31 December each Academy Financial Year;

- d) a statement of the accounting policies used should be sent to the Secretary of State with the financial statements and should carry an audit report stating that, in the opinion of the auditors, the statements show a true and fair view of the Company's affairs and that the grants were used for the purposes intended;
- e) the Company shall ensure that its accounts are audited annually by independent auditors appointed under arrangements approved by the Secretary of State;
- f) the Company prepares and files with the Companies Registry such annual accounts as are required by the Companies Act 2006;
- g) the Company shall publish on its website its Annual Accounts, Annual Report, Memorandum and Articles of Association, Funding Agreement and a list of the names of the Directors of the Company;
- h) the Company insures or procures insurance by another person of its assets in accordance with normal commercial practice or under the terms of any subsisting leases in respect of the leasehold interest of the site upon which each Academy is situated;

76) In addition, and at his expense, the Secretary of State may instruct auditors to report to him on the adequacy and effectiveness of the accounting systems and internal controls maintained by the Company to standards determined by the Secretary of State and to make recommendations for improving the financial management of the Company.

77) The books of accounts and all relevant records, files and reports of the Company including those relating to financial controls, shall be open at all reasonable times to officials of the DfE and the National Audit Office and to contractors retained by the DfE or the National Audit Office for inspection or the carrying out of value for money studies; and the Company shall secure that those officials and contractors are given reasonable assistance with their enquiries. For the purposes of this clause 'relevant' means in any way relevant to the provision and use of grants provided by the Secretary of State under this Agreement.

78) The Company shall submit indicative budgets relating to each Academy to the Secretary of State by not later than 15 February before the start of each Academy Financial Year. Such budgets shall set out clearly the prospective income and expenditure of the relevant Academy and shall differentiate, and give adequate details of:

- a) a statement of expected income for that Academy Financial Year including cash donations and gifts in kind from sources other than GAG, EAG and grants from the Secretary of State towards capital and revenue expenditure, distinguishing between income from public funds including the national lottery and income from other sources. Income from cash donations and gifts in kind from sources other than GAG, EAG and grants from the Secretary of State towards capital expenditure will not be taken into account by the Secretary of State in the calculation of GAG;
- b) a statement of proposed recurrent expenditure for that Academy Financial Year;
- c) a statement of proposed capital expenditure for that Academy Financial Year.

79) At the beginning of any Academy Financial Year the Company may hold unspent GAG for any Academy from previous Academy Financial Years amounting to 12% of the total GAG payable for the Academy in the Academy Financial Year just ended or such higher amount as may from time to time be agreed. This carried forward amount may be used as follows:

- a) equivalent to 2% of the total GAG payable in the Academy Financial Year just ended may be used by the Company for any of the purposes for which GAG is paid, whether for the purposes of the relevant Academy or for the purposes of any other Academy;
- b) equivalent to 12% of the total GAG payable in the Academy Financial Year just ended, or such higher figure as may from time to time be agreed, minus any amount used under sub-clause (a) above, may be used on the upkeep and improvement of premises, including the costs of equipment and routine repairs and maintenance of the relevant Academy, and on capital expenditure relating to the relevant Academy.

80) Notwithstanding clause 79, any additional grant provided over and above that set out in clauses 49-55 and made in accordance with clauses 56-58 may be carried forward without limitation or deduction until the Start-up Period or the circumstances set out in clause 58 come to an end.

81) Any savings of GAG not allowed to be carried forward under clauses 79-80 will be taken into account in the payment of subsequent grant.

82) The Company may also accumulate funds from private sources or public sources other than grants from the Secretary of State for application to the benefit of an Academy as it sees fit. Any surplus arising from private sources or public sources other than grants from

the Secretary of State shall be separately identified in the Company's balance sheet.

83) The Company shall not, in relation to assets or property funded (whether in whole or in part) by the Secretary of State, without the prior written consent of the Secretary of State which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed:

- a) except such as are given in normal contractual relations, give any guarantees, indemnities or letters of comfort;
- b) write off any debts or liabilities owed to it above a value to be set out in the annual letter of funding, nor offer to make any ex gratia payments;
- c) make any sale or purchase of freehold property; or
- d) grant or take up any leasehold or tenancy agreement for a term exceeding three years.

84) The Company shall provide 30 days notice to the Secretary of State, whether or not the circumstances require the Secretary of State's consent, of its intention to:

- a) give any guarantees, indemnities or letters of comfort;
- b) write off any debts owed to it or offer to make any ex gratia payments;
- c) make any sale or purchase of freehold property; or
- d) grant or take up any leasehold or tenancy agreement for a term exceeding three years.

