

## Terms of reference for the Ethos Committee

### Key areas

All SIAMS-related elements

### Membership

- There will be 3-6 members, at least one of whom will be:
  - a governor
  - a member of staff.
- No more than two members from any specific category.
- All members have full voting rights.
- A further 2 members may be co-opted onto the committee to enhance its work:
  - Co-opted members can be members of staff or parents of pupils at the school.
  - In specific circumstances, co-opted members may be drawn from the wider community.
  - Co-opted members do not have voting rights.
- The headteacher and CEO of the MAT, have the right to attend all meetings of the Ethos Committee as a voting member.
- Membership of the committee must be approved by the full governing body.
- Membership lasts for up to 3 years from the date of formal approval by the full governing body.
- Members may resign or be appointed at any time during the year.

### Quorum

The quorum is 3 members, at least one of whom must be a governor, and at least one a member of staff.

### Meetings

- The committee will meet at least once per term and at least three times each academic year.
- The co-ordinator/chair will be responsible for calling meetings and agreeing the agenda, arranging for each meeting to be chaired and for minutes to be taken.
- Minutes will be action minutes.
- Minutes will be presented to the next meeting of the full governing body. Whenever possible, the minutes will be circulated to all governors with the formal notification of the full meeting.
- The committee can request that an item be placed on the agenda of a full governing body meeting when appropriate.

### Aims of the Ethos Committee

- To monitor and evaluate all aspects of the school's work relating to developing the school's distinctive Christian character.
- To encourage and support the school in all aspects relating to SIAMS.

### Terms of reference

- Contribute towards and monitor SIAMS related development points included in the School Improvement Plan.
- Advise the governing body on priorities related to developing the school's distinctive Christian character.

- Ensure that a SIAMS audit is undertaken bi-annually.
- Report (written or verbal), to the termly meeting of the governing body, issues discussed, recommendations, and decisions made.
- Maintain and develop links with the community and particularly with the parish church.
- Ensure any necessary liaison with Diocesan Officers is planned for.
- Assist in the process of writing and reviewing specific SIAMS related policies:
  - Collective worship
  - Religious Education
  - Relationships, Sex, Health Education
  - SMSC.
- Carry out (annually) a focussed Christian ethos walk around the school grounds and building.
- Monitor and evaluate the following SIAMS related aspects:
  - Development points from previous SIAMS
  - The school's Christian vision
  - Collective worship
  - RE
  - CofE Vision for Education – how does the school contribute towards:
    - treating everyone with dignity and respect?
    - encouraging all to live well together in a loving community?
    - developing hope and aspiration for pupils and adults?
    - developing skills, knowledge and wisdom in adults and children?
  - Spirituality
  - Church and school working together
  - Well-being of children and adults.

#### **Audit tools available**

- Spirituality
- Collective worship
- RE
- Church and school working together
- Well-being of staff and pupils