Terms of Reference for Standards Committee 2026-2027

Purpose

The Standards Committee is a subcommittee of the Trust Board responsible for monitoring, evaluating, and ensuring the quality of education, pupil outcomes, and school improvement across all academies within the Trust. The committee ensures that the Trust meets its statutory responsibilities for educational standards and that all students receive a high-quality education.

Key Responsibilities

The committee will: •

Monitor and challenge educational performance across all schools in the Trust.

- Review progress against the Trust's School Improvement Plan and individual academy improvement plans.
- Scrutinise academic outcomes, including progress and attainment data, for all key stages.
- Oversee curriculum quality, breadth, and compliance with national requirements.
- Ensure robust assessment and tracking systems are in place and used effectively.
- Monitor safeguarding, behaviour, attendance, and exclusions across the Trust.
- Ensure the Trust supports the personal development and wellbeing of students.
- Assess the effectiveness of leadership, teaching, and learning strategies.
- Oversee strategies for closing the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND.
- Review internal & external inspection and assessment reports (e.g., Ofsted, subject deep dives, Trust reviews, DfE performance tables).
- Ensure statutory policies related to curriculum and standards are in place and reviewed regularly.
- Report to the Trust Board on school improvement priorities and risks.

Membership

- The committee shall consist of at least **three trustees**, with additional members co-opted based on expertise.
- The CEO and Director of Education (or equivalent) will be standing members.
- Headteachers/Principals of academies may be invited to attend as required.
- The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Trust Board.
- The Clerk to the Trust Board will act as Clerk to the Committee.

Meetings

- The committee will meet at least **once per term**. Additional meetings may be scheduled as necessary.
- A quorum shall be **three members**, including at least one trustee.
- Papers and agendas will be distributed at least **seven days** before meetings.
- Minutes will be recorded and submitted to the Trust Board.

Decision Making and Delegation

- The committee has delegated authority from the Trust Board to monitor and make recommendations regarding standards but does not have executive decision-making powers unless explicitly authorised.
- Any recommendations requiring Board approval will be escalated.

These Terms of Reference were reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees **on the 13th October 2026** and will come into effect on the **2nd September 2026.** It will be reviewed annually thereafter in each academic year and may be subject to amendment by them**.**