Trust Governance: Education & Standards Committee

Terms of Reference

2026-2027

1. Purpose

The Education Committee is a committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to provide strategic oversight and assurance on the quality of education across the trust, including pupil outcomes, curriculum, inclusion, and equality.

2. Authority

The Committee is authorised by the Board to:

- Investigate any activity within its terms of reference.
- Seek any information it requires from staff or external advisors.
- Commission reports or reviews to support its work.

3. Membership

- Minimum of three trustees, with relevant educational expertise where possible.
- The Committee may invite senior leaders, including the CEO, Chief Learning & Partnerships Officer, Head of Safeguarding, Attendance, Behaviour and Culture and the Trust Inclusion Lead, to attend meetings.
- The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Board.

4. Meetings

- At least three meetings per academic year.
- Additional meetings may be convened as required.
- **Quorum**: The quorum for the transaction of the business of the Committee shall be a majority of the Committee members and no vote on any matter shall be taken at a meeting of the Committee unless the majority of members of the Committee present are Trustees.

5. Responsibilities

A. Educational Performance

- Monitor pupil outcomes across all key stages, including attainment and progress.
- Scrutinise performance data, including for disadvantaged pupils, pupils with SEND, and other vulnerable groups.
- Review the effectiveness of curriculum delivery and alignment with the trust's vision and statutory requirements.

B. Inclusion and SEND

- Monitor the trust's approach to inclusion, ensuring all pupils have access to high-quality education.
- Review the provision and outcomes for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- Ensure compliance with the SEND Code of Practice and statutory duties.

C. Equality and Diversity

- Monitor the implementation of the trust's Equality Objectives.
- Ensure the trust meets its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), including eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity, and fostering good relations.
- Review data and reports on pupil and staff diversity, and challenge any disparities in outcomes or access.

D. Safeguarding and Wellbeing

- Receive regular updates on safeguarding arrangements and incidents.
- Monitor the effectiveness of pastoral support and pupil wellbeing strategies.
- Ensure safeguarding policies are up to date and compliant with statutory guidance.

E. Strategic Oversight

- Provide assurance to the Board on the quality of education across the trust.
- Review school improvement plans and monitor progress against key priorities.
- Support the development of a trust-wide culture of high expectations and continuous improvement.

6. Reporting

- Report to the Board of Trustees after each meeting.
- Provide an annual summary of activities, findings, and recommendations.
- Escalate any significant concerns or risks to the Board promptly.

7. Review

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually by the Committee and approved by the Board.