

Draft - STANDARDS AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Composition

The Standards and Accountability Committee will consist of the following members;

- MAT Chairman
- Chief Executive Officer
- MAT Director
- MAT Director
- MAT Director
- Chief Operations Officer
- Clerk

Frequency of Meetings and Outline Proceedings

- The Committee will meet at least three times each year
- November – Outcomes, targets and action planning scrutiny meetings + Safeguarding
- Spring – Leadership Perf Review + Self Evaluation Reports (Secondary) + Safeguarding
- Summer – Predicted Outcomes - Self Evaluation Reports (Primary)

...and at such other time as the Chair of the Committee shall deem to be appropriate. Unless otherwise agreed by all members of the Committee, notice of meetings, confirmation the venue, time and date together with an agenda and all relevant papers, should normally be circulated to each member at least five working days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be 3 committee members.

Reporting

The Clerk shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of the Committee. Minutes of Committee meetings shall be circulated promptly to all members of the Committee for approval.

Purpose

The Committee's role is one of oversight. It is tasked with reviewing the provision, standards, governance and leadership performance of all CoLAT academies. It will provide a performance profile to the Trust Board and agree/monitor the effectiveness of interventions to support relative under- performance.

The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the Board that it deems appropriate within the context of its terms of reference to assist the decision making of the governing body/board of directors by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure a strategic and systematic approach to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Major issues will be referred to the full governing body for ratification.

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Objectives

Subject to the requirements of current legislation and the policies adopted under the Funding Agreement, the committee is authorised:

1. To hold individual academies to account for their academic outcomes
This will be achieved by:
 - Scrutiny of academy examination/test results, progress and other key performance indicators using international, national, local and Trust benchmarks for achievement
 - Periodic reviews of the performance of academy leadership including governance
 - Review of Academy Self Evaluation reports
 - Reports from the CEO and COO on school monitoring visits
 - Receiving regular updates on predicted grades v targets
2. To identify and manage risk associated with the under-performance of an Academy
This will be achieved by:
 - Identifying Academy deficits against Outstanding OFSTED Criteria and Trust benchmarks
 - Challenging, reviewing and monitoring LGB/Academy improvement to Outstanding plans
 - Where necessary recommending direct leadership intervention direction and/or support
3. Monitoring the adherence to/compliance with statutory requirements
4. Monitoring the adherence to/compliance with agreed Trust policies
5. To contribute to the formulation of the Trust Development Plan, through the consideration of curricular priorities and proposals, in consultation with the CEO, within the stated and agreed vision, aims and objectives of the Trust.
6. To monitor and review the implementation of the Trust Development Plan including any associated strategic staff and governor training programmes
7. To monitor and keep under review the Trust policy on health and safety particularly in relation to educational visits and other out -of-school trips.
8. To consider and recommend strategies for the development and maintenance of strong Academy parent, community and commercial links and monitor and review progress.

Authority

The Committee has the authority to conduct or authorise investigations into any matters within its scope of responsibility. It is empowered to:

- a) investigate any activity within its terms of reference
- b) seek any information that it requires from any employee and all employees are directed to cooperate with any requests made by the committee
- c) obtain outside legal or independent professional advice and such advisors may attend meetings as necessary