

CONSTITUTION OF BACCHUS MARSH GRAMMAR

Australian Company Number (ACN) [insert ACN] Australian Business Number (ABN) [insert ABN]

A company limited by guarantee

Table of contents

Preliminary

- 1 Name of the company
- 2 Type of company
- 3 Limited liability of members
- 4 The guarantee
- 5 Definitions

Charitable purposes and powers

- 6 Object
- 7 Powers
- 8 Not-for-profit
- 9 Amending the constitution

Members

- 10 Membership and register of members
- 11 Who can be a member
- 12 How to apply to become a member
- 13 Directors decide whether to approve membership
- 14 When a person becomes a member
- 15 When a person stops being a member

Dispute resolution and disciplinary procedures

- 16 Dispute resolution
- 17 Disciplining members

General meetings of members

- 18 General meetings called by directors
- 19 General meetings called by members
- 20 Annual general meeting
- 21 Notice of general meetings
- 22 Quorum at general meetings
- 23 Auditor's right to attend meetings
- 24 Representatives of members
- 25 Using technology to hold meetings
- 26 Chairperson for general meetings
- 27 Role of the chairperson
- 28 Adjournment of meetings

Members' resolutions and statements

- 29 Members' resolutions and statements
- 30 Company must give notice of proposed resolution or distribute statement
- 31 Circular resolutions of members

Voting at general meetings

- 32 How many votes a member has
- 33 Challenge to member's right to vote
- 34 How voting is carried out
- 35 When and how a vote in writing must be held
- 36 Appointment of proxy
- 37 Voting by proxy

Nominations Committee

- 38 Composition of the Nominations Committee
- 39 Powers and duties of the Nominations Committee

Directors

- 40 Number of directors
- 41 Election and appointment of directors
- 42 Election of chairperson
- 43 Term of office
- 44 When a director stops being a director

Powers of directors

- 45 Powers of directors
- 46 Delegation of directors' powers
- 47 Payments to directors
- 48 Execution of Documents

Duties of directors

- 49 Duties of directors
- 50 Conflicts of interest
- 51 The Principal

Directors' meetings

- 52 When the directors meet
- 53 Calling directors' meetings
- 54 Chairperson for directors' meetings
- 55 Quorum at directors' meetings
- 56 Using technology to hold directors' meetings
- 57 Passing directors' resolutions
- 58 Circular resolutions of directors

Secretary

59 Appointment and role of secretary

Minutes and records

- 60 Minutes and records
- 61 Financial and related records

By-laws

62 By-laws

Notice

- 63 What is notice
- 64 Notice to the company
- 65 Notice to members
- 66 When notice is taken to be given

Financial year

67 Company's financial year

Indemnity, insurance and access

- 68 Indemnity
- 69 Insurance
- 70 Directors' access to documents

Winding up

- 71 Surplus assets not to be distributed to members
- 72 Distribution of surplus assets

Definitions and interpretation

- 73 Definitions
- 74 Reading this constitution with the Corporations Act
- 75 Interpretation

Preliminary

1. Name of the company

The name of the **company** is Bacchus Marsh Grammar Ltd.

2. Type of company

- (a) The **company** is a not-for-profit public **company** limited by guarantee which is established to be, and to continue as, a charity.
- (b) The **company** is a secular organisation.

3. Limited liability of members

The liability of members is limited to the amount of the guarantee in clause 4.

4. The guarantee

Each **member** must contribute an amount not more than \$100 (the **guarantee**) to the property of the **company** if the **company** is wound up while the **member** is a **member**, or within 12 months after they stop being a **member**, and this contribution is required to pay for the:

- (a) debts and liabilities of the **company** incurred before the **member** ceased being a **member**, or
- (b) costs of winding up.

5. Definitions

In this **constitution**, words and phrases have the meaning set out in clauses 73 and 75.

Charitable purposes and powers

6. Object

The **company**'s object is to pursue the following charitable purposes:

- (a) provide education of excellence for each **student**;
- (b) provide an in-depth integrated curriculum, emphasizing, but not limited to: literacy; numeracy; and science-technology for the **students**:
- (c) operate an efficient and balanced timetable;
- ensure a smooth transition between primary and secondary levels of schooling;
- (e) encourage effort, confidence and enthusiasm in all areas of each student's development;
- (f) assist **students**, families and staff to understand and accept individual differences;
- (g) work to improve **students'** abilities, with a focus on improving individual strengths and weaknesses;
- (h) encourage and work with each **student** to achieve their maximum potential;
- (i) to assist **students** to grow, experience and gain knowledge in a positive, safe and secure environment; and
- (j) with appropriate discipline, firmly but fairly applied, encourage a respect for authority, development of self-control and personal responsibility.

7. Powers

Subject to clause 8, the **company** has the following powers, which may only be used to carry out its purposes set out in clause 6:

- (a) the powers of an individual, and
- (b) all the powers of a company limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act.

8. Not-for-profit

- 8.1 The **company** must not distribute any income or assets directly or indirectly to its **members**, except as provided in clauses 8.2 and 72.
- 8.2 Clause 8.1 does not stop the **company** from doing the following things, provided they are done in good faith:
 - (a) paying a **member** for goods or services they have provided or expenses they have properly incurred at fair and reasonable rates or rates more favourable to the **company**, or
 - (b) making a payment to a **member** in carrying out the **company**'s charitable purposes.

9. Amending the constitution

- 9.1 Subject to clause 9.2, the **members** may amend this **constitution** by passing a **special resolution**.
- 9.2 The **members** must not pass a **special resolution** that amends this **constitution** if passing it causes the **company** to no longer be a charity.

Members

10. Membership and register of members

- 10.1 The **members** of the **company** are:
 - (a) initial members, and
 - (b) any other person that the **directors** allow to be a **member**, in accordance with this **constitution**.
- 10.2 The **company** must establish and maintain a **register of members**. The **register of members** must be kept by the secretary and must contain:
 - (a) for each current member:
 - i. name
 - ii. address
 - iii. any alternative address nominated by the **member** for the service of notices, and
 - iv. date the **member** was entered on to the register.
 - (b) for each person who stopped being a **member** in the last 7 years:
 - i. name
 - ii. address
 - iii. any alternative address nominated by the **member** for the service of notices, and
 - iv. dates the membership started and ended.
- 10.3 The **company** must give current **members** access to the **register of members**.
- 10.4 Information that is accessed from the **register of members** must only be used in a manner relevant to the interests or rights of **members**.