85) Each discovered loss of an amount exceeding the amount set out in the annual letter of funding, and arising from suspected theft or fraud, shall be reported by the Company to the Secretary of State at the earliest opportunity.

86) It is the responsibility of the Company to ensure that each Academy balances its budget from Academy Financial Year to Academy Financial Year. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not prevent the Company from:

- a) carrying a surplus from one Academy Financial Year to the next; or
- b) carrying forward from a previous Academy Financial Year or Academy Financial Years a sufficient surplus or sufficient cumulative surpluses on grants from the Secretary of State to meet an in-year deficit on such grants in a subsequent financial

year; or

- c) incurring an in-year deficit on funds from sources other than grants from the Secretary of State in any Academy Financial Year, provided it does not affect the Company's responsibility to ensure that the Company balances its overall budget from Academy Financial Year to Academy Financial Year.

Borrowing Powers

87) The Company shall not borrow against or so as to put at risk property or assets funded (whether in whole or in part) by the Secretary of State without specific approval of the Secretary of State, such approval may only be granted in limited circumstances. The Company shall not operate an overdraft except to cover irregularities in cash flow. Such an overdraft, and the maximum amount to be borrowed, shall require approval by the Company in General Meeting and in writing by the Secretary of State, and shall be subject to any conditions which the Secretary of State may reasonably impose.

88) The Company shall provide 30 days notice to the Secretary of State of its intention to borrow, whether or not such borrowing requires the Secretary of State's approval under clause 87 above.

Disposal of Assets

89) Where the Company acquires assets for a nil consideration or at an under value it shall be treated for the purpose of this Agreement as having incurred expenditure equal to the market value of those assets at the time that they were acquired. This provision shall not apply to assets transferred to the Company at nil or nominal consideration and which were previously used for the purposes of an Academy and/or were transferred from an LA, the value of which assets shall be disregarded.

90) The sale or disposal by other means, or reinvestment of proceeds from the disposal, of a capital asset by the Company shall require the consent of the Secretary of State, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed, where:

- a) the Secretary of State paid capital grant in excess of £20,000 for the asset; or
- b) the asset was transferred to the Company from an LA for no or nominal consideration.

91) Furthermore, reinvestment of a percentage of the proceeds of disposal of a capital asset paid for with a capital grant from the Secretary of State shall require the Secretary of State's

consent in the circumstances set out above and reinvestment exceeding £1,000,000 or with other special features will be subject to Parliamentary approval. The percentage of the proceeds for which consent is needed is the percentage of the initial price of the asset which was paid by capital grant from the Secretary of State.

92) This clause applies in the event, during the lifetime of this Agreement, of the disposal of a capital asset for which capital grant of any amount was paid by the Secretary of State, where the asset was acquired by the Company. In this event, the Company shall repay to the Secretary of State the same proportion of the proceeds of the disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State, unless the Secretary of State agrees to some or all of the proceeds being retained by the Company for its charitable purposes.

93) This clause applies in the event, during the lifetime of this Agreement, that the Secretary of State consents to the disposal of an asset which was transferred to the Company from an LA for no or nominal consideration. In this event the Secretary of State may give consent on the basis that all or part of the proceeds of the disposal should be made over to the LA from which the asset was transferred, taking into account the amount of the proceeds to be reinvested by the Company. The Secretary of State will have regard to any representations from the Company and the LA from which the asset was transferred before giving consent under this clause.

94) Except with the consent of the Secretary of State, the Company shall not dispose of assets funded (whether in whole or in part) by the Secretary of State for a consideration less than the best price that can reasonably be obtained, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

95) The Company shall provide 30 days notice to the Secretary of State of its intention to dispose of assets for a consideration less than the best price that can reasonably be obtained, whether or not such disposal requires the Secretary of State's consent under clause 94 above.

TERMINATION

96) This Agreement shall commence on the date hereof and continue until terminated in accordance with clause 97 or until all Supplemental Agreements have terminated.

