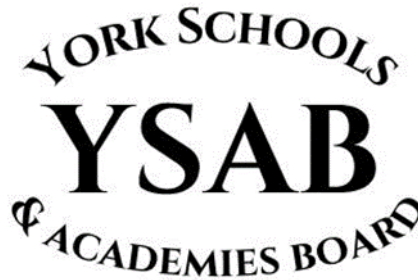


## York Schools and Academies Board: Terms of Reference



*No school, no child or young person left behind*

### **Context and Purpose**

The York Schools and Academies Board (YSAB) brings together the key partners in the city's school system into a coherent and effective strategic partnership. It aims to maximise outcomes and improve life chances for children and young people, promoting inclusion and reducing inequalities. Critically, it will ensure that no school and no child or young person will be left behind.

### **Key functions**

- To provide a regular forum to share intelligence about the York school system including strengths, areas for improvement, risks and concerns, and identifying key strategic priorities to improve outcomes for York's children and young people.
- To secure system-led school improvement arrangements through focused and inclusive arrangements designed to strengthen outcomes for all children and young people and to maximise the impact of available resources.
- To agree the disbursement of centrally retained funding to:
  1. deliver improvement in schools causing concern, holding commissioned providers and supported schools to account, and to provide impact reports to Schools Forum (four per year) and;
  2. support the development of sustainable, evidence based interventions which address key strategic priorities.
- To provide an interface between the city's school system and local and regional stakeholders ensuring that the potential benefits of programmes and policies are realised to the greatest effect.
- To ensure that all partners present a shared analysis and united position to key pillars of national arrangements, especially the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), Ofsted and Department for Education (DfE).
- To develop collectively informed responses to changes in the educational environment and clearly communicate them to schools, other providers, families and the wider York community.

- To maintain a collective oversight of key statutory duties and responsibilities, namely safeguarding.

### **Expectations of members**

This partnership recognises that we can only maximise the impact of different system leadership groups and organisations for the benefit of all York's children and young people by aligning our efforts. It is recognised that members will both contribute to, and benefit from, the work of the partnership. However, individual interests will be secondary to the interests of the children and young people we serve.

### **Working principles**

The York Schools and Academies Board aims to ensure that the life of every child and young person is enhanced by the provision of first-class education. To this end board members will:

- Work with shared moral purpose and strategic vision.
- Recognise their different roles and accountabilities.
- Target resources on an equitable, rather than an equal, basis; support will be directed where need is greatest for children and young people whose schools are not good or better.
- Share data and information relating to schools in a timely way and consistent with the board's protocols and the requirements of its agendas.
- Understand that, in a local system covering a tight geographic area, acting alone can have unintended consequences for other institutions and their learners.
- Be aware of the differing perspectives, interests and responsibilities of other influential stakeholders including RSC, Ofsted, DfE, Dioceses and Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).

### **Membership**

Members will comprise the following:

- Heads of schools with designated status (e.g. Teaching School Hub and Research School)
- Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) / Chief Operating Officers (COOs) of Multi-Academy Trusts with schools in the City of York LA area
- Representative from one of the specialist schools within the City of York
- Director of Education and Children's Services and senior officers

Where a school with designated status is in a MAT, the CEO/COO of the MAT will be the single representative covering both categories.

The Local Authority will represent the interests of maintained schools and of single academies which are not members of MATs.

Members will designate a substitute to attend in their place if they have to give their apologies. Substitutes should be senior colleagues who are fully appraised of agendas and the board's work. They will carry full, delegated decision making powers for their organisation.

The current membership and substitutes are listed in Annex 1.

### **Chair**

The chair will be elected for a one year period at the start of the school year. In the absence of the Chair, members attending will agree a Chair for single meetings as the first item of business.

### **Frequency of meetings**

There will be seven scheduled business meetings (one every half term with an additional meeting in July to share risk assessments of schools). The aim will be for one meeting each term to be face-to-face and one virtual.

### **Information sharing**

The board will necessarily consider and share sensitive information and its members will abide by an information sharing agreement (Annex 2), taking responsibility for prompt and appropriate disposal of documents (digital and hard copy). Partners will retain only agendas, minutes and action plans/progress reports for schools in their MATs or for schools in which they have been commissioned to provide support.

### **Review**

These ToRs, along with the broader YSAB arrangements, will be reviewed for 2023-24 in the summer term 2023.