

Quality Academy

Terms of Reference

Purpose	To seek assurance, learn and drive improvement in relation to all aspects of quality within the Trust in line with the NHS Patient Safety Strategy and national quality standards.
Responsible to	Board of Directors
Delegated authority	<p>The Academy is authorised to investigate any activity within its terms of reference. It is further authorised to seek any information it requires from any employee of the Trust and invite them to attend the Academy to contribute to a discussion or to enable the ‘lived experience’ to be captured as part of the debate.</p> <p>The Academy may make a request to the executive management team for legal or independent professional advice. The Academy may request the attendance of external advisers with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary to either contribute to an agenda item or to run development sessions for its members.</p> <p>The Academy will receive mandated highlight reports from the clinical working groups according to the reporting structure and annual work plan.</p>
Duties	<p>Assurance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will receive assurance from clinical working groups that safety, clinical outcomes, patient safety and patient experience across the Trust’s services is compliant with national standards and the requirements of NHS regulators and commissioners of services. • The Quality Academy will review and provide feedback on quality related submissions required by NHSE/I or other external organisations, prior to approval through the Trust Board as required. • Make recommendations to the Audit Committee concerning the annual programme of Internal Audit, inviting the trust’s appointed internal auditors as an external partner twice yearly to give an overview of progress and effective scrutiny of the risks and systems of internal control related to matters of quality and safety as well as the associated quality improvement plans.

- Consideration of relevant internal audit reports.
- Oversee the process for impact assessment (quality and equality) and receive assessments of any Trust developments and cost improvement schemes that are evaluated as high risk.
- Have oversight of the Trust’s objectives relating to quality priorities for inclusion in the Trust’s Annual Quality Account, contributing to and overseeing the development of the Trust’s annual Quality Report as well as Clinical Business Units’ Annual Quality Improvement Plans.
- The Quality Academy will have oversight of progress towards the Trust’s digital and data related objectives through regular reports from the Digital and Data Transformation Committee, and review and provide feedback on Information Governance related submissions required by legislation prior to approval through the Trust Board as required.
- Oversight of the Estates & Facilities service reports (also relevant to the Learning and Improvement aspects of the Academy).
- The Quality Academy will receive and scrutinise Strategic Risks (with a risk score of 12 or more) which may impact on the quality of service the trust provides or any other risks identified or being managed by the Trust allocated to it by the Board of Directors, monitoring progress made in mitigating those risks and identifying any areas where additional assurance is required.
- The chair of the Quality Academy will invite representation from our commissioning bodies on a quarterly basis as partners to augment discussions about quality matters, learning and further opportunities for system learning.
- In reviewing the assurances received, the Academy will take into consideration the quality of data presented and any associated issues.

Learning:

- The Quality Academy will work and collaborate with partner organisations to identify and share system learning.
- The Quality Academy will oversee, endorse and facilitate multi-

	<p>methods of identifying, cascading and embedding learning across services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quality Academy will actively seek out learning opportunities from other healthcare providers and industries and apply research and evidence based learning which will support a culture of continuous learning and improvement. • Receive highlight reports from the Clinical Outcomes Group about compliance with internal and external quality standards including benchmarking data, learning from deaths and mortality, receive the Trusts Annual Audit Plan and have oversight of the associated improvement plans. • Receive highlight reports from the Patient Safety Group, identifying learning from patient safety incidents and have oversight of the quality improvement programmes associated with a positive patient safety culture.
	<p>Improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quality Academy will support and facilitate a culture of safety and improvement in line with the NHS Patient Safety Strategy by adopting the principles of Insight, Involvement and Improvement. • The Quality Academy will endorse and oversee the development of a basket of metrics to measure a culture of safety, quality and improvement. • The Quality Academy will oversee and agree identified quality metrics that enable the development and maintenance of Quality Profiles at Clinical Business Unit level. • The Quality Academy will oversee the development of a programme of work supporting the trust to be an outstanding provider of healthcare. • The Quality Academy will oversee the Magnet4Europe work programmes to ensure successful accreditation for care excellence. • The Quality Academy will agree, review and monitor the delivery of the Trust's Quality Improvement Strategy, Annual Quality

	Improvement Plan and any supporting implementation plans.
Sub-Groups	<p>Patient Safety Group Clinical Outcomes Group NICE Advisory Group Embracing Kindness Group Safeguarding Adults & Children Infection Prevention & Control Committee Digital & Data Transformation Committee</p>
Chairing arrangements	<p>The Academy will be chaired by a Non Executive Director.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, Deputy Chair (who is also a Non Executive Director) will act as Chair.</p>
Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Medical Officer • Chief Nurse • Chief Digital and Information Officer • Non-Executive Directors (including the Chair and Deputy Chair) • Deputy Chief Medical Officers • Associate Medical Directors • Deputy Operations Medical Directors • Associate Director of Quality • Director of Education • Head of Education • Deputy Director of Nursing • Assistant Chief Nurses • Associate Directors of Nursing • Head of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion • Director of Finance • Director of Operations, Unplanned Care • Director of Operations, Planned Care • General Manager, Chief Medical Officer's Team • Improvement and Quality Outcomes Lead • Senior Governance & Risk Lead • Non- Clinical Risk Manager • Head of Business Intelligence • Lead AHP • Director of Infection Prevention and Control • Director of Pharmacy • Identified Patient Safety Partners

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research
In attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Director of Corporate Governance/Board Secretary. • Head of Corporate Governance. • The Academy may invite other employees or external advisors to attend as appropriate. • Any member of staff seeking development opportunities in relation to their role and portfolio. • Any non-member NED.
Secretary	Secretarial support will be provided by the Executive Assistant or PA to the Chief Nurse/Chief Medical Officer.
Quorum	A minimum of five members, including the Chair or Deputy Chair at least one Executive Director.
Frequency of meetings	<p>10 times per year.</p> <p>At the request of the Chair, the Committee may hold meetings by telephone, video link or by email exchange. Normal rules relating to quoracy will apply to such meetings. These meetings will be deemed as standard meetings of the Committee.</p>
Circulation of papers	Papers will be distributed a minimum of three clear working days in advance of the meeting.
Reporting	The Chair of the Academy is responsible for reporting to the Trust Board on those matters covered by these terms of reference through a regular written report. The minutes of the Academy shall also be submitted to the Trust Board for information and assurance. The Chair of the Academy shall draw to the attention of the Trust Board any issues that require disclosure, or may require executive action. The Academy will present a written annual report to the Trust Board summarising the work carried out during the financial year and outlining its work plan for the future year.
Date agreed by the Academy:	28 July 2021
Date approved by the Trust Board:	23 September 2021
Review date:	March 2022