97) The Secretary of State may at any time by notice in writing terminate this Agreement and each of the Supplemental Agreements forthwith on the occurrence of any of the following

events:-

- a) the Company calls a meeting of its creditors (whether formal or informal) or enters into any composition or arrangement (whether formal or informal) with its creditors; or
- b) the Company proposes a voluntary arrangement within Section 1 of the Insolvency Act 1986 (as amended); or
- c) the Company is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of Section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986 provided that, for the purposes of this Clause, Section 123 (1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 shall have effect as if the amount of £10,000 was substituted for £750. The Company shall not be deemed unable to pay its debts for the purposes of this clause if any such demand as is mentioned in the said Section is being contested in good faith by the Company; or
- d) the Company has a receiver and manager (with the exception of Receivers and Managers or Interim Managers appointed by the Charity Commission under the Charities Act 1993 or any subsequent re-enactment of that Act), administrator or administrative receiver appointed over all or any part of its undertakings, assets or income; or
- e) any distraint, execution or other process is levied or enforced on any of the Company's property and is not paid out, withdrawn or discharged within fifteen Business Days; or
- f) the Company has passed a resolution for its winding up; or
- g) an order is made for the winding up or administration of the Company.

The Company shall notify the Secretary of State as soon as possible after receiving any petition which may result in an order for the winding up or administration of the Company and shall provide an explanation to the Secretary of State of the circumstances giving rise to the service of such a petition.

98) If, following the exercise of the Secretary of State's powers to appoint Additional Directors or Further Directors, pursuant to the Articles of Association the Members pass an ordinary or special resolution to remove one or more of those Additional or Further Directors appointed by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State may give the Company 12 months, or such lesser period as he considers appropriate in the circumstances, written notice to terminate this Agreement or, as the Secretary of State may in his absolute discretion decide any of the Supplemental Funding Agreement's.

99) The Secretary of State's right to terminate this Agreement under clause 98 shall cease if he removes any of the Additional Directors or Further Directors which he has appointed pursuant to the Articles of Association.

Effect of Termination

100) In the event of the termination of this Agreement however occurring the Secretary of State shall procure that his nominee (if any) shall resign as a member of the Company and shall co-operate in making any associated amendments to the Articles of Association.

GENERAL

Information

101) Without prejudice to any other provision of this Agreement, the Secretary of State acting reasonably may from time to time call for information on, inter alia, any Academy's:

- a) curriculum;
- b) arrangements for the assessment of pupils;
- c) teaching staff including numbers, qualifications, experience, salaries, and teaching loads;
- d) class sizes;
- e) outreach work with other schools and the local community;
- f) operation of the admission criteria and over subscription arrangements for the Academy including numbers of applications for places and the number and characteristics of pupils accepted for admission;
- g) numbers of pupils excluded (including permanent and fixed term exclusions);

- h) levels of authorised and unauthorised attendance;
- i) charging and remissions policies and the operation of those policies;
- j) organisation, operation and building management;
- k) financial controls; and
- l) membership and proceedings of the Company and – where any is in place - the Local Governing Body.

102) The Company shall make such information available to the Secretary of State, in such form and manner and at such times as may reasonably be required. The Secretary of State shall provide the Company with such information as it may reasonably require of him for the running of an Academy.

Access by the Secretary of State's Officers

103) The Company shall allow access to the premises of any Academy at any reasonable time to DfE officials. All records, files and reports relating to the running of the Company and each Academy shall be available to them at any reasonable time. The Company shall provide the Secretary of State in advance with papers relating to each Academy prepared for meetings of the Local Governing Body – where any is in place of the Company's directors and of the members of the Company. Two DfE officials shall be entitled to attend and to speak at all such meetings, but shall withdraw from any discussion of an Academy's or the Company's relationship with the Secretary of State or any discussion of bids for funding to the Secretary of State. The Company shall take any steps which are required to secure its compliance with the obligations imposed by this clause of this Agreement.

104) The Company shall ensure that:

- a) the agenda for every meeting of the relevant Local Governing Body – where any is in place - and the Company's directors;
- b) the draft minutes of every such meeting, if they have been approved by the person acting as chairman of that meeting;
- c) the signed minutes of every such meeting; and
- d) any report, document or other paper considered at any such meeting,

are made available for inspection by any interested party at the relevant Academy and, as soon as is reasonably practicable, sent to the Secretary of State.

105) There may be excluded from any item required to be made available for inspection by any interested party and to be sent to the Secretary of State by virtue of clause 104, any material relating to:

- a) a named teacher or other person employed, or proposed to be employed, at any Academy;
- b) a named pupil at, or candidate for admission to, any Academy; and
- c) any matter which, by reason of its nature, the Company is satisfied should remain confidential.

