

<b>Committee:</b> Community and Children's Services Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 23/01/ 2023
<b>Subject:</b> Change of name required for the Instrument of Government for the Aldgate School - The Sir John Cass's Foundation Trust name is changed to The Portal Trust	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	- People are safe and feel safe - People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Claire Chamberlain, Interim Director of Community and Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Theresa Shortland, Head of Service Education and Early Years	

### Summary

The Aldgate School is the only maintained primary school in the City of London. It is a voluntary aided school with a foundation. The foundation is The Portal Trust, formerly called Sir John Cass's Foundation Trust.

In June 2020, the governing body changed the name of the school from Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School to The Aldgate School from the start of the new academic year in September 2020. Your Committee approved variations to the Instrument of Government (IoG) to reflect the school's change of name in September 2020.

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the foundation's change of name from Sir John Cass's Foundation Trust to The Portal Trust, and the proposed further variation to the loG for The Aldgate School to reflect this change.

## **Recommendations**

Members are asked to:

- Note the variation to the loG to reflect the name change from Sir John Cass's Foundation Trust to The Portal Trust as set out at Appendix 1, the variation to take effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.
- Note the duty on the local authority to ensure that every governor, the headteacher, and the trustees of The Portal Trust are provided with the loG as varied, and authorise the Head of Service, Education and Early Years, to arrange for the new loG to be provided to them.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The City of London Corporation exercises the relevant functions of a local authority in respect of The Aldgate School, the one local authority maintained school in the City of London. The City of London Corporation approved the current loG submitted by the school on 9 August 2019.
2. The Aldgate School is a voluntary aided school with a foundation – Sir John Cass's Foundation – which changed its name to The Portal Trust in July 2022 by means of an amendment to its governing document.
3. The statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and local authorities in England – August 2017, outlines the requirements of the arrangements for governing bodies of maintained schools constituted under The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012 (the 2012 Regulations) .
4. Section 20 of the Education Act 2002 requires all maintained schools to have an loG that determines the constitution of the governing body and other matters relating to the school. Regulation 30 of the 2012 Regulations requires the governing body to notify the local authority of any variations it proposes to the loG – in this case, to reflect the change of name to The Portal Trust.
5. The loG's proposed change of name to The Portal Trust was approved by the governors in June 2021 (in the form set out in Appendix 1). It was also approved by the Foundation governors and The Portal Trust.

### **Current Position**

6. In June 2020, the governing body resolved to change the name of the school from Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School to The Aldgate School. In

September 2020, this Committee approved the change of name in the school's loG. The report noted that The Portal Trust were in the process of changing their name at the time, and this Committee would be required to note their change of name in the future.

7. The governors have notified the City of London Corporation as local authority of their resolution that the loG be varied to reflect the change of name (see Appendix 1).
8. The variations incorporated in Appendix 1 are as follows:
  - 'Sir John Cass's Foundation' replaced with 'The Portal Trust' throughout.
  - The addition of the word 'equality' in the first sentence of Clause 10.

## **Evaluation**

9. Noting that The Portal Trust and governors, including the Foundation governors, have approved the proposed variations, and that they are considered appropriate to ensure that the loG is up to date, and accurately describes the Foundation's new name and the school's diversity statement, it is considered that the variations to the loG should be approved and made. It is proposed that this take effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and that this date be inserted in the loG as varied, in accordance with statutory requirements.
10. This work supports priorities 1 and 2 in the Children and Young People's Plan 2022–2025:
  - Our children and young people are safe and feel safe
  - Our children and young people have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and are well prepared to achieve in adulthood.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

11. There are no other strategic implications directly related to this report.
  - Financial implications – N/A
  - Resource implications – N/A
  - Legal implications – included in body of report
  - Risk implications – N/A
  - Equalities implications – N/A
  - Climate implications – N/A
  - Security implications – N/A

## **Conclusion and Next Steps**

12. The Governing Body of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School have noted the name change to The Portal Trust and have submitted a revised

draft of the loG of the School to the City of London Corporation. It is recommended that the variations be made to the loG to reflect the current position and ensure its accuracy, and that the City of London Corporation provide a copy of the varied loG to the governors and trustees of The Portal Trust in accordance with statutory requirements.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Instrument of Governance for The Aldgate School

## **Background Papers**

- The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012
- Community and Children's Services Committee Report – 22 July 2019 – *Reconstitution of the Governing Body of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School*
- Community and Children's Services Committee Report – 28 September 2020 – *Change of Name for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School*

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