

Dear Parent,

As members of Waverley Academy's local committee, we wanted to take this opportunity to celebrate the school's continued development over the last year and to give you more information about our work.

As part of the Astrea Academy Trust, the school shares a team of dedicated local committee members. You can find out more about us and our work on the school's website.

Our key strategic responsibilities can be found in bold, along with more detail of how we have worked to meet the demands of each responsibility.

To ensure that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of Astrea is maintained within each school.

This year, as the school has continued to move towards its journey of excellence, members have supported and challenged school leaders in the development of their schools. Members have, through meetings and visits to school, continued to develop their understanding of the school and have seen first-hand the initiatives in place. We have ensured that Astrea's vision is realised through links with both the school and the Trust and have asked questions and sought assurances that leaders continue to strive for excellence every day through high standards and expectations.

To hold school leaders to account for the educational performance of the schools, the inclusion of all pupils and the offer of a knowledge-rich and broadly-based curriculum.

- Has the committee scrutinised and challenged educational performance?
- How has the committee ensured that school performance is at the heart of their discussions?
- How has the committee ensured its own strength and development (e.g. recruitment and training)?
- What has the committee done to support inclusion at the school?
- How does the committee ensure that the interests of all groups of pupils are met? (e.g. SEND, EAL, Looked After Children)

The Committee receive termly information about pupil outcomes. This enables members to scrutinise and challenge performance and the reasons for it. Members question leaders on the robustness of outcomes and performance data, and, more importantly challenge leaders on how they plan to address any deficits in performance.

Members receive information about the overall profile of educational provision at the school and ensure that they understand the main challenges and remedies that Principals and wider leaders have in place to address these.

The Committee and its members have continued to benefit from the training provision made by the Trust and the Chair has attended a range of development opportunities provided by Trust Regional Officers, with a focus on risk and governance.

The TMB is chaired by an experienced and serving Headteacher who is well placed to provide appropriate support and challenge and wider members support this process.

Discussions and accountability activities always maintain a rigorous focus on outcomes, progress and provision for all groups of pupils, specifically those with additional needs and those who are disadvantaged.

To work with the school's leadership and central team to ensure that high standards of safeguarding are maintained.

The TMB Chair acts as the link member for Safeguarding and provides both planned and ad-hoc support and challenge to Principals. This has included authorisation of safeguarding returns to the Local Authority and scrutiny of safeguarding data and outcomes. Members have completed relevant safeguarding training and the Chair of the TMB has undertaken enhanced training in child protection as a designated lead for safeguarding, alongside safer recruitment training.

The Chair has supported the Principal in ensuring review of safeguarding practices is robust and that appropriate modifications are made wherever needed.

The impact of this work is that children at the Academy are safe because systems and processes are robust.

The committee ensures scrutiny of the support and challenge for safeguarding provided by the central team.

As the Academy has adjusted to the easing of restrictions following COVID, the TMB has continued to support and challenge leaders in ensuring that systems are in place to assure good attendance and follow up on any areas of concern.

To promote positive parent, community and stakeholder engagement and to drive school-to-school partnerships for improvement within the Trust.

The Committee represents the academy and this fosters dissemination and sharing of good practice. Members are drawn from the stakeholder communities serving the school. There is parent representation on the Committee and Principals regularly update members with parent views and questions.

The Chair supports Principals directly with more complex issues relating to parent questions or concerns.

Further growth of the committee will be a strategic goal in the next year.

To identify, understand and report to Trustees any strategic risks facing the school.

The participation of a link Trustee at meetings means that strategic risks and challenges are not only identified but quickly communicated to the wider Board. The link Trustee has continued to provide timely and thorough response to members, and the Chair on specific questions. Moreover, the Chair ensures clear communication with Trust Officers where appropriate. There are good links between the Committee and wider Trust meaning that the setting benefits from timely resolutions where necessary. The management of risk has become a greater focus this year and this will continue in the terms in front of us.

