Standards & Curriculum Committee
Constitution and Terms of Reference 2025

The Link Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity, regulated by the Department of Education (DfE). All Members of the Board of Trustees are Directors of the company as well as Trustees of the exempt charity; the term ‘Trustee’ used in this Policy also means Director.

1. **Constitution**
The Board of Trustees of the Link Academy Trust has established the Standards and Curriculum Committee. The Constitution and Terms of Reference should be reviewed annually; and amendments must be approved by the Board of Trustees.

2. **Membership**
The Board of Trustees will appoint a Trustee to chair the Standards and Curriculum Committee. Membership will include at least three Trustees, one of which to be an education specialist with education experience, and the Chief Executive Officer. The quorum shall be one third of the total members, subject to two Trustees being present.

3. **Attendance at Meetings**
A representative from each of the Local Advisory Committees and the Director of Education (DoE) will attend all meetings. The Committee may invite officers to attend, such as members of the Executive Improvement Team (EIT), Executive/Academy Heads, according to the agenda and business to be discussed.

4. **Frequency of meetings**
The Standards and Curriculum Committee will normally meet a minimum of six times per academic year.

5. **Authority**
The Standards and Curriculum Committee is authorised to approve expenditure within the levels agreed by the Board of Trustees, in accordance with the Link Academy Trust’s Financial Regulations, funding bodies’ and other legal requirements.

6. **Duties**

6.1 The S&C Committee will be the principal committee to receive external and internal reports relating to the educational provision of the Trust. This will include Ofsted and the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS), together with Safeguarding.

6.2 The Committee will ensure that Action Plans are drawn up and agreed in respect of any external inspection including actions to be taken, they will then monitor the timely implementation of all observations and recommendations, together with progress reports to the inspecting authority where required.

6.3 The Committee will challenge Safeguarding procedures adopted within each Academy and across the Trust to ensure these comply with best practice and relevant legislation. Where practice falls short, the Committee will set a time limit for improvements to meet the Trust’s obligations.

6.4 The Committee will provide a forum for the exchange of information on the operation of the schools within the remit of each Local Advisory Committees. The purpose will be to share best practice and achievements related to the *Learn, Support and Challenge'* cycle of Governors' visits to schools and any issues of concern relating to:

- Delivery of the National Curriculum within the context of each school's resources and environment
- Pupils' progress against Age Related Expectations
- Provision for children in receipt of special funding – for example Pupil Premium and Sports Grant
- Compliance with Ofsted requirements and, for Church of England schools, with the Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist schools (SIAMS)
- The provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability
- The arrangements in place for Safeguarding, including actions taken and records kept
- Monitoring pupil attendance and following up reasons where this fall short of the Trust's target of 96 per cent. And ensuring procedures fulfil statutory requirements especially those around children missing from education
- Health and Safety – reporting on any issues which have not been picked up and acted upon by staff

6.5 The Committee will interrogate pupil performance data for individual academies and across the Trust to ensure there is consistency of progress, achievement, attainment including by year, gender, pupil premium and SEND. Case studies of best practice should be identified.

6.6 The Committee will review the draft overarching Academy Trust Strategic Improvement Plan (ATSIP) and its alignment with individual Academy Strategic Improvement Plans (ASIPs), prior to approval by the Board of Trustees. Once approved, the Committee will review progress in achieving the plans and will report any issues where the plans may not be achieved.

6.7 The Committee will ensure the timely updating of policies relating the Trust's educational provision and review amendments prior to their submission to the Board of Trustees for approval, where necessary. Whilst providing the opportunity for any issues relating to individual academies to be accommodated, in general all policies and protocols should be consistent across the Trust.

7. **Compliance**

Reviewed in LACs - Minutes of the LAC meetings/Ethos meetings are circulated to the Trustees to be reviewed and discussed if necessary.

	14th October 2025	**9th December 2025**	**3rd February 2026**	**24th March 2026**	**12th May 2026**	**7th July 2026**
Delivery of National Curriculum						
Relationship Education						
Quality of teaching						
Cultural Education/Personal Development/SMSC						
EYFS Framework						
PE provision						
British values						
Pupils' performance progress and data						
Ofsted/SIAMS reports and action plans						

SEND provision						
Greater Depth						
Behaviour/Exclusions Suspensions						
Complaints (and policy)						
Special funding eg Pupil Premium provision						
Attendance						
Safeguarding (to include PREVENT)						
Looked after children						
ECT Induction						
ATSIP/ASIP						
SEF						
Vision and Values						
Christian distinctiveness and Ethos Groups						
Pupil and staff wellbeing						
Pre-schools/Nursery						
Parent and community interaction (and parents where English is 2nd language)						
Trust annual focus – Relational Approach – Year 2						
Terms of Reference for S&C						
S&C Policies						

Trustees need to ensure that they:

- Are knowledgeable about their statutory duties and carry them out effectively
- Support and challenge the school's leaders effectively, using the best methods to assure themselves of the quality and impact of different aspects of the school's work
- Understand their role as the responsible body, where applicable, in considering and addressing leaders' workload and well-being
- Assure themselves that leaders have an accurate understanding of the school's context and are prioritising the actions for improvement that will have the greatest impact on pupils
- Ensure that systems for monitoring and quality assurance are fair, valid and constructive, and provide leaders and staff with high-quality feedback to inform continuous improvement
- Hold leaders to account appropriately and effectively for the impact of the school's professional learning programme for staff
- Hold leaders to account appropriately and effectively for the school's support and provision for disadvantaged pupils, those with SEND, those who are known (or previously known) to children's social care, and those who may face other barriers to their learning and/or wellbeing.

8. **Communication and Reporting Procedures**
The Minutes of the Committee will be circulated to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees. Once approved, but subject to any items deemed confidential, the Minutes will be made available to members of the Local Advisory Committees and to the Academies within the Trust.

9. **Clerking Arrangements**
The Clerk to the Trust will minute the meetings supported by the Governance Professional.

Reviewed by Standards and Curriculum: 14th October 2025
Approved by Board of Trustees: 20th October 2025