WADE DEACON TRUST

A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE 2026-2027

Version Number: 02
Ratified by Trustees: 30th September 2026
Next Review Date: 30th September 2027
Link: Mr I Kirkham

A GREAT PLACE **TO BE A PART OF**

1. CONSTITUTION

1.1. The Wade Deacon Multi Academy 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. 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 a member 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 Clerk will attend all meetings.

2.5. The Chief Executive Officer and executive leaders will attend all meetings.

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 at least once per term (3 times per academic year), normally two to three weeks in advance of the Trust Board Meetings.

3.2. The quorum shall be 2 Trustees.

3.3. The administration of meetings will be managed by the Clerk to the Trustees. 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 Clerk to the Trustees (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 academy leadership;

5.1.5. Effectiveness of Governance in monitoring standards

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. The use of additional funding and the impact on outcomes for pupils (E.g. Pupil Premium)

5.2.5. School Attendance and Exclusions;

5.2.6. Partnership working;

5.2.7. Pupil/Parent/Carer views on the curriculum

5.2.8. Community engagement

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Standards Committee will consider:

6.1. Curriculum and Quality

6.1.1. The Academies' statutory requirements in relation to the curriculum offer and other curriculum issues such as spiritual, moral, social and cultural learning;

6.1.2. Extra-curricular activities;

6.1.3. The educational needs of the pupils attending the Trust's Academies;

6.1.4. The Trust's policies in relation to its Curriculum Statement;

6.1.5. To determine and update relevant strategies relating to the above.

6.2. Performance and Standards

6.2.1. To monitor and review the achievement of strategic objectives, in particular the overview of performance against quantitative and qualitative benchmarks for key indicators/outcomes and the Ofsted framework, providing challenge and recommending remedial actions where required in line with the School Improvement Plan.

6.3. Self-Assessment and Review

6.3.1. To receive information on the curriculum and any quality assurance issues that may arise;

6.3.2. To receive progress reports on the implementation of post-Ofsted action plans and any other formal evaluation reports related to the quality and achievement of learning across the Trust,

6.3.3. To further inform, develop and monitor the Trust's Strategic Improvement Plans;

6.3.4. To review outcomes, identifying significant changes in performance, emerging trends and risks in relation to the future performance of each Academy.