

Education and Standards Committee

Terms of reference, constitution and membership 2020/21

Reports to: Board of Trustees

Terms of reference

The Education and Standards Committee is a committee of the University of Brighton Academies Trust's Board of Trustees. All areas of responsibility are delegated to the committee as detailed in the trust's Scheme of Delegation. The key responsibilities of the Education and Standards Committee are:

Overall strategy

1. To ensure that the implementation of the trust's vision, values and mission is underpinned by robust, sharp and focused school improvement strategy.
2. To develop and monitor the trust school improvement strategy and recommend approval to the Board of Trustees.
3. To consider key national educational developments and their impact on the trust school improvement strategy.
4. To establish and approve Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Safeguarding and child protection (including Prevent) Behaviour & Attendance (including exclusions) and related policies
5. To monitor particular objectives from the Strategic Plan, as defined by the Board, and report progress and risk areas to the Board.

Education and standards

6. To oversee school improvement across the trust in order to ensure that progress and standards continue to rise and that resources are allocated strategically.
7. To advise the Board of Trustees and Chief Executive on the resources required to support such development in order to ensure that the academies progress within a properly considered resource framework.
8. To support the decision making of the Trustees by enabling detailed consideration of educational and school improvement issues, advising the Board of key achievements and key risks. This includes:
 - (i) To consider, and approve, each academy's annual targets
 - (ii) To monitor the quality of teaching and learning
 - (iii) To consider each academy's latest data capture, progress towards their annual targets and relevant benchmarking information
 - (iv) To monitor exclusion and attendance data
 - (v) To consider the latest School Improvement Status report for each academy
 - (vi) For vulnerable academies, to monitor the fulfilment of the academy's Intensive Improvement Plan
 - (vii) To consider planned cross trust professional development programmes
 - (viii) To confirm that each academy is appropriately prepared for Ofsted inspection or other external monitoring, and to consider the outcomes of such inspections
9. To monitor and oversee Prevent, safeguarding and child protection arrangements across all academies, including the monitoring of key outcomes arising from safeguarding peer reviews.

Accountability

10. To ensure appropriate communication and reporting links with the Board of Trustees, its Committees and Panels, and the trust's Executive Team and Professional Services; escalating risks and making recommendations about any educational matters considered by them.
11. To establish such short-term working groups as the Education and Standards Committee considers appropriate to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities.
12. To undertake any other specific duties and advise on such matters requested by the Board of Trustees or Chief Executive.

13. To have due regard within its decisions to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people, in accordance with the public sector general duty of the Equality Act (2010).

Constitution and membership 2020/21

| Constitution | Membership 2020/21 | Means of Appointment |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|
| At least three Trustees appointed by the Board of Trustees | Lorraine Harrison (Chair) | Nominated |
| | Siobhan Denning | Nominated |
| | Dr. John Smith | Nominated |
| Up to two co-opted external members appointed by the Education & Standards Committee | Rose Durban | Nominated |
| | Andy Davies | Nominated |

Chair

- The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Board of Trustees
- The term of office for the Chair will be three calendar years and will normally be from the first meeting of the academic year to the first meeting of the academic year three years later to ensure continuity of role
- In the event of the resignation of the Chair of the Committee during the term of office the Board of Trustees shall seek to appoint a successor by use of Chair's action or at its next meeting so that there is always a Chair in place.

Officers

- Dylan Davies, Executive Director of School Improvement
- John Smith, Head of School Improvement

Clerk

- Clerk to the Board of Trustees

Quorum

- Two Trustees

Meetings

- The full Committee will meet four times per school year
- The Chair will meet with Officers monthly during the school year