



One Trust, One Team, Unlocking the Future for All

The Keys Academy Trust

Curriculum Effectiveness and Church Ethos Committee - Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The over-arching purpose of the Trust and (by delegation) all of its committees, is to deliver its vision: the belief in educational excellence. We aim to serve our pupils, staff, parents and their local community by providing our schools with the highest levels of academic rigour and pastoral care. Through this purpose, the Trust and its committees will enable its schools to be places where children and young people develop and thrive intellectually, socially, culturally and spiritually.

The Curriculum Effectiveness and Church Ethos 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. It is also responsible for ensuring the distinctive Christian values of the Trust are upheld and supported in its schools. The committee will oversee and provide assurance to the Trust Board on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and it will support a Trust-wide safeguarding culture. The committee has additional oversight of local governance.

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 and safeguarding expertise where possible.
- Associates with relevant skills if required and appointed to the committee by trustees.
- The Committee may invite executive and senior leaders, including the CEO, Director of Teaching, Learning and School Improvement, hub leaders, school leaders or subject/phase leaders 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: two trustees.
- No vote may be taken without a quorum.
- Committee members must advise the Trust Governance Professional in the event of known non-attendance at a meeting.
- The Trust Governance Professional will produce minutes of all meetings.

5. Responsibilities

A. Educational Performance and Inspection Readiness

- Monitor pupil outcomes across all key stages across all Trust schools, including attainment and progress, and comparing this to national and local data.
- Scrutinise targets and 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.
- Monitor schools' preparation for Ofsted inspections, review outcomes of inspections and ensure robust action plans are in place and monitored for any identified areas for improvement.

B. Inclusion and SEND

- Monitor the Trust's approach to inclusion, ensuring all pupils have access to high-quality education.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the Trust's PPG Strategy 'Elevate' and SEND Strategy 'Participate'.
- 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 diversity and challenge any disparities in outcomes or access.

D. Safeguarding and Wellbeing

- Provide strategic oversight, scrutiny and challenge to ensure the Trust meets its statutory safeguarding duties and that safeguarding is effective across all schools in the Trust.
- Ensuring protecting children from harm is central to the culture and work of this committee.
- Receive Note of Contact from Trust Safeguarding Termly meeting with Safeguarding trustee, CEO and Trust Support Manager.
- Receive regular updates on safeguarding arrangements and an overview of incidents.
- Monitor the effectiveness of pastoral support and pupil wellbeing strategies.
- Ensure safeguarding policies are up to date and compliant with statutory guidance.
- Review and recommend the Trust's Safeguarding Policy to the Board for approval.
- Receive assurance that each school maintains an accurate and compliant Single Central Record.

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- To monitor oversight of filtering and monitoring procedures.

E. Strategic Oversight

- Provide assurance to the Board on the quality of education across the trust.
- Review school improvement plans (SIPs) and school self-evaluation forms (SEFs) and monitor progress and effectiveness against key priorities.
- Support the development of a trust-wide culture of high expectations and continuous improvement.
- Approve curriculum and SIAMS related policies, where authority has been delegated through the Scheme of Delegation.

F. SIAMS and Church Ethos

- Ensure Christian distinctiveness and vision are embedded and regularly reviewed in church schools.
- Consider the provision and impact of collective worship.
- Monitor action plans following SIAMS inspections and hold Trust and school leaders to account for progress.

G. Governance Monitoring

- Receive assurance regarding the effectiveness of local governing bodies (LGBs), ensuring they fulfil their delegated responsibilities.
- Oversee compliance with statutory and Trust compliance requirements for governance volunteers.
- Monitor local governor training and development.
- Review and recommend updates to the Scheme of Delegation, LGB Guidance and other documents relating to local governance for Board approval.

6. Reporting

- Report to the Board of Trustees after each meeting on any key points of discussion, 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.