

Scrutiny Framework

MAT Assurance

Contents

1. Introduction	3
1.1. Developing the framework.....	3
1.2. School level.....	4
1.3. Governance level.....	5
1.4. Executive level.....	6

UNDER REVIEW

1. Introduction

The MAT composition is diverse and does not assume that there is one best way to support or drive school improvement as a MAT. It is vital that the Board and MAT executive team understand school and organisational self-evaluation to ensure additional resources and support are directed in an evidence-based way. In addition to brokered support, the Board will understand the current capacity to support and drive school improvement. In doing so, the executive team can build and strengthen its ability and potential to grow capacity to support more schools.

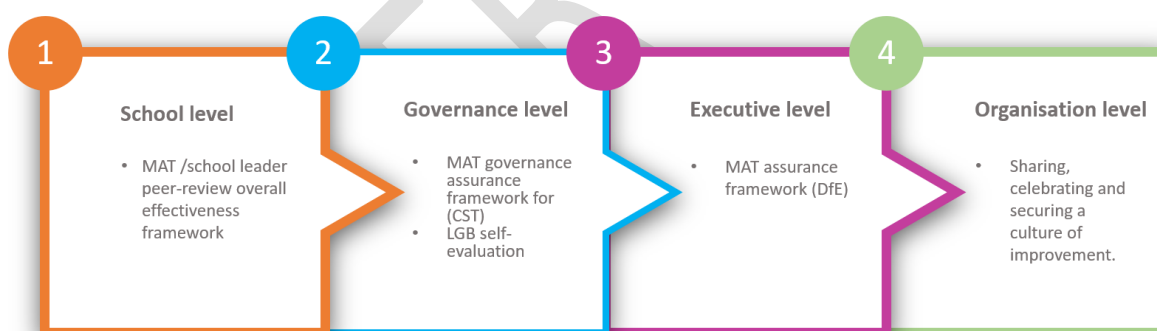
1.1. Developing the framework

Three essential system tools influence the construction of this framework for improvement:

- 2021 Ofsted Inspection Handbook
- DfE MAT Assurance Framework
- Assurance Framework Trust Governance

