

# Foundation Committee

## Constitution and Terms of Reference 2025-26

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 Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom and its 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 (years served on expiration)
Governor: (Archbishop's Episcopal Representative)	The Rt Revd Richard Frith (Chair)	31/07/2027 (6)
Four (4) Diocesan representatives (one of whom shall be a Governor)	The Very Revd Dominic Barrington Diocese of York	31/07/2026 (3)
	The Rt Revd Anna Eltringham Diocese of Leeds	31/07/2026 (3)
	The Rt Revd Dr Flora Winfield	31/07/2028 (3)
	The Revd Dr Alan Garrow Diocese of Leeds	31/07/2026 (3)
Chair of the Board of Governors	Julia Unwin DBE	31/07/2029 ()
Governor	Andy Falconer	31/07/2026 (3)
The Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer	Professor Karen Bryan OBE	Ex officio
A nominated Pro Vice Chancellor	Professor Richard Bourne	Ex officio
The University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead	Jake Furby	Ex officio

University Chaplain or alternate	Revd Jane Speck	Ex officio
Head of the School of Humanities	Professor Anne-Marie Evans	Ex officio
Student Governor	Ann-Marie Mafura	Ex officio
Faith Advisors	Faith Advisor representatives	Ex officio
Co-opted member	The Rt Revd Paul Ferguson	31/07/2027 (3)
<i>In attendance</i>		
University Secretary and Registrar	Kathryn 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 01 June of the relevant year.

2. The development, upholding, and promotion 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) Ensuring that the University's long term planning aligns with and supports the overarching foundational vision and goals.

- d) Support value-driven initiatives that embody the University's core values, ensuring that initiatives contribute meaningfully to the mission and cultural integrity of the University.
- e) Considering and recommending to Academic Board, any changes to the University's ethics policy and framework.

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**

Seven (7) members at least two (2) 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.