

# Foundation Committee

## Constitution and Terms of Reference 2023-24

The Board of Governors and its committees will conduct their business in a way that is consistent with, and reflects and promotes, the University’s Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy.

### 1. Purpose

To strengthen and support those elements of University life and learning associated most closely with contemporary expressions of the University’s founding purpose, “that they have life and have it more abundantly”; to be a forum to lead and advise on issues of religious faith and ethos and the University’s mission and ethics.

### 2. Constitution and membership

|                                                                              |                                                           | Expiration of office<br>(years served on<br>expiration) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor:<br>(Archbishop’s Episcopal<br>Representative)                      | The Rt Revd Richard Frith (Chair)                         | 31/07/2024 (3)                                          |
| Four (4) Diocesan<br>representatives (one of<br>whom shall be a<br>Governor) | The Very Revd Dominic Barrington<br>Diocese of York       | 31/07/2024 (6)                                          |
|                                                                              | The Rt Revd Anna Eltringham<br>Diocese of Leeds           | 31/07/2026 (3)                                          |
|                                                                              | The Rt Revd Paul Ferguson <sup>1</sup><br>Diocese of York | 31/07/2026 (9)                                          |
|                                                                              | The Revd Dr Alan Garrow<br>Diocese of Leeds               | 31/07/2026 (3)                                          |
| Chair of the Board of<br>Governors                                           | Julia Unwin DBE                                           | 31/07/2026 (6)                                          |
| The Vice Chancellor                                                          | Professor Karen Bryan OBE                                 | Ex officio                                              |
| A nominated Pro Vice<br>Chancellor                                           | Professor Richard Bourne                                  | Ex officio                                              |
| The University’s Equality,<br>Diversity and Inclusion<br>Lead                | Vacant                                                    | Ex officio                                              |

<sup>1</sup> represents the National Society on the Board of Governors

|                                            |                                  |                                  |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| University Chaplain or alternate           | Revd Jane Speck                  | Ex officio                       |
| Head of the School of Humanities           | Dr Anne-Marie Evans              | Ex officio                       |
| Two (2) Student representatives            | Matt Blackstock<br>Mario Owiriwa | Appointed by the Students' Union |
| Two (2) Faith Advisors                     | Dr Avijit Datta<br>Suki Matharu  | 31/07/2025 (9)<br>31/07/2023 (6) |
| Co-opted member                            | Vacancy                          |                                  |
| <i>In attendance</i>                       |                                  |                                  |
| Interim University Secretary and Registrar | Kathrine Kendon                  |                                  |
| Head of Governance and Compliance          | Mia Bryden                       |                                  |
| Minuting Secretary                         | Christopher Howell               |                                  |

### 3. Terms of Reference

#### 3.1 To consider and advise the Board of Governors on

1. Nominees for appointment as Governors, for recommendation to the Governance and Nominations Committee, as follows:
  - One (1) person from the four (4) Diocesan Nominees nominated to the membership of the Foundation Committee by the Bishop of Leeds or the Archbishop of York
  - Two (2) persons who are members of the Church of England or a church in communion with it.

Under Article 8.2.2, the Committee must make such recommendations for consideration to the Governance and Nominations Committee by 14 June of the relevant year.

2. The development of the University's values

#### 3.2 To be responsible, on behalf of the Board of Governors, for:

- a) Considering practical strategies for promoting dialogue about spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues to existing and potential members of the University community, associated partners and the wider society.
- b) Consulting and communicating in order to explore the impact and meaning for a diverse student and staff community, of belonging to a University with a church foundation.
- c) Considering and recommending to Academic Board, any changes to the University's ethics policy and framework.

d) Receiving reports on the following:

- The activities of the Chaplaincy (at least annually)
- Theology and Religious Studies academic activity (annually)
- The activities of the Students' Union's faith societies (annually)
- Student data on faith (annually)
- Relevant social innovation projects

3.3 **To refer to**

Other committees (e.g., committees of the Board of Governors, Academic Board, Executive Board), any relevant matters for consideration.

3.4 **Delegated responsibilities**

The Committee does not routinely delegate any categories of business.

4 **Procedural rules**

4.1 **Quorum**

Eight (8) members at least three (3) of whom must be independent Governors.

4.2 **Meetings**

The Committee shall meet two (2) times a year, unless otherwise agreed by the Committee Chair.

4.3 **Agenda**

The agenda shall be the responsibility of the Committee Chair and the Committee shall be serviced by the Secretary or nominee who shall normally provide the agenda and supporting papers seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

5 **Reporting**

The unreserved minutes (or a report) of meetings of the Committee will be circulated to all members of the Board of Governors.