11. Who can be a member

- 11.1 A person who has been approved by the **nominations committee** pursuant to clauses 38 and 39.
- Subject to clause 11.1 a person who supports the purposes of the **company** is eligible to apply to be a **member** of the **company** under clause 12.
- 11.3 In this clause, 'person' means an individual or incorporated body.

12. How to apply to become a member

A person (as defined in clause 11.3) may apply to become a **member** of the **company** by writing to the secretary stating that they:

- (a) want to become a member
- (b) support the purposes of the **company**, and
- (c) agree to comply with the **company's constitution**, including paying the guarantee under clause 4 if required.

13. Directors decide whether to approve membership

- 13.1 The **directors** must consider an application for membership presented by the **nominations committee** within a reasonable time after the secretary receives the application.
- 13.2 If the **directors** approve an application, the secretary must as soon as possible:
 - (a) enter the new member on the register of members, and
 - (b) write to the applicant to tell them that their application was approved, and the date that their membership started (see clause 14).
- 13.3 If the **directors** reject an application presented by the **nominations committee**, the secretary must write to the applicant as soon as possible to tell them that their application has been rejected, but does not have to give reasons.
- 13.4 The **directors** shall/shall not be required to provide the **nominations committee** with their reasoning.
- 13.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the **directors** may approve an application even if the application does not state the matters listed in clauses 12(a), 12(b) or 12(c). In that case, by applying to be a **member**, the applicant agrees to those three matters.

14. When a person becomes a member

Other than **initial members**, an applicant will become a **member** when they are entered on the **register of members**.

15. When a person stops being a member

A person immediately stops being a **member** if they:

- (a) die
- (b) are wound up or otherwise dissolved or deregistered (for an incorporated **member**)
- (c) resign, by writing to the secretary
- (d) are expelled under clause 17,
- (e) have not responded within three months to a written request from the secretary that they confirm in writing that they want to remain a **member**.

Dispute resolution and disciplinary procedures

16. Dispute resolution

- 16.1 The dispute resolution procedure in this clause 16 applies to disputes (disagreements) under this **constitution** between a **member** or **director** and:
 - (a) one or more **members**
 - (b) one or more directors, or
 - (c) the **company**.
- 16.2 A **member** must not start a dispute resolution procedure in relation to a matter which is the subject of a disciplinary procedure under clause 17 until the disciplinary procedure is completed.
- 16.3 Those involved in the dispute must try to resolve it between themselves within 14 days of knowing about it.
- 16.4 If those involved in the dispute do not resolve it under clause 16.3, they must within 10 days:
 - (a) tell the directors about the dispute in writing
 - (b) agree or request that a mediator be appointed, and
 - (c) attempt in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation.
- 16.5 The mediator must:
 - (a) be chosen by agreement of those involved, or
 - (b) where those involved do not agree:
 - i. for disputes between **members**, a person chosen by the **directors**, or
 - ii. for other disputes, a person chosen by either the Commissioner of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission or the president of the law institute or society in the state or territory in which the company has its registered office.
- 16.6 A mediator chosen by the **directors** under clause 16.5(b)(i):
 - (a) may be a **member** or former **member** of the **company**
 - (b) must not have a personal interest in the dispute, and
 - (c) must not be biased towards or against anyone involved in the dispute.
- 16.7 When conducting the mediation, the mediator must:
 - (a) allow those involved a reasonable chance to be heard
 - (b) allow those involved a reasonable chance to review any written statements
 - (c) ensure that those involved are given natural justice, and
 - (d) not make a decision on the dispute.

17. Disciplining members

- 17.1 In accordance with this clause 17, the **directors** may resolve to warn, suspend or expel a **member** from the **company** if the **directors** consider that:
 - (a) the **member** has breached this **constitution**, or
 - (b) the **member's** behaviour is causing, has caused, or is likely to cause harm to the **company**.
- 17.2 At least 14 days before the directors' meeting at which a resolution under clause 17.1 will be considered, the secretary must notify the **member** in writing:
 - (a) that the **directors** are considering a resolution to warn, suspend or expel the **member**
 - (b) that this resolution will be considered at a directors' meeting and the date of that meeting
 - (c) what the **member** is said to have done or not done
 - (d) the nature of the resolution that has been proposed, and
 - (e) that the **member** may provide an explanation to the **directors**, and details of how to do so.

- 17.3 Before the **directors** pass any resolution under clause 17.1, the **member** must be given a chance to explain or defend themselves by:
 - (a) sending the **directors** a written explanation before that directors' meeting, and/or
 - (b) speaking at the meeting.
- 17.4 After considering any explanation under clause 17.3, the **directors** may:
 - (a) take no further action
 - (b) warn the member
 - (c) suspend the **member's** rights as a **member** for a period of no more than 12 months
 - (d) expel the member
 - (e) refer the decision to an unbiased, independent person on conditions that the **directors** consider appropriate (however, the person can only make a decision that the **directors** could have made under this clause), or
 - (f) require the matter to be determined at a **general meeting**.
- 17.5 The **directors** cannot fine a **member**.
- 17.6 The secretary must give written notice to the **member** of the decision under clause 17.4 as soon as possible.
- 17.7 Disciplinary procedures must be completed as soon as reasonably practical.
- 17.8 There will be no liability for any loss or injury suffered by the **member** as a result of any decision made in good faith under this clause.

General meetings of members

18. General meetings called by directors

- 18.1 The directors may call a general meeting.
- 18.2 If members with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast at a general meeting make a written request to the company for a general meeting to be held, the directors must:
 - (a) within 21 days of the **members**' request, give all **members** notice of a **general meeting**, and
 - (b) hold the **general meeting** within 2 months of the **members**' request.
- 18.3 The percentage of votes that **members** have (in clause 18.2) is to be worked out as at midnight before the **members** request the meeting.
- 18.4 The **members** who make the request for a **general meeting** must:
 - (a) state in the request any resolution to be proposed at the meeting
 - (b) sign the request, and
 - (c) give the request to the **company**.
- 18.5 Separate copies of a document setting out the request may be signed by **members** if the wording of the request is the same in each copy.

