



Mercia
Learning Trust

Standards Committee

Terms of Reference

Autumn 2022

Standards Committee Terms of Reference

1. CONSTITUTION

1.1. The Mercia Trust Board of Trustees has resolved to establish a Standards Committee to advise the Board on matters relating to Trust's curriculum, quality and standards, safeguarding and SEND. The Committee will also advise and aid the Board in ensuring the standards of leadership and management is high. This will include proper planning, monitoring and probity.

1.2. The Standards Committee is responsible to the Trust Board.

1.3. The Committee's Terms of Reference are agreed and adopted by the Board and can only be amended with the approval of the Board.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1. The Committee will consist of a minimum of 3 Trustees who will be appointed by the Board. The Chair of the Trust Board cannot be the Chair of the Standards Committee.

2.2. The members of the Committee shall hold office from the date of their appointment until resignation or omission from membership on subsequent consideration by the Board. The Board will review Committee membership on an annual basis at the start of each academic year.

2.3. The Committee will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair.

2.4. The Governance Officer will attend all meetings.

2.5. The Chief Executive Officer, Lead Principals and the Director of School Improvement will attend meetings as required.

2.6. Any other members of staff or external professionals will be invited to attend relevant meetings as required.

3. MEETINGS

3.1. The Committee will meet twice per academic year.

3.2. The quorum shall be 2 Trustees.

3.3. The administration of meetings will be managed by the Trust Governance Officer. Agenda and papers will be circulated, whenever possible, to members of the Committee 7 days in advance of the meeting.

3.4. In addition to voting in person at a meeting, Trustees can vote on matters via e-mail to the Trust Governance Officer (ahead of the meeting) or via video / telephone conferencing during the meeting.

3.5. Minutes of meetings will be agreed by the committee and shared with the Trust Board.

4. AUTHORITY

4.1. The Committee will report to the Board on any decision taken in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.

4.2. The Committee is authorised to investigate any activity within its term of reference or specifically delegated to it by the Board.

4.3. The Committee is authorised to obtain any legal and professional advice it considers necessary, normally in consultation with the Chair of the Trust Board.

5. CORE DUTIES

The main duties of the Standards Committee are as follows:

5.1. To monitor and advise the Trust Board by written report each term on the following:

5.1.1. Overall performance of each of the Trust's academies;

5.1.2. Progress and achievement of the Trust's academies;

5.1.3. The effectiveness of the Primary and Secondary Quality Assurance Models and the impact of any School Improvement work;

5.1.4. Effectiveness of Leadership;

5.1.5. Effectiveness of Governance.

5.2. To monitor and advise the Board on:

5.2.1. The impact of the Curriculum;

5.2.2. The School improvement strategies and plans;

5.2.3. Special Educational Needs (SEN) and inclusion;

5.2.4. School Attendance and Exclusions;

5.2.5. Partnership working;

5.2.6. Admissions;

5.2.7. Community engagement;

5.2.8 Safeguarding

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Standards Committee will consider:

6.1. Teaching Quality and impact.

6.2 Implementing the curriculum

6.3 Progress and evaluation.

6.4 Catch up and vulnerable groups.

6.5 Safeguarding