

Gateshead Council – Education Gateshead - Governor Support

Terms of Reference for committees - maintained

CURRICULUM & STANDARDS COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Membership

The membership of the Committee shall be not less than three governors.

2. Quorum

The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be three governors, who are members of the committee.

3. Frequency of Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least once per term.

4. Delegated Functions

4.1 To review, monitor and evaluate the curriculum offer.

4.2 To monitor school based, local and national performance data and reports, evaluating achievement and progress, and analysing the performance of different groups and subjects including any underachieving groups.

4.3 To monitor and evaluate the impact of the priorities identified in the School Improvement Plan which relate to the committee's areas of operation.

4.4 To monitor and evaluate the impact of quality of teaching on rates of pupil progress and standards of achievement.

4.5 To monitor the provision for and evaluate the progress and attainment of vulnerable groups e.g. children eligible for FSM, looked after children, young carers, to ensure all their needs have been identified and addressed, and to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention strategies.

4.6 To ensure that the requirements of children with special educational needs are met, as laid out in the Code of Practice, and receive termly reports from the Headteacher and/or SENCO.

- 4.7 To ensure that the school meets the General and Specific Equality Duties in relation to teaching and learning, curriculum, achievement and progress.
- 4.8 To monitor and review pupil attendance and exclusions information, and to evaluate strategies to improve these areas.
- 4.9 To ensure that the school's provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is effective in helping pupils to develop in this area, including pupils with SEND.
- 4.10 To ensure that Relationships Education (Primary)/Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) (Secondary) and Health Education lessons are effective and ensure that the school can fulfil its legal obligations, and that clear information is provided for parents on the subject content and the right to request that their child is withdrawn.
- 4.11 To advise the Resources committee on the relative funding priorities necessary to deliver the curriculum.
- 4.12 To oversee the school's contribution to pupil well-being, including the extent to which pupils feel safe, adopt healthy lifestyles and contribute to the school and wider community (including but not limited to the monitoring of Pupil Voice and pupil survey results).
- 4.13 To monitor and evaluate the engagement of and communication with parents and parental views (including but not limited to the review of parent survey results) and how these are taken into account, and consider ways in which home-school links can be further developed, making appropriate recommendations.
- 4.14 To monitor community links and community use of the school, and evaluate the school's contribution to promoting community cohesion.
- 4.15 To be satisfied that the school is compliant in following the statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms, particularly if/when developing and implementing a non-statutory School Uniform Policy.
- 4.16 To ensure all statutory requirements for reporting and publishing information in an accessible way on the school website are met, and to review and monitor the school website to ensure that it is kept up-to-date.
- 4.17 To monitor the provision of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and to ensure that the required policies and procedures for both learning and development and safeguarding and welfare provision for children from birth to five are in place (separate policies for EYFS are not required where procedures are already covered in existing whole school policies) (Nursery and Primary schools only).
- 4.18 To review careers education to ensure it is fit for purpose (Secondary schools only).

- 4.19 To monitor the range of the extended school offer (including out of hours clubs) and evaluate its impact.
- 4.20 To oversee arrangements for educational visits and to approve high risk educational visits.
- 4.21 To monitor and review safeguarding incidents and practice within the school, including how the Child Protection Policy adopted by the governing body is being implemented and the impact of any changes in safeguarding personnel, and to ensure key aspects of Keeping Children Safe in Education are implemented.
- 4.22 To monitor the implementation of, and evaluate the outcomes of, the Behaviour Policy.

5. Policies

Statutory

- 5.1 To ensure an Accessibility Plan is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every three years.
- 5.2 To ensure a Behaviour Principles Written Statement is established and adopted.
- 5.3 To ensure a Relationships Education Policy (Primary schools)/ Relationships and Sex Education Policy (Secondary schools) is established and adopted (not required for Nursery schools).

6. Reporting to the Governing Body

- 6.1 The Committee clerk will send the minutes (or draft minutes, if they are still awaiting approval at the next committee meeting) of its meetings to the clerk of the Governing Body for inclusion with the agenda of the next meeting of the Governing Body.
- 6.2 The Committee Chair (or, if the Committee Chair is not present at the full Governing Body meeting, any other member of the Committee who was present at the Committee meeting) shall report to the Governing Body on any actions undertaken by the committee, as delegated to the Committee by the Governing Body, including but not limited to the approval of any policies.

RESOURCES COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Membership

The membership of the Committee shall consist of not less than three governors.

2. Quorum

The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be three governors, who are members of the committee.

3. Frequency of Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least once per term.

4. Delegated Functions

Finance

- 4.1 To oversee the preparation of the annual budget plan and ensure it links to the school development plan priorities, and to approve the annual budget.
- 4.2 To establish and maintain a three-year financial plan, taking into account priorities identified in the School Improvement Plan, the impact of potential changes in the number of pupils on roll, and any central government or local authority initiatives.
- 4.3 To receive at least three budget monitoring reports each year from the Headteacher and/or the school's finance officer, monitoring income and expenditure against the annual budget plan.
- 4.4 To ensure any expenditure, or any virements between budget heads, are in accordance with the levels set and in accordance with the LA's Scheme for Financing Schools and the School's Scheme of Delegation.
- 4.5 To approve any Service Level Agreements that exceed the Chair of Governors/Vice Chair of Governors and Headteacher's delegated expenditure limit.
- 4.6 To monitor the impact of the use of any additional grants, including but not limited to P.E. & Sports Premium (Primary schools only), Pupil Premium, Recovery Premium and School-led Tutoring Grant funding.
- 4.7 To review any local authority audit report and to act upon any issues identified or recommendations made in such reports, and to then monitor the implementation of the agreed audit recommendations.