19. General meetings called by members

- 19.1 If the **directors** do not call the meeting within 21 days of being requested under clause 18.2, 50% or more of the **members** who made the request may call and arrange to hold a **general meeting**.
- 19.2 To call and hold a meeting under clause 19.1 the **members** must:

- (a) as far as possible, follow the procedures for **general meeting**s set out in this **constitution**
- (b) call the meeting using the list of members on the register of members , which the company must provide to the members making the request at no cost, and
- (c) hold the **general meeting** within three months after the request was given to the **company**.
- 19.3 The **company** must pay the **members** who request the **general meeting** any reasonable expenses they incur because the **directors** did not call and hold the meeting.

20. Annual general meeting

- 20.1 A general meeting, called the annual general meeting, must be held:
 - (a) within 18 months after registration of the company, and
 - (b) after the first annual **general meeting**, at least once in every calendar year.
- 20.2 Even if these items are not set out in the notice of meeting, the business of an annual **general meeting** may include:
 - (a) a review of the **company**'s activities
 - (b) a review of the company's finances
 - (c) any auditor's report
 - (d) the election of directors, and
 - (e) the appointment and payment of auditors, if any.
- 20.3 Before or at the annual **general meeting**, the **directors** must give information to the **members** on the **company's** activities and finances during the period since the last annual **general meeting**.
- 20.4 The chairperson of the annual **general meeting** must give **members** as a whole a reasonable opportunity at the meeting to ask questions or make comments about the management of the **company**.

21. Notice of general meetings

- 21.1 Notice of a **general meeting** must be given to:
 - (a) each member entitled to vote at the meeting
 - (b) each director, and
 - (c) the auditor (if any).
- 21.2 Notice of a **general meeting** must be provided in writing at least 21 days before the meeting.
- 21.3 Subject to clause 21.4, notice of a meeting may be provided less than 21 days before the meeting if:
 - (a) for an annual **general meeting**, all the **members** entitled to attend and vote at the annual **general meeting** agree beforehand, or
 - (b) for any other **general meeting**, **members** with at least 95% of the votes that may be cast at the meeting agree beforehand.
- 21.4 Notice of a meeting cannot be provided less than 21 days before the meeting if a resolution will be moved to:
 - (a) remove a director or member
 - (b) appoint a **director** or **member** in order to replace a **director** or **member** who was removed, or
 - (c) remove an auditor.

21.5 Notice of a **general meeting** must include:

- (a) the place, date and time for the meeting (and if the meeting is to be held in two or more places, the technology that will be used to facilitate this)
- (b) the general nature of the meeting's business
- (c) if applicable, that a **special resolution** is to be proposed and the words of the proposed resolution
- (d) a statement that **members** have the right to appoint proxies and that, if a **member** appoints a proxy:
 - i. the proxy does not need to be a **member** of the **company**
 - ii. the proxy form must be delivered to the **company** at its registered address or the address (including an electronic address) specified in the notice of the meeting, and
 - iii. the proxy form must be delivered to the **company** at least 48 hours before the meeting.
- 21.6 If a **general meeting** is adjourned for 1 month or more, the **members** must be given new notice of the resumed meeting.

22. Quorum at general meetings

- For a **general meeting** to be held, at least 5 **members** (a quorum) must be present (in person, by proxy or by representative) for the whole meeting. When determining whether a quorum is present, a person may only be counted once (even if that person is a representative or proxy of more than one **member**).
- 22.2 No business may be conducted at a **general meeting** if a quorum is not present.
- 22.3 If there is no quorum present within 30 minutes after the starting time stated in the notice of **general meeting**, the **general meeting** is adjourned to the date, time and place that the chairperson specifies. If the chairperson does not specify one or more of those things, the meeting is adjourned to:
 - (a) if the date is not specified the same day in the next week
 - (b) if the time is not specified the same time, and
 - (c) if the place is not specified the same place.
- 22.4 If no quorum is present at the resumed meeting within 30 minutes after the starting time set for that meeting, the meeting is cancelled.

23. Auditor's right to attend meetings

- 23.1 The auditor (if any) is entitled to attend any **general meeting** and to be heard by the **members** on any part of the business of the meeting that concerns the auditor in the capacity of auditor.
- The **company** must give the auditor (if any) any communications relating to the **general meeting** that a **member** of the **company** is entitled to receive.

24. Representatives of members

- 24.1 An incorporated **member** may appoint as a representative:
 - (a) one individual to represent the **member** at meetings and to sign circular resolutions under clause 31, and
 - (b) the same individual or another individual for the purpose of being appointed or elected as a director.
- 24.2 The appointment of a representative by a **member** must:
 - (a) be in writing

- (b) include the name of the representative
- (c) be signed on behalf of the **member**, and
- (d) be given to the **company** or, for representation at a meeting, be given to the chairperson before the meeting starts.
- 24.3 A representative has all the rights of a **member** relevant to the purposes of the appointment as a representative.
- 24.4 The appointment may be standing (ongoing).

25. Using technology to hold meetings

- 25.1 The **company** may hold a **general meeting** at 2 or more venues using any technology that gives the **members** as a whole a reasonable opportunity to participate, including to hear and be heard.
- 25.2 Anyone using this technology is taken to be present in person at the meeting.

26. Chairperson for general meetings

- 26.1 The **elected chairperson** is entitled to chair **general meetings**.
- The **members** present and entitled to vote at a **general meeting** may choose a **director** or **member** to be the chairperson for that meeting if:
 - (a) there is no **elected chairperson**, or
 - (b) the **elected chairperson** is not present within 30 minutes after the starting time set for the meeting, or
 - (c) the **elected chairperson** is present but says they do not wish to act as chairperson of the meeting.

27. Role of the chairperson

- 27.1 The chairperson is responsible for the conduct of the **general meeting**, and for this purpose must give **members** a reasonable opportunity to make comments and ask questions (including to the auditor (if any)).
- 27.2 The chairperson does not have a casting vote.

