

Role Description
Academy Standards and Ethos Committee (ASEC) Member

An Academy Standards and Ethos Committee (ASEC) member contributes to the governance of the Trust and its schools by carrying out the responsibilities delegated by the Trust Board through the DSAT [Scheme of Delegation](#).

1	Purpose of the Role
	To contribute to the work of the ASEC in raising standards of achievement for all pupils. Members monitor educational performance, consider evidence presented by school leaders, ask questions to understand progress and challenge where improvement is needed. Members act as a critical friend, providing scrutiny and assuring accountability.
2	ASEC Focus
	The ASEC focuses on educational performance, church school flourishing, safeguarding, inclusion and stakeholder engagement. Other areas of governance, including finance, estates, staffing, audit and risk, are overseen by the Trust Board and its committees in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.
3	Accountability
	ASEC members are appointed by, and are collectively accountable to, the Trust Board. Members exercise only those responsibilities delegated through the Trust's Scheme of Delegation. Ultimate accountability for the school remains with the Trust Board.
4	Key Responsibilities
	To maintain and oversee the Christian ethos and distinctiveness of the school. They monitor educational performance, progress against the Academy Improvement Plan, church school flourishing, safeguarding, attendance, behaviour, inclusion and the impact of school improvement activity. Members review performance information, challenge leaders where appropriate and help ensure that all pupils, particularly the most vulnerable, receive a high-quality education. Members may be asked to serve on governor panels (Exclusion or suspension, complaints or grievance) in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.
5	Working Relationships
	Members work constructively with the Headteacher and other school leaders, the Governance Administrator, the Regional Director of Education and the wider Trust. Members also engage with pupils, parents, staff, the parish, church and wider community to support effective governance. Individual members have no authority to direct staff or make decisions outside committee meetings.
6	General Expectations
	Members are expected to: - maintain a good understanding of the school, its strengths, challenges and areas for development - attend meetings regularly, read papers in advance, ask constructive questions and participate fully in discussions. - undertake agreed monitoring activities - attend relevant training - work as part of a team, respect collective decisions - act as ambassadors for both the school and the Trust - comply with the Trust's Code of Conduct and demonstrate the behaviours expected of those exercising delegated governance responsibilities.
7	Decision Making
	Decisions are made collectively by the ASEC in accordance with its Terms of Reference and the Trust's Scheme of Delegation. Individual members do not have authority to make decisions or act on behalf of the committee.

8	Time Commitment
	Members are expected to: - attend the six scheduled ASEC meetings each academic year, - undertake agreed monitoring activities between ASEC meetings - participate in relevant training and serve on governor panels where required. ASEC Chairs participate in termly Hub Committee meetings to strengthen communication across the Trust.
9	Support and Development
	Induction, advice and ongoing professional development are provided through the Trust. Members are supported by the Governance Administrator, Headteacher, Head of Governance and other Trust colleagues. Members are expected to participate in GovernorHub training and make use of the guidance and resources available to support their role.
10	Terms of appointment
	ASEC members are appointed for four years and can reapply for a second or third term. As a volunteer, you can resign at any time, should your circumstances change. On appointment ASEC members are asked to familiarise themselves to and agree to comply with: - ASEC Terms of Reference in the Scheme of Delegation - DSAT Governance Code of Conduct - The Trusts Guidance for ASEC Members Visting Schools - The Child Protection Policy and the Department for Education's Keeping Children Safe in Education - The Department for Education's Academy Trust Governance Guide and Academy Trust Handbook