

WARWICKSHIRE EDUCATION CHALLENGE BOARD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Warwickshire Education Challenge Board is representative of all primary and secondary schools and has responsibility and accountability for the quality of education and learning outcomes for all children and young people in Warwickshire.

Aims

The Education Challenge Board will oversee the development of:

- a vision for an education system in Warwickshire that is shaped by schools;
- a self-improving schools system, based on formal and informal collaborative partnerships between schools, with collective accountability for the educational outcomes for the area;
- a strategy to secure the leadership behaviour required to move from current school improvement arrangements to a self-improving school system.

The Board aims to support a sustainable self-improving education system in a shared, collaborative culture of educational excellence that recognises those in schools and other providers as equal, trusted partners. It intends to build on existing networks, relationships and local partnerships to ensure that no school is isolated.

The Board will collectively support and challenge institutions to reach high standards and ensure continual improvement of all schools in Warwickshire.

Functions

The primary functions are to:

- Undertake a systematic analysis of the performance and improvement needs of schools;
- Oversee and co-ordinate school-to-school support in partnership with other school improvement agencies;
- Provide challenge where schools do not engage with the improvement agenda and escalate if necessary; and
- Link with regional and national institutions in order to set data benchmarks; access funding and learn from best practice.

Guiding Principles

The work of colleagues on behalf of the Warwickshire Education Challenge Board must be of the highest quality and evaluation of school performance must be fair, consistent, rigorous, and based on a secure range of evidence.

The Board and colleagues working on its behalf will:

- Take collective responsibility for all children and young people in Warwickshire;
- Develop and implement effective strategies to ensure the achievement of the Board's aims;
- Establish effective relationships that enable the promotion of a self-improving and self-supporting school system;
- Share and exchange intelligence and information which will assist in impartial evaluation and assessment of need;
- Hold each other to account and report evaluative judgements honestly and fairly, based on accurate and reliable evidence;

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- Work collectively to support those schools which are underperforming in Warwickshire;
- Respond flexibly and appropriately to meet the needs of different partners;
- Make the best use of resources whilst ensuring high quality;
- Act swiftly and with minimum bureaucracy.

When acting on behalf of the Board, individual colleagues will:

- Act with integrity and moral purpose in the best interests of children, young people and adults;
- Respect all educational professionals and partners;
- Be accountable to the Board at all times.

Roles

Schools giving support:

- Deliver school-to-school support as agreed and in accordance with each school's priorities;
- Report progress regularly;
- Share their expertise and best practice with colleagues to improve outcomes.

The Local Authority:

- Support and promote collaborative groups and partnerships across all schools to secure improvements and facilitate the development of local support networks;
- Quality assure work carried out on behalf of the Board in providing a high standard of school to-school support;
- Intervene, in line with decisions made by the Board, in maintained schools where improvements against agreed priorities are too slow or the school is at risk of an adverse inspection outcome;
- Ensure the Board plays an active role in the brokering of services and commissioning of new provision.

Schools receiving support:

- Be open to advice and support given, making available data, information and resources needed to address the agreed areas for improvements.

Servicing the Board

The LA will provide human resource in support of the Board. Time will also need to be made available by the members of the Board to Chair and attend meetings.

Structure of the Education Challenge Board

The Education Partnership Board will be supported by sub-groups and Task Groups as required.

Membership

The Board will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating work which it has commissioned, particularly the impact of school to school support.

The Board will meet 6 times per year and will be responsible for identifying need for improvement, agreeing priorities and programmes and monitoring effectiveness of support. It

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will also be responsible for determining further actions where necessary in schools that are being supported.

The Chair will be elected by the Group. All discussions will be confidential.

The membership will consist of:

- 4 secondary school headteacher representatives
- 4 primary school representatives
- Teaching School representatives
- 2 Local Authority representatives
- An independent chair

Head teacher representatives should be leaders in good or outstanding schools with the capacity to provide support to other schools.

The Regional Schools Commissioner (or a representative) and the Senior HMI for Warwickshire schools will attend the meetings.

The Local Authority will provide support with data and information.

Review

These Terms of Reference were agreed by the Warwickshire Education Challenge Board on 25th April 2016.

They will be reviewed annually.