28. Adjournment of meetings

- 28.1 If a quorum is present, a **general meeting** must be adjourned if a majority of **members present** direct the chairperson to adjourn it.
- 28.2 Only unfinished business may be dealt with at a meeting resumed after an adjournment.

Members' resolutions and statements

29. Members' resolutions and statements

- 29.1 **Members** with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast on a resolution may give:
 - (a) written notice to the **company** of a **members**' **resolution**, and/or
 - (b) a written request to the company that the company give all of its members a members' statement.
- 29.2 A notice of a **members' resolution** must set out the wording of the proposed resolution and be signed by the **members** proposing the resolution.
- 29.3 A request to distribute a **members' statement** must set out the statement to be distributed and be signed by the **members** making the request.
- 29.4 Separate copies of a document setting out the notice or request may be signed by **members** if the wording is the same in each copy.

- 29.5 The percentage of votes that **members** have (as described in clause 29.1) is to be worked out as at midnight before the request or notice is given to the **company**.
- 29.6 If the **company** has been given notice of a **members' resolution** under clause 29.1(a), the resolution must be considered at the next **general meeting** held more than 2months after the notice is given.
- 29.7 This clause does not limit any other right that a **member** has to propose a resolution at a **general meeting**.

30. Company must give notice of proposed resolution or distribute statement

- 30.1 If the **company** has been given a notice or request under clause 29:
 - (a) in time to send the notice of proposed **members' resolution** or a copy of the **members' statement** to **members** with a notice of meeting, it must do so at the **company**'s cost, or
 - (b) too late to send the notice of proposed members' resolution or a copy of the members' statement to members with a notice of meeting, then the members who proposed the resolution or made the request must pay the expenses reasonably incurred by the company in giving members notice of the proposed members' resolution or a copy of the members' statement. However, at a general meeting, the members may pass a resolution that the company will pay these expenses.
- The **company** does not need to send the notice of proposed **members' resolution** or a copy of the **members' statement** to **members** if:
 - (a) it is more than 1,000 words long
 - (b) the **directors** consider it may be defamatory
 - (c) clause 30.1(b) applies, and the members who proposed the resolution or made the request have not paid the company enough money to cover the cost of sending the notice of the proposed members' resolution or a copy of the members' statement to members, or
 - (d) in the case of a proposed **members' resolution**, the resolution does not relate to a matter that may be properly considered at a **general meeting** or is otherwise not a valid resolution able to be put to the **members**.

31. Circular resolutions of members

- 31.1 Subject to clause 31.3, the **directors** may put a resolution to the **members** to pass a resolution without a **general meeting** being held (a circular resolution).
- 31.2 The **directors** must notify the auditor (if any) as soon as possible that a circular resolution has or will be put to **members**, and set out the wording of the resolution.
- 31.3 Circular resolutions cannot be used:
 - (a) for a resolution to remove an auditor, appoint a **director** or remove a **director**, or appoint a **member** or remove a **member**
 - (b) for passing a special resolution, or
 - (c) where the **Corporations Act** or this **constitution** requires a meeting to be held.
- 31.4 A circular resolution is passed if all the **members** entitled to vote on the resolution sign or agree to the circular resolution, in the manner set out in clause 31.5 or clause 31.6.
- 31.5 **Members** may sign:
 - (a) a single document setting out the circular resolution and containing a statement that they agree to the resolution, or

- (b) separate copies of that document, as long as the wording is the same in each copy.
- 31.6 The **company** may send a circular resolution by email to **members** and **members** may agree by sending a reply email to that effect, including the text of the resolution in their reply.

Voting at general meetings

32. How many votes a member has

Each member has one vote.

33. Challenge to member's right to vote

- A member or the chairperson may only challenge a person's right to vote at a general meeting at that meeting.
- 33.2 If a challenge is made under clause 33.1, the chairperson must decide whether or not the person may vote. The chairperson's decision is final.

34. How voting is carried out

- 34.1 Voting must be conducted and decided by:
 - (a) a show of hands
 - (b) a vote in writing, or
 - (c) another method chosen by the chairperson that is fair and reasonable in the circumstances.
- 34.2 Before a vote is taken, the chairperson must state whether any proxy votes have been received and, if so, how the proxy votes will be cast.
- 34.3 On a show of hands, the chairperson's decision is conclusive evidence of the result of the vote.
- 34.4 The chairperson and the meeting minutes do not need to state the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against on a show of hands.

35. When and how a vote in writing must be held

- 35.1 A vote in writing may be demanded on any resolution instead of or after a vote by a show of hands by:
 - (a) at least 5 members present, or
 - (b) **members present** with at least 5% of the votes that may be passed on the resolution on the vote in writing (worked out as at the midnight before the vote in writing is demanded), or
 - (c) the chairperson.
- 35.2 A vote in writing must be taken when and how the chairperson directs, unless clause 35.3 applies.
- 35.3 A vote in writing must be held immediately if it is demanded under clause 35.1:
 - (a) for the election of a chairperson under clause 26.2, or
 - (b) to decide whether to adjourn the meeting.
- 35.4 A demand for a vote in writing may be withdrawn.

36. Appointment of proxy

- 36.1 A **member** may appoint a proxy to attend and vote at a **general meeting** on their hehalf
- 36.2 A proxy does not need to be a **member**.

- 36.3 A proxy appointed to attend and vote for a **member** has the same rights as the **member** to:
 - (a) speak at the meeting
 - (b) vote in a vote in writing (but only to the extent allowed by the appointment), and
 - (c) join in to demand a vote in writing under clause 35.1.
- An appointment of proxy (proxy form) must be signed by the **member** appointing the proxy and must contain:
 - (a) the member's name and address
 - (b) the company's name
 - (c) the proxy's name or the name of the office held by the proxy, and
 - (d) the meeting(s) at which the appointment may be used.
- 36.5 A proxy appointment may be standing (ongoing).
- 36.6 Proxy forms must be received by the **company** at the address stated in the notice under clause 21.5(d) or at the **company**'s registered address at least 48 hours before a meeting.
- 36.7 A proxy does not have the authority to speak and vote for a **member** at a meeting while the **member** is at the meeting.
- 36.8 Unless the **company** receives written notice before the start or resumption of a **general meeting** at which a proxy votes, a vote cast by the proxy is valid even if, before the proxy votes, the appointing **member**:
 - (a) dies
 - (b) is mentally incapacitated
 - (c) revokes the proxy's appointment, or
 - (d) revokes the authority of a representative or agent who appointed the proxy.
- 36.9 A proxy appointment may specify the way the proxy must vote on a particular resolution.

