

iii. Standards Committee

STANDARDS COMMITTEE Terms of Reference

1. Governance

- 1.1 The Committee shall be managed in accordance with the Articles of Association.
- 1.2 The establishment, Terms of Reference, Membership, and any Constitution, will be reviewed by the trustees annually.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The Committee will have no more than 10 members.
- 2.2 The Committee will comprise:-
 - 2.2.1 at least 6 members drawn from the Academy Boards;
 - 2.2.2 and up to 4 members co-opted by the Committee.

3. Meetings

- 3.1 The Committee will meet two or three times per academic year, in advance of the main Trust Board meetings in autumn and spring terms, with additional meetings as required.
- 3.2 The Chief Executive, Deputy CEO, Educational Improvement Director and Principals (or their deputies) of any Academy Board are entitled to attend all Committee meetings.

4. Quorum

The quorum for meetings of the Committee is 3 external governors. Non-Executive Trust Directors present at the meeting will also count in determining whether a quorum exists.

5. Responsibilities

- 5.1 The Committee will oversee:-
 - 5.1.1 the curriculum policies across the Trust;
 - 5.1.2 the standards of education and personal development across the Academies;
 - 5.1.3 a review of statutory and local targets to ensure the Academies deliver a broad and balanced curriculum in keeping with the Trust's aims and legal requirements;
 - 5.1.4 the adoption and implementation of staffing policies and procedures to ensure that academic and personal-development standards are achieved and maintained and all principles of good and fair employment practice are adhered to and legal requirements fulfilled;
- 5.2 The Committee will consider proposals from the Chief Executive, Principals or their representatives.
- 5.3 The Committee will approve actions and report to the Board on:
 - 5.3.1 academic and personal-development standards achieved in the academies;
 - 5.3.2 quality of target setting and the policies being implemented to achieve them as defined in the Academy Performance Agreements including the annual statutory and non-statutory student performance targets;
 - 5.3.3 the staffing establishment and structure (teaching and non-teaching), especially if there are significant vacancies and at least annually in relation to the budget and the Academy Performance Agreements;
 - 5.3.4 Academy curriculum policies, including those for sex education, religious education and collective worship; and
 - 5.3.5 ensuring balanced treatment of political issues.
- 5.4 The Committee will:-
 - 5.4.1 review the outcomes of any Ofsted inspections;
 - 5.4.2 contribute to, monitor and evaluate relevant parts of the Academy Performance Agreements and Ofsted action plan and Academy curriculum policies;
 - 5.4.3 review proposals for students with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND);
 - 5.4.4 monitor and review information about Academy performance and reporting to parents taking note of statutory requirements;
 - 5.4.5 maintain oversight of the risk management of the Academy for those aspects relating to academic and personal-development standards;
 - 5.4.6 approve and oversee implementation of the Trust's Safeguarding Policy and procedures implemented in each Academy;
 - 5.4.7 monitor the Academies' aims, policies and provision relating to social inclusion, pastoral support and home/Academy links. Issues to be considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 5.4.7.1 approving the governors' statement of general principles on student discipline;
- 5.4.7.2 ensuring each Academy has appropriate policies and procedures in place to respond appropriately to student discipline issues;
- 5.4.7.3 reviewing the use of exclusions in each Academy;
- 5.4.7.4 monitoring student attendance and consider measures to improve attendance;
- 5.4.7.5 monitoring and reviewing the equal opportunities policies.

5.5 The Committee will take appropriate action on any other relevant matter referred by the governing body.