

Croydon Education Partnership Board

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Board is to oversee the work of the Croydon Education Partnership (CEP). It will provide the overall strategic direction necessary to achieve the clearly defined priorities outlined in the CEP's vision and mission statement.

2. Local context

The establishment of the CEP is in response to several drivers:

- a) Ensuring that outcomes for our children and young people are comparable with national and London standards.
- b) The changing role of the Local Authority due to the academy expansion programme.
- c) The national emphasis on school-led improvement and development of systems leadership within school settings.
- d) To align with priorities set out in the Croydon Mayor's plan for the education sector.

Consultations with schools, academies and Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) providers have shown that there is now a strong appetite locally to develop new, education setting-led, collective arrangements. These arrangements provide a vehicle through which early years settings, schools, academies, MATs, colleges, teaching school hubs and wider stakeholders can pioneer well-rounded joint projects and programmes. These intend to maximise collective resource across the borough for mutual benefit.

The CEP will also maintain and build on the historic, strong relationships between educational settings in Croydon, the Local Authority and other key stakeholders.

3. Terms of reference

The Strategic Board will:

- a. Approve a three-year strategy for education in Croydon (2023-2026) - including measurable targets for improvement as specified by the Strategic Board.
- b. Identify shared priorities for improvement and agree an annual programme of work, package of support and allocation of resources to achieve agreed outcomes.
- c. Receive and approve reports from the sub-committees as defined by the priorities set out by the Strategic Board.
- d. Use data and other evidence (qualitative and quantitative) to monitor impact, evaluate progress and highlight areas for discussion where targeted support may be required.

The Strategic Board will hold no legal power over education settings who sign up to the CEP. Education settings that join the CEP as partners are not giving up

any Governing Body rights or responsibilities. Equally, the Local Authority is not giving up any of its statutory obligations.

All partners agree that CEP should challenge, support and take action to achieve improved outcomes for all Croydon's children and young people.

4. Chair

The Strategic Board will be led by an independent chair, of sufficient experience and standing to command respect.

The role of the Chair will be:

- i) To chair and steer the CEP Strategic Board.
- ii) To help establish the partnership and the development of its role, remit and function.
- iii) To help develop and monitor the role and work of the sub-committees, receiving and responding to regular reports.
- iv) To oversee the preparation of a detailed Strategic Plan for the Partnership
- v) To work with the full range of education settings in Croydon, key stakeholders and agencies to secure the future support and contributions that will sustain the CEP and help achieve its objectives and outcomes.
- vi) Ensure robust evaluation of the CEP's impact to enable the Partnership to continue to add value.

5. Membership

The membership of the Strategic Board is as follows:

1. Independent Chair
2. Corporate Director, Children Young People & Education (LA)
3. Director of Education/Head of Education Services (LA)
4. Director, Children's Social Care (LA)
5. Chair of Teaching Schools Hub
6. An Executive Director of the CHTA
7. Schools Forum Chair or their representative
8. Pupil Referral Unit Representative x1
9. Maintained Nursery Representative x1
10. Secondary schools (North and South of the borough) x2 plus 14-19 x1
11. Primary schools (each geographic area) x6
12. Special School x1
13. PVI/Childminder x1
14. Independent representative setting x1
15. FE setting representative x1
16. HE setting representative x1

(Lead member for CYPE - observer)

Each representative will have a named deputy to cover absence.

The membership of the Strategic Board will be agreed annually at the first meeting of the Board each academic year.

Where possible, any organisation/MAT may only have one representative on the Board.

6. Ways of working, frequency of meetings and secretariat

The Board will meet a minimum of once termly.

The quorum shall be 50% of the members of the Strategic Board.

Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Board will be circulated to all members as soon as available and formally agreed at the next meeting of the Strategic Board.

The agenda and supporting papers will be sent out at least 5 working days in advance of each meeting.

In the first three years of the Partnership, the Local Authority will co-ordinate and administer the meetings, unless alternative arrangements are agreed by the Board. The Local Authority will also provide dedicated support in terms of data analysis, administrative support and senior officer time to facilitate and contribute to the work of the CEP.

The Board will ensure compliance with appropriate GDPR regulations.

Appendix 1: Proposed Mission and Vision

Proposed Mission:

Our Education Partnership will bring together all education settings and the local authority to drive local education strategy and improve outcomes and opportunities for children and young people across Croydon.

Proposed Vision:

The Partnership adds value, to champion and drive:

- Improved outcomes for all children and young people in Croydon so that they are prepared for adulthood.
- A platform of collaborative working to meet the needs of children and their communities.
- Maximise collective resource available locally and beyond for mutual benefit.
- Ensure that all educational settings are seen as a place of choice for parents and carers.
- Croydon is seen as a place of choice for the very best education professionals.