37. Voting by proxy

- A proxy is not entitled to vote on a show of hands (but this does not prevent a **member** appointed as a proxy from voting as a **member** on a show of hands).
- 37.2 When a vote in writing is held, a proxy:
 - (a) does not need to vote, unless the proxy appointment specifies the way they must vote
 - (b) if the way they must vote is specified on the proxy form, must vote that way, and
 - (c) if the proxy is also a **member** or holds more than one proxy, may cast the votes held in different ways.

Nominations committee

38. Composition of Nominations Committee

- 38.1 The **directors** shall establish a **nominations committee** comprising the following:
 - (a) the chair;
 - (b) a **director**;
 - (c) a **member** of the **company**;
 - (d) the principal; and

- (e) an additional person appointed by the **directors**, who must be a **member** of the **company**.
- 38.2 There are to be no more than 5 persons on the **nominations committee**.

39. Powers and Duties of the Nominations Committee

- 39.1 The **directors** must develop a policy which sets out the functions of the **nominations committee**.
- 39.2 The functions to be conferred on the **nominations committee** by the policy:
 - (a) Must include a procedure for identifying and nominating suitable candidates for election or appointment as **directors**
 - (b) Must include a procedure for identifying and nominating suitable candidates for election or appointment as chair of the **board**
 - (c) May include a procedure for developing and implementing a structured process for evaluation of **board** performance and renewal of **board** positions; and
 - (d) May include any other function thought desirable or convenient by the **directors**.
- 39.3 In assessing the suitability of candidates for election or appointment as **directors**, the **nominations committee** must:
 - (a) Ensure that among the **directors** there is a desirable combination of skills, qualifications and experience;
 - (b) Satisfy itself that a candidate is not prohibited by the Act from acting as a **director**; and
 - (c) Satisfy itself that a candidate successfully meets all requirements of the Working With Children Act 2005 (Vic) and the **board** has sighted a current Working With Children's Check for each candidate.
- 39.4 Any person who wishes to apply for a position as **director** must submit themselves to the review process conducted by the **nominations committee**.
- 39.5 The **nominations committee** has absolute discretion in all if its functions, subject only to the direction of the **directors**, the provisions of this **constitution** and the **law**.
- 39.6 The **nominations committee** may decline to nominate any person for election or appointment as a **director** (including the chair) and is not required to provide reasoning.
- 39.7 The **nominations committee** may nominate a person for more than 1 position on the **board**.
 - In the event of a dispute about whether a person meets the eligibility criteria for election or appointment as a **director**, the **nominations committee** shall determine the dispute in its discretion.

Directors

40. Number of directors

- 40.1 The **company** must have at least 3 and no more than 11 **directors**.
- 40.2 The **principal** will be a **director** of the **company.**

41. Election and appointment of directors

- The initial **directors** are the people who have agreed to act as **directors** and who are named as proposed **directors** in the application for registration of the **company**.
- 41.2 Apart from the initial **directors** and **directors** appointed under clause 41.5, the **members** may elect a **director** by a resolution passed in a **general meeting**.
- 41.3 Each of the **directors** must be appointed by a separate resolution, unless:
 - (a) the **members** present have first passed a resolution that the appointments may be voted on together, and
 - (b) no votes were cast against that resolution.
- 41.4 A person is eligible for election as a **director** of the **company** if they:
 - (a) Is a person that the **directors** believe will provide benefit and value to the **company**
 - (b) are nominated by two members or representatives of members entitled to vote (unless the person was previously elected as a director at a general meeting and has been a director since that meeting),
 - (c) give the **company** their signed consent to act as a **director** of the **company**, and
 - (d) are not ineligible to be a **director** under the **Corporations Act** or the **ACNC Act**.
- 41.5 The **directors** may appoint a person as a **director** to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional **director** if that person:
 - (a) is a **member** of the **company**, or a representative of a **member** of the **company** (appointed under clause 24)
 - (b) gives the **company** their signed consent to act as a **director** of the **company**, and
 - (c) is not ineligible to be a director under the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act.
- 41.6 If the number of **directors** is reduced to fewer than 3 or is less than the number required for a quorum, the continuing **directors** may act for the purpose of increasing the number of **directors** to 3 (or higher if required for a quorum) or calling a **general meeting**, but for no other purpose.

42. Election of chairperson

The **directors** must elect a **director** as the **company**'s **elected chairperson**.

43. Term of office

- 43.1 At each annual general meeting:
 - (a) any **director** appointed by the **directors** to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional **director** must retire, and
 - (b) at least one-third of the remaining **directors** must retire.
- 43.2 The **directors** who must retire at each annual **general meeting** under clause 43.1(b) will be the **directors** who have been longest in office since last being elected. Where **directors** were elected on the same day, the director(s) to retire will be decided by ballot unless they agree otherwise.
- 43.3 Other than a **director** appointed under clause 41.5, a director's term of office starts at the end of the annual **general meeting** at which they are elected and ends at the end of the annual **general meeting** at which they retire.

- 43.4 Each **director** must retire at least once every 3 years.
- 43.5 A **director** who retires under clause 43.1 may nominate for election or re-election, subject to clause 43.6.
- 43.6 A **director** who has held office for a continuous period of 9 years or more may only be re-appointed or re-elected by a **special resolution**
- 43.7 Irrespective of any provision in this clause 43 and/or clause 44 the **principal** shall remain a **director** for the duration of their appointment in the role of **principal**.

44. When a director stops being a director

A **director** stops being a **director** if they:

- (a) give written notice of resignation as a director to the company
- (b) die
- (c) are removed as a director by a members' resolution
- (d) stop being a **member** of the **company**
- (e) are a representative of a **member**, and that **member** stops being a **member**
- (f) are a representative of a **member**, and the **member** notifies the **company** that the representative is no longer a representative
- (g) are absent for 3 consecutive directors' meetings without approval from the directors, or
- (h) become ineligible to be a **director** of the **company** under the **Corporations Act** or the **ACNC Act**.

