



Trustee Link Responsibilities

Introduction

At its meeting on 3rd October 2017, the Board of Trustees agreed that governance would be strengthened through allocating each trustee an area of strategic activity to enhance the board's breadth of accountability. These links enable trustees to monitor progress against targets set by the board working closely with the lead staff in each area.

Remit

These links do not imply trustees are experts in this field, this model is focused on monitoring and challenge to ensure that the appropriate measures and intervention are in place. This will require trustees to have oversight of progress in their specific remit areas through appropriate and robust data capture and analysis and to provide appropriate support and challenge to school leaders to ensure a drive for continuous review and improvement is being achieved. Trustees will be required to provide regular updates and reports to the board based on the outcomes of their monitoring.

The Trust will provide training and development to support trustees' knowledge and understanding of legislative and regulatory requirements and relevant trust policies to ensure all trustees are equipped to be able to support and challenge leaders to raise standards and provide all learners with the best educational experience.

It is also important to note that operational responsibility resides with staff not trustees.

Remit for Safeguarding

Nominated lead on the trust board: Helen Mucci.

Key activities associated with this remit

1. Undertake training to:

- Understand trust and school accountabilities for safeguarding children and young people, including procedures for work placement safeguarding and risk assessment, where appropriate.
- Know the staff who have specific responsibilities within the schools/trust for safeguarding
- Know the trust's policy and procedures for dealing with any child protection issues
- Know the trust's safer recruitment policy and the processes it has in place to ensure that all staff are appropriately vetted.
- Ensure the schools constantly review and consider the curriculum in order that key safeguarding 'messages and lessons' run throughout. In particular:
- Know how the schools ensure that staff and learners are aware of the dangers of radicalisation



- Know how the schools ensure that all staff learners know about internet safety and the dangers of cyber bullying
- Know how the schools builds a culture in which bullying is unacceptable and how the schools respond to any reports about bullying

2. Take a lead in monitoring compliance with safeguarding and whistle blowing policies and procedures and help to judge the quality of this work by:

- Meeting regularly with the trust's Designated Safeguarding Lead(s) and to understand the specific challenges the schools face
- Ensure that the designated DSLs adequately supervise and support the work, development and well-being of their deputies and any other individual(s) to whom they may delegate additional safeguarding responsibilities in order that there exist clear lines of accountability
- Ensure that all staff receive appropriate and regular training
- Ensure there is a robust system for recording, storing and reviewing child welfare concerns
- Attend Safeguarding training every 3 years and other training as appropriate to the role and relevant to issues within the schools/locality
- Ensure the trustees attend appropriate safeguarding training
- Ensure appropriate trustees complete training in respect of allegations against staff
- Ensure appropriate trustees have successfully completed accredited Safer Recruitment training.
- Ensure interview panels are convened appropriately and safer recruitment practices are followed.
- Check the trust's Single Central Register and ensure that it is up to date and maintained in line with guidance
- Speak with staff to judge how well served they are by the school in terms of their on-going support and training in this area
- Speak with students to judge how safe they feel in school
- Challenge and support the school's leadership to continuously improve practice in this area (using Ofsted's outstanding criteria as the benchmark to which we aspire)

3. Play a pivotal role in supporting the schools' SLT to make an accurate and honest evaluation of practice in this area.

4. Contribute to school self-evaluation in respect of effectiveness of safeguarding practice.

5. Liaise with the DSLs about general child protection and broader safeguarding issues within the different settings and as such be able to provide reports to the board of trustees in respect of themes and issues within the schools/locality to enable adequate oversight, understanding and development of solutions.

6. Support the schools' SLT to undertake an annual safeguarding audit and to identify and plan for on-going improvements in this crucial aspect of school life.

7. Contribute to policy review in this area.