

Benedict's Abbey, Ealing. This change does not in any way preclude their working closely together in amity.

27. I agree with the Abbot, who has urged upon me that the purpose of reform should be to implement some clear principles:

- To create a governing body with clear independence and autonomous decision-making power
- To establish clear accountability between school management, governors and trustees
- To create a system of governance that is transparent and understandable to outsiders
- To develop a governing body capable of addressing any concerns over safeguarding, and of monitoring the effective implementation of policies and procedures in this area
- To ensure that the Benedictine nature of the school is preserved, this being a particular principle of St Benedict's, and part of the choice made by parents.

28. I concur with those principles. It has been suggested to me that these purposes could be met by changes to the existing governance structure under a single trust, with delegation of functions to committees with some guarantees of independence. I do not agree. I have no doubt that circumstances have given rise to an overwhelming imperative for the creation of two charitable trusts, as summarised below.

29. For accountability of a realistic and acceptable kind, the Trustees/Governors of St Benedict's School must include representatives from constituent parts of the school community and Diaspora, and from outside. Further, St Benedict's School must be protected from being shut down by the Trustees of the Trust of St Benedict's Abbey