Powers of directors

45. Powers of directors

- 45.1 The **directors** are responsible for managing and directing the activities of the **company** to achieve the purposes set out in clause 6.
- The **directors** may use all the powers of the **company** except for powers that, under the **Corporations Act** or this **constitution**, may only be used by **members**.
- 45.3 The **directors** must decide on the responsible financial management of the **company** including:
 - (a) any suitable written delegations of power under clause 46, and
 - (b) how money will be managed, such as how electronic transfers, negotiable instruments or cheques must be authorised and signed or otherwise approved.
- 45.4 The **directors** cannot remove a **director** or auditor. **Directors** and auditors may only be removed by a **members' resolution** at a **general meeting**.

46. Delegation of directors' powers

- 46.1 The **directors** may delegate any of their powers and functions to a committee, a **director**, an employee of the **company** (such as a chief executive officer) or any other person, as they consider appropriate.
- 46.2 The delegation must be recorded in the **company's** minute book.
- 46.3 Each committees shall:
 - (a) have no management role;
 - (b) have suitable experience and knowledge to fulfil the committee's responsibilities and any regulatory requirements;

- (c) Perform activities and make recommendations to the **board** consistent with this **constitution**;
- (d) regularly update the **board** about matters relevant to the committee's role and responsibilities and make appropriate recommendations for approval, and where appropriate resolutions of the **board**;
- (e) engage independent advice as it considers necessary to carry out its duties at the **company's** expense provided prior approval of the **board** has been given;
- (f) require the attendance of **company** officers at meetings as appropriate;
- (g) engage the **board** secretary to provide secretarial services to the committee, or such other person as nominated by the **board**;
- (h) ensure all committee reports and other papers of a committee are made available to the **directors** upon request, provided no conflict of interest exists.

47. Payments to directors

- 47.1 The **company** must not pay fees to a **director** for acting as a **director**.
- 47.2 The **company** may:
 - (a) pay a **director** for work they do for the **company**, other than as a **director**, if the amount is no more than a reasonable fee for the work done, or
 - (b) reimburse a **director** for expenses properly incurred by the **director** in connection with the affairs of the **company**.
- 47.3 Any payment made under clause 47.2 must be approved by the **directors**.
- 47.4 The **company** may pay premiums for insurance indemnifying **directors**, as allowed for by **law** (including the **Corporations Act**) and this **constitution**.

48. Execution of documents

The **company** may execute a document without using a common seal if the document is signed by:

- (a) 2 directors of the company, or
- (b) a **director** and the secretary.

Duties of directors

49. Duties of directors

The **directors** must comply with their duties as **directors** under **law** and with the duties described in governance standard 5 of the regulations made under the **ACNC Act** which are:

- to exercise their powers and discharge their duties with the degree of care and diligence that a reasonable individual would exercise if they were a **director** of the **company**
- (b) to act in good faith in the best interests of the **company** and to further the charitable purpose(s) of the **company** set out in clause 6
- (c) not to misuse their position as a **director**
- (d) not to misuse information they gain in their role as a director
- (e) to disclose any perceived or actual material conflicts of interest in the manner set out in clause 50
- (f) to ensure that the financial affairs of the **company** are managed responsibly, and

(g) not to allow the **company** to operate while it is insolvent.

50. Conflicts of interest

- 50.1 A **director** must disclose the nature and extent of any actual or perceived material conflict of interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of **directors** (or that is proposed in a circular resolution):
 - (a) to the other directors, or
 - (b) if all of the **directors** have the same conflict of interest, to the **members** at the next **general meeting**, or at an earlier time if reasonable to do so.
- 50.2 The disclosure of a conflict of interest by a **director** must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 50.3 Each **director** who has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of **directors**(or that is proposed in a circular resolution) must not, except as provided under clauses 50.4:
 - (a) be present at the meeting while the matter is being discussed, or
 - (b) vote on the matter.
- 50.4 A **director** may still be present and vote if:
 - (a) their interest arises because they are a **member** of the **company**, and the other **members** have the same interest
 - (b) their interest relates to an insurance contract that insures, or would insure, the director against liabilities that the director incurs as a director of the company (see clause 69)
 - their interest relates to a payment by the company under clause 68 (indemnity), or any contract relating to an indemnity that is allowed under the Corporations Act
 - (d) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) makes an order allowing the **director** to vote on the matter, or
 - (e) the **directors** who do not have a material personal interest in the matter pass a resolution that:
 - (i) identifies the director, the nature and extent of the director's interest in the matter and how it relates to the affairs of the company, and
 - (ii) says that those **directors** are satisfied that the interest should not stop the **director** from voting or being present.

51. The Principal

- 51.1 Appointment and removal of a principal
 - (a) The **directors** may, wish to appoint the **principal** under the terms of an employment contract approved by the **board**.
 - (b) The **directors** may terminate the employment of the **principal** according to the terms and conditions set out in the **principal's** employment contract.
 - (c) A resolution to terminate the employment of the **principal**:
 - (iii) must be passed by **special resolution** of the **board** meeting; and
 - (iv) cannot be passed without the support of the Chair.

Directors' meetings

52. When the directors meet

The **directors** will meet at least 4 times in each year at such place and such times as the **directors** may determine.

53. Calling directors' meetings

- 53.1 A **director** may call a directors' meeting by giving reasonable notice to all of the other directors.
- A **director** may give notice in writing or by any other means of communication that has previously been agreed to by all of the **directors**.
- 53.3 Meetings of the **directors** may be convened by the Chairperson, by any 4 of the **directors** or by the **principal**.
- A notice will be given to the **directors** of any meeting specifying the general nature of the business to be transacted at such a meeting.

54. Chairperson for directors' meetings

- 54.1 The **elected chairperson** is entitled to chair **directors'** meetings.
- 54.2 The **directors** at a directors' meeting may choose a **director** to be the chairperson for that meeting if the **elected chairperson** is:
 - (a) not present within 30 minutes after the starting time set for the meeting, or
 - (b) present but does not want to act as chairperson of the meeting.

55. Quorum at directors' meetings

- Unless the **directors** determine otherwise, the quorum for a **directors'** meeting is a majority (more than 50%) of directors.
- A quorum must be present for the whole **directors'** meeting.

