Whitworth Community High School
Curriculum & Standards Committee
Terms of Reference 2026 - 2027

The core purpose of our governing body is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for planning, monitoring and evaluation. Dates will be set in line with school data collection points to ensure rapid responses are made to issues emerging from progress and attainment data.

The core purpose of the Curriculum & Standards committee is to:

- To hold school leaders to account for the quality of education, including the curriculum, and for student outcomes.
- To hold school leaders to account for the behaviour, attitudes, personal development and safeguarding of students.
- To support, challenge and help drive forward the school's priorities to ensure continuing school improvement with a focus on quality of education and behaviour, attitudes, personal development and safeguarding of students.

Membership:

- The committee shall consist of at least 8 members of the governing body, including the headteacher.
- The committee will elect a chair from within its own membership.
- Non-voting participants may be invited to meetings by the committee as and when required.
- The committee shall have such associate members, non-voting, as the governing body shall appoint. The committee may make recommendations for these appointments.
- The membership of the committee shall be reviewed and determined annually by the governing body.

Quorum:

- The quorum shall be 3 governors, including the headteacher, but excluding any associate members. Governors who are members of staff must not be in the majority.

Meetings:

- The clerk to the committee shall be responsible for convening meetings of the committee. In the absence of the clerk, the committee shall choose a clerk for that meeting from among their number (this must not be the headteacher).
- Proceedings of any meetings held must be minuted and these minutes presented for the next meeting of the governing body.
- The committee shall meet at least once a term and otherwise as required.

Responsibilities:

The main functions of the committee are to:

A. Monitor and evaluate the standards and achievement of the school and the quality of education provided,
B. Monitor and evaluate the curriculum offered to ensure that the national curriculum is being fully covered and that the curriculum is broad and balanced.
C. Recommend for approval to the full governing body the:
    a. Relevant Sections from the School Self-evaluation Form
    b. Relevant Sections from the School Improvement Plan
    c. Agreed termly priorities for School Improvement.

D. Monitor and evaluate the impact of quality of teaching on rates of pupil progress and standards of achievement.
E. Monitor and evaluate rates of progress and standards of achievement by pupils, including any underachieving contextual groups (e.g. looked after children, boys, girls, disadvantaged etc.)
F. Monitor and evaluate the impact of continuing professional development on improving staff performance.
G. Monitor and evaluate arrangements in place to monitor and promote good attendance and quickly follow up any emerging trends and/or drops in attendance.
H. To receive regular reports from the headteacher on pupil behaviour, attendance and discipline matters.
I. To review, monitor and evaluate the impact of the school's plan for providing careers guidance.
J. Monitor and evaluate safeguarding policies and procedures are effective in keeping children safe and as a minimum, meet statutory requirements.
K. Monitor and evaluate provision for SEND students and ensure that the curriculum offer is inclusive for all.
L. Regularly review and develop policies that fall under the remit of this committee e.g. the Teaching and Learning Protocol, Behaviour Policy, Attendance Policy, Sex and Relationships, SEND etc.
M. To advise the Leadership, Management and Resources committee on the relative funding priorities necessary to deliver the curriculum.
N. To monitor the school's publicity, public presentation and relationships with parents and the wider community.
O. To ensure all statutory requirements for reporting and publishing information are met and the school website content is fully compliant and presented in an accessible way.
P. Consider recommendations from external reviews of the school (e.g. Ofsted or local school improvement advisers), agree actions as a result of reviews and evaluate regularly the implementation of the plan.
Q. Ensure that all pupils have equal opportunities.

Approved: Autumn 2025 Next Review: Autumn 2026