- 4.8 To review value for money and benchmarking information on an annual basis, and to then receive an annual improved use of resources report.
- 4.9 To ensure the school have made arrangements for the annual audit of the school fund, and to send a statement to finance within 3 months of the end of the financial year (this cannot be audited by governors).

Premises, Health & Safety

- 4.10 To provide support and guidance for the governing body and the Headteacher on all matters relating to the maintenance, development and repair of equipment and the premises and grounds, including health and safety issues.
- 4.11 To comply with and support the Headteacher to implement competent health and safety advice.
- 4.12 To receive and review reports in order to ensure the school is compliant with statutory health and safety regulations.
- 4.13 To review the premises elements of the Accessibility Plan.
- 4.14 To ensure that an annual inspection of the premises and grounds takes place and a cyclical maintenance plan is received identifying any issues, and to monitor the completion of any priorities for maintenance and development.
- 4.15 To arrange professional surveys and emergency work as necessary (the Headteacher is authorised to commit expenditure without the prior approval of the committee in any emergency where delay would result in further damage or present a risk to the health and safety of pupils or staff - in this event the Headteacher would normally be expected to consult the committee Chair at the earliest opportunity).
- 4.16 To ensure that an annual fire risk assessment review is carried out.
- 4.17 To ensure that the Corporate, Education and school's own Health & Safety policy is brought to the attention of the committee.
- 4.18 To be aware of any safety alerts that are issued to schools and ensure that appropriate action is implemented.
- 4.19 To be aware of any significant incidents that have occurred in the school, and support the Headteacher with managing these.
- 4.20 To approve the school's annual Health & Safety performance review and action plan, and ensure that it has been signed by the Chair of Governors and submitted to the Gateshead LA Health & Safety team.
- 4.21 To ensure they receive regular reports on compliance with the school food standards as well as take-up of school lunches and financial aspects of school food provision.

- 4.22 To check that the school is compliant in following statutory guidance for ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.
- 4.23 To ensure that where the school facilities/premises are used by external organisations or individuals (for example to community groups, sports associations, and service providers to run community or extra-curricular activities), appropriate arrangements are in place to keep children safe.

Staffing

- 4.24 To approve and review the staffing structure (both teaching and non-teaching) for the school, and to ensure that the school is staffed sufficiently to meet the requirements of the School Improvement Plan and the effective operation of the school (taking into account the financial position of the school).
- 4.25 To ensure that, where applicable, an appropriately qualified and experienced member of staff undertakes the responsibilities within the school to promote the educational achievement of looked-after and previously looked-after children on the school's roll, and to ensure that the designated teacher undertakes training that is appropriate to carrying out this duty.
- 4.26 To ensure that the school's Single Central Record of Recruitment and Vetting Checks is up-to-date, and that it is monitored by a governor periodically.
- 4.27 In consultation with staff, to oversee any restructure process leading to staff reduction or redundancy.
- 4.28 To consider requests made in line with staffing policies (secondment, flexible working, leave of absence, compressed hours).
- 4.29 To monitor staff attendance and staff absence levels.
- 4.30 To ensure that provision is made for the continuing professional development (CPD) of staff.
- 4.31 To ensure that the school is compliant in following the Statutory Induction Guidance for early career teachers.
- 4.32 To monitor the outcomes of the performance management process for staff, including the Headteacher.
- 4.33 To monitor and evaluate the engagement with staff and staff views (including but not limited to the review of staff survey results).

Pay

- 4.34 To carry out an annual salary review of teaching staff (and if appropriate other staff) working at the school and to consider and determine recommendations

for performance-related pay awards for teaching staff, the Headteacher and Deputy/Assistant Headteachers.

5. Policies

Statutory

- 5.1 To ensure a Charging & Remissions Policy is established and adopted.
- 5.2 To ensure a Governors' Allowances Policy is established and adopted.
- 5.3 To ensure a Statement of Procedures for Allegations of Abuse Against Staff is established and adopted.
- 5.4 To ensure a Staff Capability Policy is established and adopted.
- 5.5 To ensure a Staff Capability Policy (sickness absence) is established and adopted.
- 5.6 To ensure a Teacher Appraisal Policy is established and adopted.
- 5.7 To ensure a Financial Scheme of Delegation that clearly defines the responsibilities of the Governing Body, Headteacher and school Staff for the financial, human and asset resource management of the school is established and adopted, and is reviewed and re-adopted every year.
- 5.8 To ensure a Health & Safety Policy is established and adopted, and is reviewed and re-adopted every year.
- 5.9 To ensure an Equality Information & Objectives Statement is established and adopted, and is reviewed and re-adopted every four years.
- 5.10 To monitor the implementation of the Pay Policy, and where appropriate to recommend any changes to the governing body (the Pay Policy can only be adopted or re-adopted by the governing body).

Non-statutory

- 5.11 To ensure a Non-teacher Appraisal Policy is established and adopted.

Gateshead Audit

- 5.12 To ensure an Asset Management Plan is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every year.
- 5.13 To ensure a Dinner Money Debt Policy is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every year.
- 5.14 To ensure a Lettings Policy is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every year.

- 5.15 To ensure a Business Continuity Plan is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every two years.
- 5.16 To ensure an ICT Policy is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every two years.
- 5.17 To ensure a Whistle Blowing Policy is established and adopted and is reviewed and re-adopted every two years.

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