56. Using technology to hold directors' meetings

- The **directors** may hold their meetings by using any technology (such as video or teleconferencing) that is agreed to by all of the directors.
- 56.2 The agreement may be a standing (ongoing) one.
- 56.3 A **director** may only withdraw their consent within a reasonable period before the meeting.

57. Passing directors' resolutions

- 57.1 A **directors' resolution** must be passed by a majority of the votes cast by **directors** present and entitled to vote on the resolution.
- 57.2 If a **directors' resolution** is subject to a deadlock where 50% of the **directors** entitled to vote, vote to pass the proposed resolution and 50% of the **directors** entitled to vote, vote against the proposed resolution, the **board** will invite a **visiting expert** to vote on the resolution to resolve the deadlock.
- 57.3 The determination of the **visiting expert** shall (save for manifest error) be final and binding.
- 57.4 The **visiting expert** must sign an appropriate confidentiality agreement and will be presented will all relevant information and documents to cast an informed vote.

58. Circular resolutions of directors

58.1 The **directors** may pass a circular resolution without a directors' meeting being held.

- A circular resolution is passed if all the **directors** entitled to vote on the resolution sign or otherwise agree to the resolution in the manner set out in clause 58.3 or clause 58.4.
- 58.3 Each **director** may sign:
 - (a) a single document setting out the resolution and containing a statement that they agree to the resolution, or
 - (b) separate copies of that document, as long as the wording of the resolution is the same in each copy.
- The **company** may send a circular resolution by email to the **directors** and the **directors** may agree to the resolution by sending a reply email to that effect, including the text of the resolution in their reply.
- 58.5 A circular resolution is passed when the last **director** signs or otherwise agrees to the resolution in the manner set out in clause 58.3 or clause 58.4.

Secretary

59. Appointment and role of secretary

- 59.1 The **company** must have at least 1 secretary, who may also be a director.
- 59.2 A secretary must be appointed by the **directors** (after giving the **company** their signed consent to act as secretary of the **company**) and may be removed by the directors.
- 59.3 The **directors** must decide the terms and conditions under which the secretary is appointed, including any remuneration.
- 59.4 The role of the secretary includes:
 - (a) maintaining a register of the **company**'s **members**, and
 - (b) maintaining the minutes and other records of **general meetings** (including notices of meetings), directors' meetings and circular resolutions.

Minutes and records

60. Minutes and records

- The **company** must, within 1 month, make and keep the following records:
 - (a) minutes of proceedings and resolutions of general meetings
 - (b) minutes of circular resolutions of members
 - (c) a copy of a notice of each general meeting, and
 - (d) a copy of a members' statement distributed to members under clause 30.
- 60.2 The **company** must, within 1 month, make and keep the following records:
 - (a) minutes of proceedings and resolutions of **directors'** meetings (including meetings of any committees), and
 - (b) minutes of circular resolutions of directors.
- 60.3 To allow **members** to inspect the **company**'s records:
 - (a) the **company** must give a **member** access to the records set out in clause 60.1, and
 - (b) the **directors** may authorise a **member** to inspect other records of the **company**, including records referred to in clause 60.2 and clause 61.1.
- The **directors** must ensure that minutes of a **general meeting** or a directors' meeting are signed within a reasonable time after the meeting by:
 - (a) the chairperson of the meeting, or

- (b) the chairperson of the next meeting.
- 60.5 The **directors** must ensure that minutes of the passing of a circular resolution (of **members** or **directors**) are signed by a **director** within a reasonable time after the resolution is passed.

61. Financial and related records

- 61.1 The **company** must make and keep written financial records that:
 - (a) correctly record and explain its transactions and financial position and performance, and
 - (b) enable true and fair financial statements to be prepared and to be audited.
- 61.2 The **company** must also keep written records that correctly record its operations.
- 61.3 The **company** must retain its records for at least 7 years.
- The **directors** must take reasonable steps to ensure that the **company**'s records are kept safe.

By-laws

62. By-laws

- 62.1 The **directors** may pass a resolution to make by-laws to give effect to this **constitution**.
- 62.2 **Members** and **directors** must comply with by-laws as if they were part of this **constitution**.

Notice

63. What is notice

- Anything written to or from the **company** under any clause in this **constitution** is written notice and is subject to clauses 64 to 66, unless specified otherwise.
- 63.2 Clauses 64 to 66 do not apply to a notice of proxy under clause 36.6.

64. Notice to the company

Written notice or any communication under this **constitution** may be given to the **company,** the **directors** or the secretary by:

- (a) delivering it to the **company**'s registered office
- (b) posting it to the **company**'s registered office or to another address chosen by the **company** for notice to be provided
- (c) sending it to an email address or other electronic address notified by the company to the members as the company's email address or other electronic address, or
- (d) sending it to the fax number notified by the **company** to the **members** as the **company**'s fax number.

65. Notice to members

- Written notice or any communication under this **constitution** may be given to a **member**:
 - (a) in person

- (b) by posting it to, or leaving it at the address of the member in the register of members or an alternative address (if any) nominated by the member for service of notices
- (c) sending it to the email or other electronic address nominated by the **member** as an alternative address for service of notices (if any)
- (d) sending it to the fax number nominated by the **member** as an alternative address for service of notices (if any), or
- (e) if agreed to by the member, by notifying the member at an email or other electronic address nominated by the member, that the notice is available at a specified place or address (including an electronic address).
- 65.2 If the **company** does not have an address for the **member**, the **company** is not required to give notice in person.

66. When notice is taken to be given

A notice:

- (a) delivered in person, or left at the recipient's address, is taken to be given on the day it is delivered
- (b) sent by post, is taken to be given on the third day after it is posted with the correct payment of postage costs
- (c) sent by email, fax or other electronic method, is taken to be given on the business day after it is sent, and
- (d) given under clause 65.1(e) is taken to be given on the business day after the notification that the notice is available is sent.

Financial year

67. Company's financial year

The **company**'s financial year is from 1 July to 30 June, unless the **directors** pass a resolution to change the financial year.