MAT Assurance

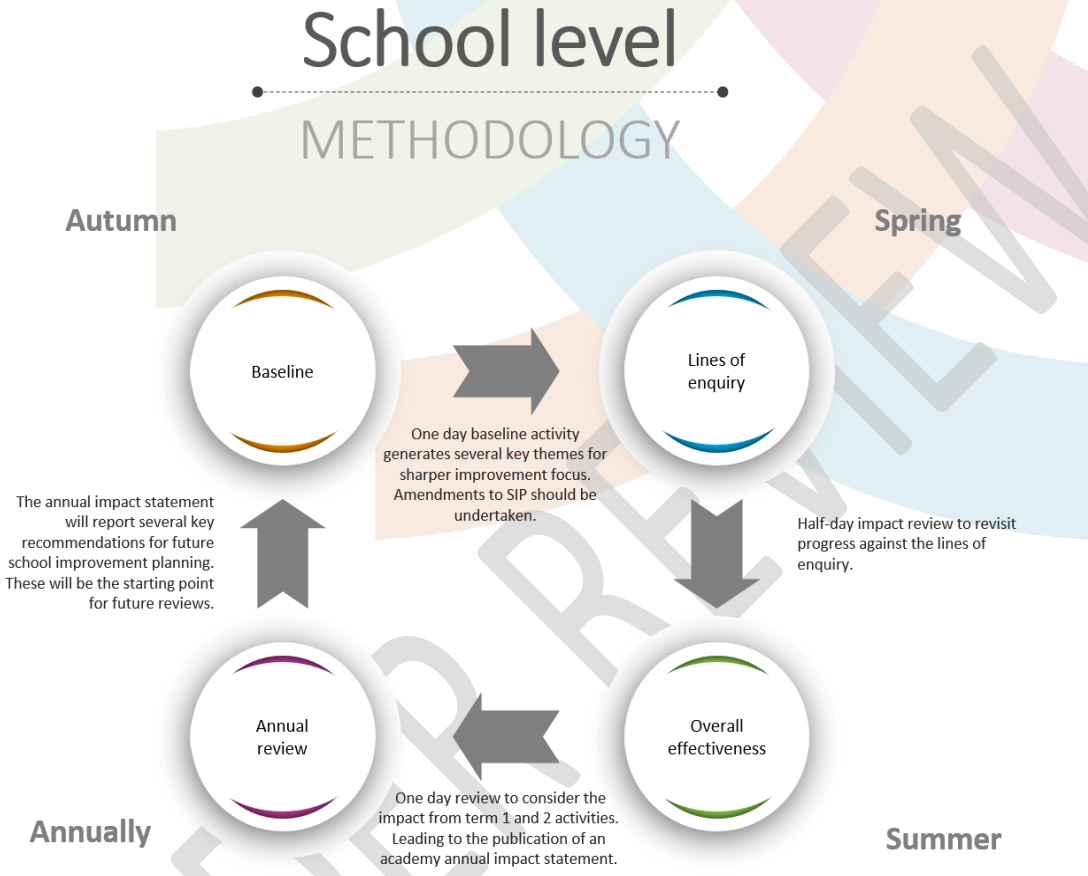
METHODOLOGY



By designing the framework to incorporate the themes within these tools, the MAT Board will be in a solid position to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the organisation and its work to drive sustained improvements. To support this activity, trustees need assurance about the MAT Development Plan's strategic ambition for education, including partnership arrangements, strategic work concerning the recruitment, training and continual professional development of academy staff at all levels.

1.2. School level

The MAT is on a journey. As we continue to evolve, we must evaluate school improvement activities and investments to assist trustees in determining the impact of the MAT’s work. This development must include strengthened arrangements for monitoring, challenging, intervening and supporting MAT academies.



Review themes

Strategic development	Quality of education	Behaviour and attitudes	Personal development	Leadership and management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEF • SIP • Trust values vs school values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intent, implementation, impact • Curriculum flexibility • Curriculum narrowing • Cultural capital • Use of assessment • Literacy and mathematics across the school • Achievement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils with particular needs • Exclusion • Attendance • SEND support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development • Relationships, sex and health education • Careers information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Use of pupil premium and catch-up funding • Off-site provision • Inclusion and off-rolling • Safeguarding

	information			
--	-------------	--	--	--

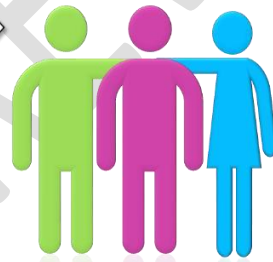
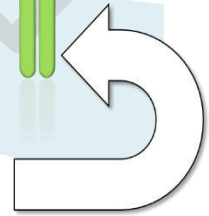
1.3. Governance level

The organisation has been hugely successful in its aim to broaden and strengthen governance arrangements across the organisation. These improvements will be underpinned by a deeper annual review of all forms of governance to ensure our interpretation remains flexible, purposeful, and progressive.

To achieve this, the Trust proposes an annual self-evaluation exercise of all governance layers based on the DfE competency framework and wider Board compliance work undertaken by the Confederation of School Trusts (CST).

The annual review will take place during the spring term.

IMPLEMENTATION
Board reorganisation and strengthening local governance arrangements.

