



## **Role of the RSC SW**

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**BANES Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy  
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**Department  
for Education**

# Office of the RSC SW

## BANES academisation rate:

Primary	Secondary	All Through	Specials & PRUs / Alt Prov	Grand Total
59 (91%)	12 (92%)	1 (100%)	3 (100%)	75 (91%)

- a) Role, remit and powers of the RSC
- b) How RSCs holds trusts to account
- c) Important wider system role of the RSC lead - to improve performance and prevent failure

# Overview of the role, remit and powers of the RSC

- The role of the RSC is to provide oversight and scrutiny of academy trusts with the ESFA
- RSC makes decisions through powers delegated by SoS
- RSCs are accountable to SoS and to the NSC, Dominic Herrington

## Powers:

- RSC holds trusts to account through intervention powers in eligible schools & trust reviews, Advisory Board conditions
- RSC role & powers around the education landscape with advice from Advisory Board e.g
  - deciding on applications for schools to convert
  - approving new sponsors & creation of multi-academy trusts
  - oversee school place sufficiency and advise on new free schools
  - decisions on changes to academies and free schools

# How RSCs holds Trust to account (i): Accountability through intervention

RSC powers of intervention restricted to schools deemed eligible - Ofsted Inadequate grade

- Maintained school: RSC has a **duty** to make an academy order
- Academy: RSC is able to take action to transfer the academy to a new trust

## Academies

- In academies, where failure occurs RSCs and ESFA may issue formal intervention notices:
  - termination warning notices (RSCs)
  - financial notices to improve (ESFA)
- In response, the academy trust may be required to submit:
  - trust school improvement plan,
  - financial recovery plan agreed between the trust and ESFA
- Depending on response RSC may decide to transfer academy to a new trust.

# How RSCs holds Trust to account (ii)

## Trust reviews:

- Opportunity to support improvement

## Advisory Board conditions:

- At time of RSC decision-making (e.g trust growth) RSC may set conditions in line with Trust Academies Handbook, e.g.
  - Governance
  - Trustees recruitment
  - Leadership support
  - Information-sharing

# Improving the system & preventing failure

- Build school improvement capacity
  - Trust and School Improvement Offer for 2021-22
  - Trust Capacity Fund to help trusts develop capacity to grow – prioritising underperforming schools
- Encouraging and supporting system led trust and school improvement
  - Trust practitioner networks e.g. AP/SEND & disadvantaged
  - RSC supporting better teaching through the teaching school hub programme
  - Curriculum hubs and behaviour support - Improve teaching of phonics, early language and reading and maths & support schools with behaviour
- Strengthen governance oversight at leadership and board level
  - Chair and CEO Trust network to share best practice
  - Support with governance - Academy Ambassadors
  - Support trusts to undertake External Review of Governance
- Signpost to core DfE policy and support e.g. NTP

# Questions?

Thank you for listening

Questions?

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