Notices

106) Any notice or other communication concerning this Agreement or a Supplemental Agreement shall be sent, in the case of a notice or communication from the Secretary of State to the Company at its registered office or such other addressee/address as may be notified in writing from time to time by the Company and, in the case of a notice or communication from the Company to the Secretary of State to Head of Academies Division, Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT; or such other address as may be notified from time to time by the Secretary of State and where any such notice or communication is sent by post, unless the contrary is proved, it shall be deemed, subject to satisfactory proof of posting, to be effected at the time at which the letter would be received in the ordinary course of post.

107) The service by the Secretary of State of a notice of termination of a Supplemental Agreement shall not prejudice the ability of the Company (if it wishes to do so) during the notice period to admit pupils to the relevant Academy in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the relevant Supplemental Agreement and to receive GAG and EAG in respect of them.

Appointment of Additional or Further Directors by the Secretary of State

108) The Secretary of State undertakes to the Company not to exercise the powers under the Articles to appoint Additional Directors or Further Directors in the following circumstances:-

- a) if the matters giving rise to the appointment of the Additional or Further Directors relate, in the reasonable opinion of the Secretary of State, to the affairs of only one Academy; and
- b) if the Company has delegated, and continues to delegate, to a Local Governing Body of such Academy all decisions and powers that the Secretary of State reasonably considers are necessary to enable such Local Governing Body to address the matters that gave rise to the appointment of the Additional or Further Directors and to ensure that the relevant Local Governing Body is capable of properly conducting the affairs of the relevant Academy on the Company's behalf.; and
- c) if the Company replaces such members of the Local Governing Body and/or appoints additional members of that Local Governing Body as, in either case, the Secretary of State may by notice in writing to the Company specify; and
- d) provided that such delegation is not subsequently revoked or, without the prior written consent of the Secretary of State, varied in any material respect.

General

109) The Secretary of State and the Company recognise the difficulties in catering in this Agreement and the Supplemental Agreements for all the circumstances which may arise in relation to the Academies and undertake in good faith to conduct such consultations as may from time to time be desirable in order to promote the interests of the Academies throughout the currency of this Agreement.

This Agreement was executed as a Deed on

2011

Executed on behalf of the Woodland Academy Trust by:

.....
Director

.....
Director/

The Corporate Seal of the Secretary of State for Education, hereunto affixed is authenticated by:

.....
Duly Authorised

Arrangements for pupils with Special Educational Needs ('SEN') and disabilities at the Academies

Duties in relation to pupils with SEN

1. The Directors of the Company must, in respect of each Academy, comply with all of the duties imposed upon the governing bodies of maintained schools in;
 - Part 4 of the Education Act 1996 as amended from time to time⁷;
 - The Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999 as amended from time to time;
 - The Education (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 as amended from time to time⁸.
2. Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement, the Secretary of State may (whether following a complaint made to him or otherwise) direct the Company to comply with an obligation described in this Annex where the Company has failed to comply with any such obligation.
3. Where a child who has SEN is being educated in an Academy, those concerned with making special educational provision for the child must secure that the child engages in the activities of the school together with children who do not have SEN, so far as is reasonably practicable and is compatible with:
 - (a) the child receiving the special educational provision which his learning difficulty calls for,
 - (b) the provision of efficient education for the children with whom he will be educated, and
 - (c) the efficient use of resources.
4. In addition to complying with the duties imposed upon the governing bodies of maintained schools set out in The Education (Special Educational Needs) (Information) Regulations 1999 (as amended from time to time) the Company must ensure that the website for each Academy includes details of the arrangements for the admission of disabled pupils; the steps taken to prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favourably than other pupils; and the facilities provided to assist access to the Academy by disabled pupils (disabled pupils meaning pupils who are disabled for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010⁹).

⁷ Currently these duties are in sections 313 (Duty to have regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2001); 317 (Duties in relation to pupils with special educational needs), 317A (Duty to advise parents that special educational provision is being made); and 324(5)(b) (Duty to admit the child where a school is named in the statement).

⁸ These Regulations are amended by The Education (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009 No 1387).

⁹ For the meaning of 'disabled', see section 6 of the Equality Act 2010.

