

Audit, risk and health & safety committee

Terms of Reference

2025-26



Purpose:

To provide independent oversight and assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of Athena Learning Trust's arrangements for:

- internal control, financial, and operational systems;
- (2) risk management, including the identification, assessment, and mitigation of major risks;
- (3) health, safety, and well-being compliance and performance

The Committee will monitor compliance with statutory, regulatory, and internal policy requirements in these areas to protect Athena Learning Trust's assets, reputation, and the well-being of its students and staff.

Membership:

3 members of this committee

A chair will be appointed to the committee and a clerk will be appointed.

Quorum:

2 members (either of two trustees and one governor from a local governing body with relevant experience)

Meetings:

The committee will meet 3 times a year.

Minutes of the committee's meetings will be shared with the board and made available to the public upon request.

If the chair is unavailable, the vice chair will chair the meeting.

Monitoring:

The committee will be responsible for:

Reviewing and recommending the annual internal audit plan, and monitoring the timely implementation of internal and external audit recommendations.

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Reviewing the annual financial statements and external auditor's management letter

Approving the appointment of the internal auditor.

Assessing the effectiveness of the internal auditor.

Reviewing the effectiveness of Athena Learning Trust's risk management framework, including regular review of the strategic risk register.

Overseeing arrangements for the prevention of fraud and corruption.

Reviewing and monitoring Athena Learning Trust's health and safety policy, performance, and compliance with all relevant legislation and regulatory requirements.

Scrutinising internal controls and systems to ensure their effectiveness.

Reviewing and reporting on any significant audit findings, risk incidents, or health & safety breaches.

Assessing the adequacy and appropriateness of Athena's insurance arrangements.

Approval on: December 25

Review by: October 2026