

Information Governance Strategic Framework 2018-2021



“Learning together; to be the best we can be”

Context

This four-year strategic framework sets out the Nexus MAT ICT governance mission, principles and strategic objectives which will be embedded in all our Schools and how we will approach on-boarding schools to provide added value from the outset.

This framework is commissioned by the Nexus Trust Data Protection Officer and is produced by the Trusts Information Governance Lead and will be in effect from September 2018 to August 2021. Progress against the strategic objectives will be measured and reported to the CEO and Trust Board termly and the scope of the strategy will be reviewed annually.

Mission statement

The purpose of Nexus MAT is to challenge all our schools to be the best they can be: in our strategic approach to ICT, we set out our aims and ambitions for what we intend to achieve with and for our schools, and we provide our Directors and Governors with a clear means by which to define and measure success.

Core Principles

The Nexus Trust information governance framework and accompanying ICT strategy 2017-2019 is underpinned by the principles and guidance as set out by the ICO (information commissioner's office <https://ico.org.uk>) and the DfE (Department of Education <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statutory-guidance-schools>).

In addition to the above regulatory organisations, this framework will encompass its own ICT principles which are;

- Leadership confidence- All Directors, Governors, staff, and students should feel confident in how leadership is conducted within the Trust and its driving principles.
- High standards of delivery- Regardless of size and complexity, scope of impact or financial investment, a high level of standards should always be at the forefront of every endeavour.
- High attainable expectations- While expectations are high in all areas, a realistic and dynamic approach should always be adopted where delivery of education or financial investments are concerned.
- Flexible technical landscapes- to respond to the ever changing needs of our students and staff, our technical provision should allow for change and quick response.
- Safe and able ICT cultures- Safe and proficient use of ICT should run throughout the organisation which is underpinned by quality of Teaching, E-Safety and CPD for all.
- A child centred ethos- Our core purpose is the education of Children and young adults.

Strategic objectives



Landscape

1. Nexus Trust will provide strategic guidance on Schools ICT architecture enabling them to respond to the ever changing needs of Education and technology.

Strategic priorities

- Annual development cycles of school websites, ICT networks, licencing, CCTV, E-Safety, contracts, print, telephony and MIS solutions with termly review points.
- Technical support development for operational delivery and staff.

Outcomes

- All schools have embedded the necessary standards and platforms as set out within the toolkits and policies, in line with Trust, ICO and DfE standards.

2. Nexus Trust will ensure Schools have a high level of Information Governance standards which are in-line with the ICO and DfE principles.

Strategic priorities

- All schools will work within the Nexus Trust IG Toolkits.

Outcomes

- External assessment reports on the Trust IG framework reflect the necessary impact and value added qualities that the trust set out to implement and our schools are working within standards.



Culture

1. Nexus Trust will ensure a culture of safe and responsible working throughout its schools at all levels.

Strategic priorities

- Clear policies and expectations are rooted within the organisation.
- CPD for staff is made available at all levels and relevant to the post holder.

Outcomes

- Policies are fit for purpose and as such, have board approval.
- Staff receive a minimum of three CPD opportunities each year and where formal training is required, budget is allocated.

2. Nexus Trust will promote a culture of collaboration of leaders within technical areas and E-Safety.

Strategic priorities

- Area leaders will meet regularly and formulate global change together.

Outcomes

- External assessment reports and inspections will demonstrate that area leaders and the Trusts overarching strategy has had the necessary impact and value added qualities that the trust set out to implement.

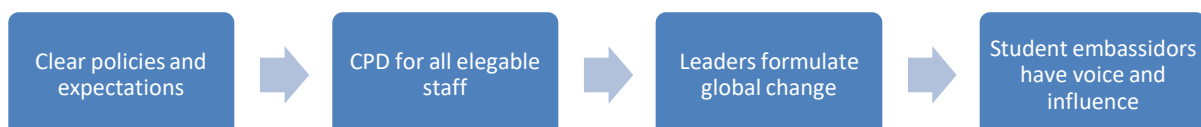
3. Student ambassadors will underpin the parent and student voice and promote safe internet use at all times.

Strategic priorities

- Student E-Safety ambassadors will meet regularly and formulate global change together along with inclusion of Parent voice.

Outcomes

- Overall, students and parents understand how to keep safe in the ever changing online environments and have clear routes for help and further knowledge.



Growth

1. Nexus MAT will invest in ICT and financial leadership within newly joined schools.

This leadership will ensure there is a clear assessment of information governance and current strategy supporting education, technical landscape and ICT cultures.

Strategic priorities

- Fair and concise due diligence for on boarding schools.
- Baseline of school websites, ICT networks, licencing, CCTV, E-Safety, contracts, print, telephony and MIS solutions.
- Technical support development for operational delivery and staff.
- Financial planning advice and support for technical refresh.
- Transparency with third party technical providers underpinned by a joint drive to provide best practice to our schools.

Outcomes

- An accurate representation of ICT architecture to support the on-boarding process.
- Full ICT appraisal provided to the Head, area leaders and CEO based on regulatory standards with a Pathway for development and importantly, acknowledgement of good practice.
- A flexible and responsive technical support model embedded which is fit for the school's needs.
- Third party technical providers continue to work with the school, where applicable and strong relationships are formed with the Trust. and are able to combine their assets providing a value added service within the ever changing landscapes.



Reporting and challenge

Nexus Trust encourages a culture of transparency and openness to constructive challenge, in order to establish a clear understanding of where success has been achieved and how it was achieved. With that ethos in mind, we also welcome challenge and understand the value of it.

During the academic year the central trust and its schools will undergo a continual annual cycle of reports and strategic developments, as outlined above in the three primary strands that is, Landscape, Culture and Growth.

It is only through collaborative working and a true understanding of each school that we will see success and therefore, challenge and change will be a welcome and necessary part of the process.

The following key factors will highlight reporting channels and opportunities for challenge.

- Ensure the Nexus Trust CEO and Board of Directors receive full transparency over ICT activities.
- Progress against the strategic objectives, as set out above, will be measured and reported to the Trust board termly.
- Nexus Trust board to provide critical challenge of all ICT activities.
- School leaders receive full transparency over ICT activities and have the opportunity to challenge, provide individualised recommendations and receive fair and concise reports.