Admissions

5. The Company must ensure that for each Academy pupils with SEN are admitted on an equal basis with others in accordance with the Academy's admissions policy.
6. Where a local authority ("LA") proposes to name the Academy in a statement of SEN made in accordance with section 324 of the Education Act 1996, it must give the Company written notice that it so proposes. Within 15 days of receipt of the LA's notice that it proposes to name the Academy in a statement, the Company must consent to being named, except where admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education for other children; and where no reasonable steps may be made to secure compatibility. In deciding whether a child's inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children, the Company must have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State to maintained schools.
7. If the Company determines that admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education, it must, within 15 days of receipt of the LA's notice, notify the LA in writing that it does not agree that the Academy should be named in the pupil's statement. Such notice must set out all the facts and matters the Academy relies upon in support of its contention that: (a) admitting the child would be incompatible with efficiently educating other children; and (b) the Company cannot take reasonable steps to secure this compatibility.
8. After service by the Company on the LA of any notice (further to paragraph 7 above) stating that it does not agree with the LA's proposal that the Academy be named, the Company must seek to establish from the LA, as soon as is reasonably practicable, whether or not the LA agrees with the Company. If the LA notifies the Academy that it does not agree with the Company's response, and names the Academy in the child's statement, then the Company must admit the child to the school on the date specified in the statement or on the date specified by the LA.
9. Where the Company consider that the Academy should not have been named in a child's statement, they may ask the Secretary of State to determine that the LA has acted unreasonably in naming the Academy and to make an order directing the LA to reconsider.
10. The Secretary of State's determination shall, subject only to any right of appeal which any parent or guardian of the child may have to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability), be final.
11. If a parent or guardian of a child in respect of whom a statement is maintained by the local authority appeals to the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) either against the naming of an Academy in the child's SEN statement or asking the Tribunal to name an Academy, then the decision of the Tribunal on any such appeal shall be binding and shall, if different from that of the Secretary of State under paragraph 9 above, be substituted for the Secretary of State's decision.
12. Where the Company, the Secretary of State or the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) have determined that it should be named, the Company shall admit the child to the Academy notwithstanding any provision of Annex 1 of the Supplemental Agreement of that Academy.

Serious incidents of misbehaviour leading to fixed period or permanent exclusion

1. Subject to the exceptions in paragraph 5, the Company shall act and shall ensure that the Executive Head Teacher and Head of School and Local Governing Body – where any is in place - of each Academy act in accordance with the law on exclusions as if each Academy were a maintained school. For this purpose, reference in the law on exclusions to the Head Teacher and Governing Body shall respectively be deemed to be the Executive Head Teacher and to the Board of Directors and to a Local Governing Body – where any is in place.
2. Without limiting the generality of paragraph 1, the Company shall ensure that the Local Authority in which each Academy is located and, where the pupil concerned resides in the area of a different Local Authority, the Local Authority in which the pupil is ordinarily resident is informed of an exclusion decision in the same circumstances, and within the same timescale as a the head teacher of a maintained school is required to inform the Local Authority (or Local Authorities) of an exclusion.
3. Subject to the exception in paragraph 5, the Company shall ensure that each Head of School, the Executive Head Teacher, the Board of Directors and the Local Governing Body of the Academy – where any is in place - have regard to the Secretary of State’s guidance on exclusions when excluding, or reviewing the exclusion of a pupil and in relation to any appeals or review process as if each Academy were a maintained school¹⁰.
4. The Company shall make arrangements for enabling appeals against, or review of any decision of the Local Governing Body – where any is in place – and the Board of Directors to permanently exclude a pupil in accordance with the functions assigned to the Local Authority in relation to a maintained school. The Company shall ensure that appeal/review panels are impartial, and are constituted in accordance with the Secretary of State’s guidance. The Company shall comply with any decision of an appeals panel, or direction of a review panel¹¹.
5. The exception to the duties imposed under paragraphs 1 and 3 is:
 - the Local Governing Body – where any is in place – or the Board of Directors is not expected to seek the advice of a Local Authority officer when considering an exclusion, although a Local Authority officer may attend any meeting to consider an exclusion (including an appeal hearing or review) at the request of a parent; and

¹⁰References in this annex to the Secretary of State’s guidance are to “Improving Behaviour and Attendance: Guidance on Exclusion from Schools and Pupil Referral Units”, which is published on the DfE website at: <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/exclusion/2008guidance/>. The guidance may be subject to amendment, and each Academy is required to have regard to the guidance as it stands at any given time.

¹¹ A parent may seek a judicial review of a decision of an appeal/review panel relating to their child. A parent of a child excluded from an Academy may not complain to the Commissioner for Local Administration (the Local Government Ombudsman) about maladministration. This is because the Commissioner’s remit is limited to considering the conduct of appeal panels constituted by Local Authorities.

- subject to the Company's obligations under clause 31 of this Agreement relating to an agreement with the LA on the flow of funds following an exclusion, the arrangements for money to follow pupils who have been permanently excluded from school does not apply.