



Draft Trustee's Development Plan

2025/2026

Trust Development Plan - 2025/2026: Based on External review of Governance, River Learning Trust						
Number	Action Point	review recommendations	Actions	RAG	Lead	Time Scale
1	Trust Board Recruitment	a) Recruit a new member b) Identify at least four new trustees who are not parents to bring more diversity to the board. Appointments to be made by the Member	Started recruiting process and create adverts for use on social media, LinkedIn and school website	R	Chair of Trustees and Governance Professional	Jan 2026
2	Trust Board to Complete Priority Training	All Trustees to have completed the following: a) Declaration of Interests b) Code of Conduct c) Read KCSIE d) Cyber Security e) Skills Audit f) Prevent g) Safeguarding	All Trustees to complete.	A	Governance Professional	Dec 2025

3	Future Governance of Denefield School	<p>Continue to review the available options of governance of Denefield School to ensure the ongoing excellence in education into the future.</p> <p>Final decision to be taken by Full Trust Board</p>	Trustees & SLT undertaking ongoing review, to report to each Trust Board in 2025/2026 to agree further actions / decisions.	A	Chair & Trustees	July 2026
4	Review Strategic Plan	To be updated once new strategic plan is in place				
5	TBC					
6	TBC					



The Trust Board's Development Plan for this academic year is informed by:

- a. the results of a self-review exercise using 'A Self- evaluation tool for School Governing Bodies, based on the All-Party Parliamentary Groups' "twenty questions for school governing bodies to ask themselves"
- b. reflects on the knowledge, skills and behaviours required from Trustees in order to deliver effective governance, as set out in Department for Education's (DfE) Academy trust governance guide - Guidance on strategic leadership and the governance of academy trusts (October 2024).
- c. Governance reviews undertaken by RLT in 2024 and
- d. Requests from Governance Professional / Trustees from ongoing work / reading material.

The plan sets out our how we intend to further improve our operation and practices for the year ahead and it will be regularly reviewed to check on progress towards completion of goals. It is important to recognise this is a 'living' document and therefore will be regularly updated and does not include the day-to-day work of The Trustees and Board.

The Trust Board's Development Plan is reviewed by the Chair, Chairs of committees and Head termly and represented to the Board minimum annually.