



# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Inspire Partnership Academy Trust**

**Date approved by trustees: 03.04.19**

## **Inspire Trust Board**

### **Purpose of the Standards Committee**

The purpose of the Standards Committee is to monitor overall academic standards across the academies of the Inspire Partnership Academy Trust (known as the “Trust”) and to support the Local Governing Bodies (Local GB) in performing this function effectively for each academy.

The Standards Committee will oversee the curriculum policies of the Trust, standards of education in the academies and the setting of statutory and local targets, to ensure that the Trust delivers a high-quality education for pupils in keeping with the Trust’s aims and legal requirements. The Committee will also oversee the development and management of the Trust’s Admissions Policy and to support the Local Governing Bodies (Local GB) in performing these functions effectively for each academy.

The Standards Committee is responsible for ensuring implementation of the Trust’s safeguarding policies. A named Trustee from this committee will have oversight of safeguarding within the trust.

### **Membership**

There shall be at least three members: The Chair (who is a trustee), one more trustee and the CEO. The membership will be agreed on an annual basis at the first meeting of the Trustees in the academic year. The Chair (who may not be a person employed by the Trust) shall be appointed by the Trustees. The Chair’s term of office shall be for no more than four years.

Members of the Committee, whether they are Trustees or not, must declare personal and pecuniary interests, loyalties and duties, in the same circumstances as apply to the Trustees.

### **Quorum and Voting**

It is generally expected and encouraged that decision making by the Standards Committee should be by consensus. However, it is recognised that there will be occasions where a formal vote is necessary. Members of the Standards Committee shall have one vote each.

This is subject to any member of the Standards Committee having an interest, loyalty or duty that conflicts or is reasonably likely to conflict with interests of the Standards Committee in which case the member must declare his or her interest for the particular item and must not vote on or be present for the vote on that item.

The quorum for each Standards Committee shall be three non-conflicted members. Where necessary, the Chair of the Standards Committee may have a casting vote.

### **Meetings**

This Standards Committee will hold at least three meetings in every academic year, usually in advance of a main Trust Board meeting, with additional meetings as required.

Meetings will be chaired by the Chair of the Committee.

Attendance at each Committee meeting, issues discussed and recommendations for decisions will be recorded. The written record of each meeting will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

The Chair of the Committee will be responsible for giving an oral summary of the Committee's deliberations if necessary at meetings of Trustees.

The Standards Committee's Chair will meet with the Chair of Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer at the beginning of each academic year to plan the work of the Standards Committee.

Any Trustee may attend any meetings of the Standards Committee by arrangement with the Chief Executive Officer and the Chair of Trustees.

### **Reporting**

The minutes of every meeting shall be recorded and submitted to the following meeting of Trustees. They shall also be circulated to the Local GBs of the Trust.

### **Delegated Power**

The Committee is authorised to invite attendance at its meetings from persons to assist or advise on a particular matter or range of issues, including members of Academy staff.

The Standards Committee does not have its own budget and so any expenditure, including capital expenditure, or legal commitments of any sort may only be made with the prior consent of the Trustees.

### **Key Responsibilities**

Amongst other things relating to the purpose described above, activities of the committee will include:

#### Standards of Performance

- Advising the Trustees on the effectiveness of academies' performance against the Trust's agreed KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and recommending new KPIs annually.
- Advising the Trust on the quality of academy SEFs (Self-Evaluation Forms) and recommending any actions.
- Reviewing annually the evaluations of academies in the Trust of their School Improvement Plan (SIPs).
- Ensuring academies' readiness for inspection, reviewing Ofsted inspection reports for academies within the Trust and recommending action plans to Trustees.
- Advising on and recommending to the Trust policies for raising standards across the academies as well as the annual self-evaluation cycle for all academies in the Trust and reviewing termly reports from each academy on pupils' progress.

#### Quality of Provision

- Reviewing and recommending to Trustees policy and practice across the Trust relating to learning and teaching and pedagogy.
- Establishing and reviewing curriculum provision in all academies belonging to the Trust, recommending to the Trust changes where necessary.
- Receiving reports from academies in the Trust on inclusion, exclusions, use of Pupil Premium, Sports Premium and catch-up funding, attendance, pupils' pastoral care and safeguarding, ensuring that children are safe and that matters relating to "Prevent" as well as Internet safety are effectively monitored and managed. Making any necessary recommendations to Trustees for change.
- Receiving reports from academies in the Trust on provision for pupils with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), reporting to Trustees on effectiveness and recommending any actions necessary.
- Receiving reports from academies in the Trust on the quality of sex and relationships education, PSHEE, PE, spiritual, moral social and cultural development and religious education. Making any necessary recommendations to Trustees for change.

### Admissions

Develop and manage the Trust's Admissions Policy and support individual academies admissions arrangements.