



orchard
Education

Advisory Panel Policy

Orchard Education Ltd
1 Sargon Way
Great Grimsby Business Park
GRIMSBY
North East Lincolnshire
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Introduction.

The Orchard School is a privately owned Independent Special School and the Board of Directors is directly associated with the day-to-day activities of the organisation, ensuring that it meets its strategic aims and adheres to legislative and regulatory requirements.

This multi layered responsibility meets the requirement of ensuring that Directors are able to assume a logistical role within the School (that of Senior Leader), whilst ensuring there is clear governance within the organisation alongside opportunities to gain advice, guidance & supportive challenge to aid school development.

It is vital to ensure that within the role of Senior Leader, we are observed in our own performance and that there is an overarching system in place to ensure core values and performance is underpinned throughout the organisation from an independent perspective. This ensures that the development of the school is supported, and valuable objective perspective is provided.

In order to achieve this aim, Directors have commissioned the services of an independent advisory panel which periodically assesses the performance of the school, offering advice and challenge when applicable.

This is in the following areas -

- Leadership & Management and Health & Safety. (Dave Melia)
- Education/Curriculum. (Steven Broderick)
- Safeguarding and Student Welfare. (Peter Macleod)
- Operational compliance and adherence to statutory obligations. (Kate Storr)

Supporting Governance from private specialists within the school

- SEND & Therapeutic provision. (Wendy Taylor (Consultant SENCo) and Gemma Baker (Fortis Therapist))

Suitability.

To ensure independent support is adequate and able to meet the needs of the school, panel members are identified as having comprehensive experience in their area of specialisation within the educational sector.

Putting the plan into practice.

Panel Members will be provided with termly updates (3 times a year) from each of the specified areas. This will be to review School performance in areas set out within the School Improvement Plan, along with any feedback or targets set from any previous review.

Within the academic year, each panel member will also be invited into the School to examine our procedures as an independent exercise in an area of their expertise. This will ensure that the 'independent' perspective is maintained.

Within the academic year, Leaders will promote an 'open door policy' where Advisory Panel Members are able to attend the school to observe, support and develop any particular area.

The Principal will invite Advisory Panel Members to attend an annual meeting where the year's activity, development and support will be examined. This will be summarised, and strategies produced for the following year. This will contribute to the school assessment report and subsequent year's improvement plan.

Recording.

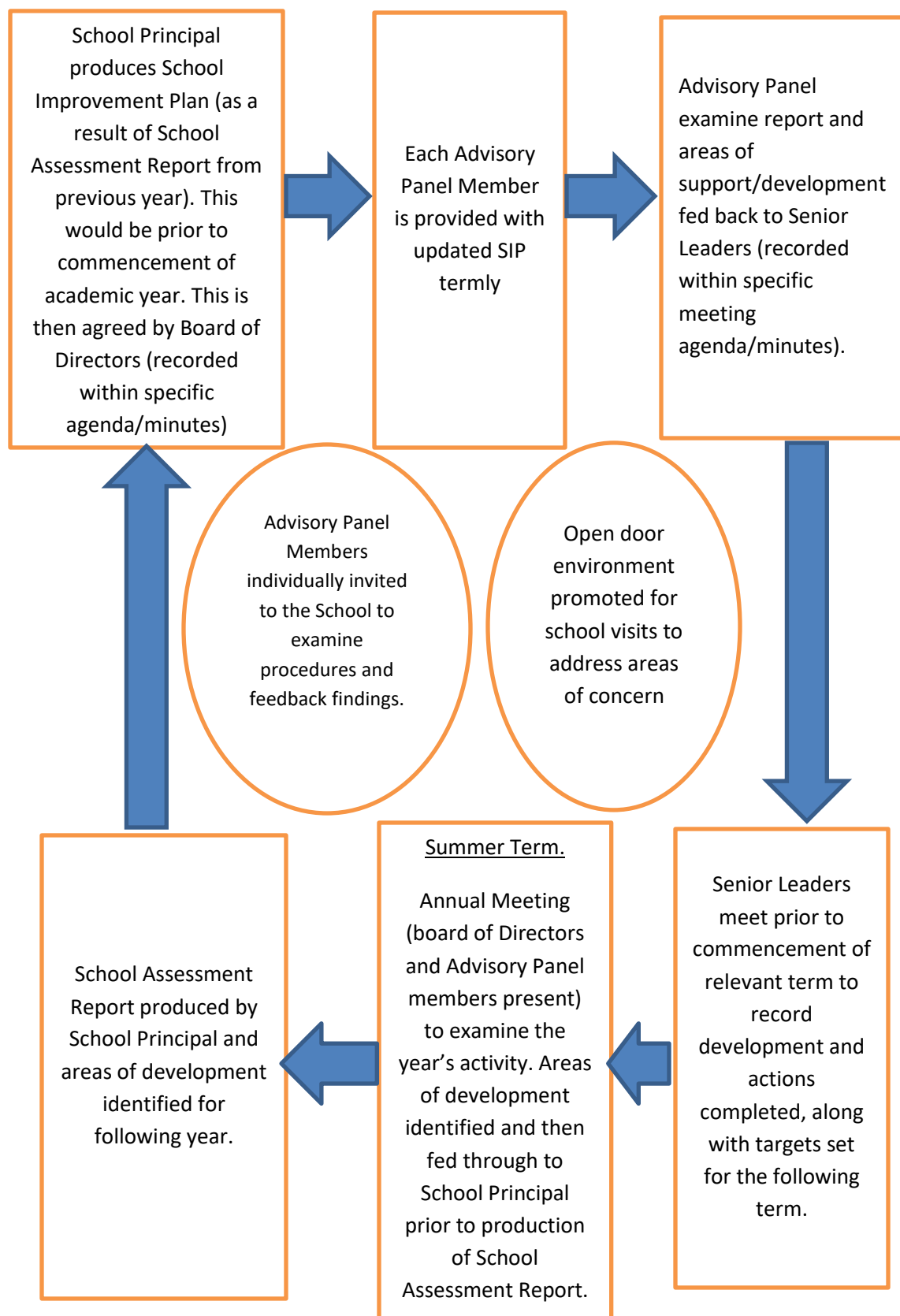
Senior Leaders will record findings within meeting minutes, which will include agenda items carried throughout the academic year. See APP A – Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes.

Panel members will be provided with reports (termly), which they will be invited to examine, comment and feedback areas for development. Records of this activity will be filed alongside Advisory Panel meeting agendas.

The School Improvement Plan will also need to be endorsed by Advisory Panel input throughout the academic year and summarised in the end of year School Assessment.

Information gathered will support Senior Leaders to set further aims and targets for subsequent years in order for the process to be consistent and embedded within the School's performance criteria.

Summary



APP A – Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes.

Orchard Education Ltd – School Advisory Panel

Meeting Details -

Date –

Present:

Name	Date -	Date -	Date -

Date Raised	Subject	Allocated to	Update	Complete ? (Date)
	<u>Health & Safety</u>			
	<u>Equal Opportunities</u>			
	<u>Safeguarding</u>			
	<u>Next Meeting:</u> <u>To be held at:</u>			

Meeting Location:

Start Time –

End Time –

This policy will be reviewed annually by SMT/SLT member or area specific school advisory panel member.

	Review 1	Review 2	Review 3	Review 4
Signed	M.Burton	M.Burton	M.Burton	
Position	Director/ Principal	Director/ Principal	Director/Executive Principal	
Date	30/8/19	29/8/20	30/8/21	