Indemnity, insurance and access

68. Indemnity

- 68.1 The **company** indemnifies each officer of the **company** out of the assets of the **company**, to the relevant extent, against all losses and liabilities (including costs, expenses and charges) incurred by that person as an officer of the **company**.
- 68.2 In this clause, 'officer' means a **director** or secretary and includes a **director** or secretary after they have ceased to hold that office.
- 68.3 In this clause, 'to the relevant extent' means:
 - (a) to the extent that the **company** is not precluded by **law** (including the **Corporations Act**) from doing so, and
 - (b) for the amount that the officer is not otherwise entitled to be indemnified and is not actually indemnified by another person (including an insurer under an insurance policy).
- The indemnity is a continuing obligation and is enforceable by an officer even though that person is no longer an officer of the **company**.

69. Insurance

To the extent permitted by **law** (including the **Corporations Act**), and if the **directors** consider it appropriate, the **company** may pay or agree to pay a premium for a contract insuring a person who is or has been an officer of the **company** against any liability incurred by the person as an officer of the **company**.

70. Directors' access to documents

- 70.1 A **director** has a right of access to the financial records of the **company** at all reasonable times.
- 70.2 If the **directors** agree, the **company** must give a **director** or former **director** access to:
 - (a) certain documents, including documents provided for or available to the directors, and
 - (b) any other documents referred to in those documents.

Winding up

71. Surplus assets not to be distributed to members

If the **company** is wound up, any **surplus assets** must not be distributed to a **member** or a former **member** of the **company**, unless that **member** or former **member** is a charity described in clause 72.1.

72. Distribution of surplus assets

- 72.1 Subject to the **Corporations Act** and any other applicable Act, and any court order, any surplus assets (including 'gift funds' defined in clause 72.4) that remain after the **company** is wound up must be distributed to one or more charities:
 - (a) with charitable purpose(s) similar to, or inclusive of, the purpose(s) in clause 6
 - (b) which also prohibit the distribution of any surplus assets to its **members** to at least the same extent as the **company**, and
 - (c) that is or are deductible gift recipients within the meaning of the *Income Tax* Assessment Act 1997 (Cth).
- 72.2 The decision as to the charity or charities to be given the surplus assets must be made by a **special resolution** of **members** at or before the time of winding up. If the **members** do not make this decision, the company may apply to the Supreme Court to make this decision.
- 72.3 If the **company's** deductible gift recipient endorsement is revoked (whether or not the **company** is to be wound up), any surplus gift funds must be transferred to 1 or more charities that meet the requirements of 72.1(a), (b) and (c), as decided by the **directors**.
- 72.4 For the purpose of this clause:
 - (a) 'gift funds' means:
 - (i) gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the **company**
 - (ii) contributions made in relation to a fund-raising event held for the principal purpose of the **company**, and
 - (iii) money received by the **company** because of such gifts and contributions.
 - (b) 'contributions' and 'fund-raising event' have the same meaning as in Division 30 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth).

Definitions and interpretation

73. Definitions

In this **constitution**:

- (a) **ACNC Act** means the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth);
- (b) **board** means the board of **directors** of the **company**;
- (c) **company** means the **company** referred to in clause 1;
- (d) **constitution** means this constitution of the Company, subject to any amendments made from time to time;
- (e) Corporations Act means the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth);
- directors' resolution means a proposed resolution of directors to be move at a general meeting;
- (g) elected chairperson means a person elected by the directors to be the company's chairperson under clause 42;
- (h) **general meeting** means a meeting of **members** and includes the annual **general meeting**, under clause 20.1;
- (i) **government agency** means any government or any public, statutory, governmental (including a local government), semi-governmental or judicial body, entity, department or authority and includes any self-regulatory organisation established under statute;
- initial member means a person who is named in the application for registration of the company, with their consent, as a proposed member of the company;
- (k) law means:
- i. principles of law or equity established by decisions of courts;
- ii. statutes, regulations or by-laws of the Commonwealth, or any State or
 Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia or a government agency; and
- iii. requirements and approvals (including conditions) of the Commonwealth or any State or Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia or a **government agency** that have the force of **law**;
- member means a person whose name is entered on the Register as the holder of one or more shares of the company;
- (m) member present means, in connection with a general meeting, a member present in person, by representative or by proxy at the venue or venues for the meeting;
- (n) members' resolution means a proposed resolution of members to be move at a general meeting;
- (o) **members' statement** means a statement about a proposed resolution or any other matter that may be considered at a **general meeting**
- (p) **nominations committee** means the committee established pursuant to clause 38:
- (q) *principal* means the person appointed by the **directors** who is responsible for the operation and management of the **school**;
- (r) registered charity means a charity that is registered under the ACNC Act;
- (s) register of members means the register of members of the company;
- (t) **school** means the educational institution Bacchus Marsh Grammar;
- (u) **special resolution** means a resolution:

CONSTITUTION OF BACCHUS MARSH GRAMMAR

- iv. of which notice has been given under clause 21.5(c), and
- v. that has been passed by at least 75% of the votes cast by **members present** and entitled to vote on the resolution;
- (v) **student** means a person enrolled as a student at the **school**;
- (w) surplus assets means any assets of the company that remain after paying all debts and other liabilities of the company, including the costs of winding up; and
- (x) visiting expert means a person appointed by the board pursuant to clause
 57.2 that the board deems to have the required skill and knowledge to make a determination on a specific matter.

74. Reading this constitution with the Corporations Act

- 74.1 The replaceable rules set out in the **Corporations Act** do not apply to the **company**.
- 74.2 While the **company** is a **registered charity**, the **ACNC Act** and the **Corporations Act** override any clauses in this **constitution** which are inconsistent with those Acts.
- 74.3 If the **company** is not a **registered charity** (even if it remains a charity), the **Corporations Act** overrides any clause in this **constitution** which is inconsistent with that Act.
- 74.4 A word or expression that is defined in the **Corporations Act**, or used in that Act and covering the same subject, has the same meaning as in this **constitution**.

75. Interpretation

In this constitution:

- (a) the words 'including', 'for example', or similar expressions mean that there may be more inclusions or examples than those mentioned after that expression, and
- (b) reference to an Act includes every amendment, re-enactment, or replacement of that Act and any subordinate legislation made under that Act (such as regulations).