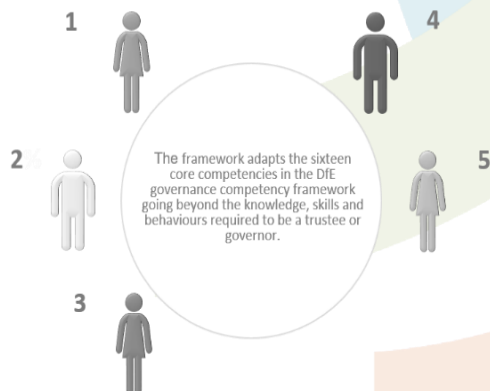


COLLABORATION
Impact reviews should consider all forms of governance and build on the collaborative culture developed across the MAT, modelled at the highest level of the organisation.

UNDER REVIEW

Governance level

METHODOLOGY



- 1. Strategic leadership**
 1. Setting direction
 2. Culture, values and ethos
 3. Decision making
 4. Collaborative working and civic responsibility
 5. Risk management
- 2. Accountability**
 1. Education improvement
 2. Analysis of data
 3. Financial frameworks/accountability
 4. Financial management
 5. Staffing and performance management
 6. External accountability
- 3. People and structures**
 1. Building an effective team
 2. Structures of governance
- 4. Compliance**
 1. Statutory and contractual requirements
- 5. Evaluation**
 1. Self-review
 2. Board effectiveness

1.4. Executive level

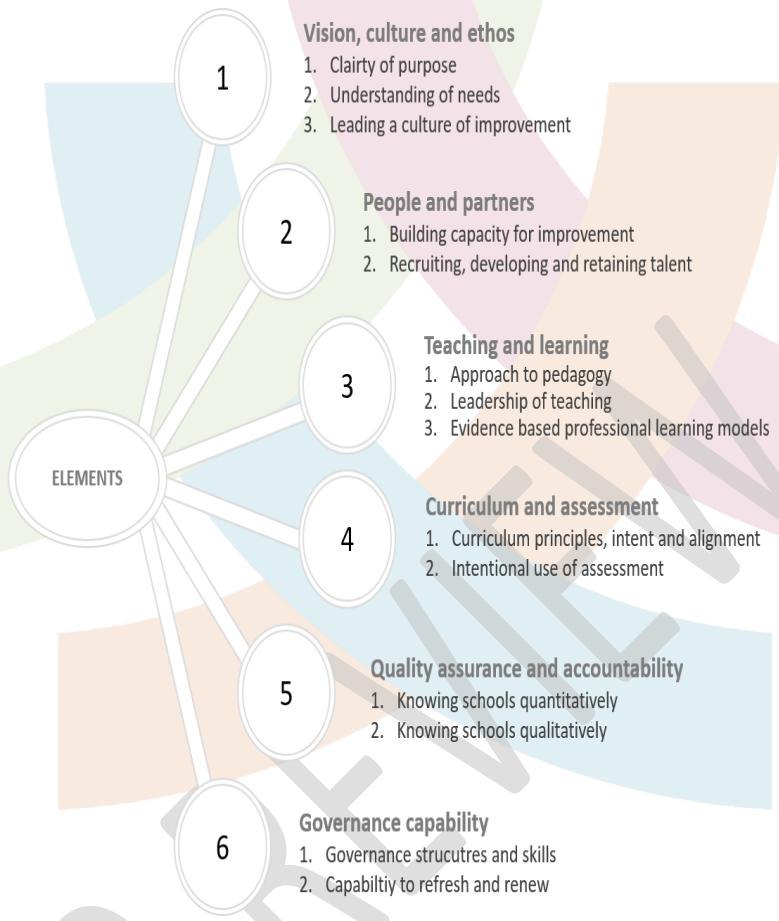
The MAT assurance framework is a development self-assessment tool to help the trust executive team to understand our capacity to support and drive school improvement. The framework is designed to help build and strengthen current school improvement capacity and grow capacity to support more schools.

The framework is designed to be used to help us to look both backwards and forwards. It can help to evaluate the impact of our current work on school improvement and to identify future priorities. We can apply the framework to look at their capacity in their current state; but they can also use the framework to consider proactively what future school improvement capacity they might need if and when their trust was to grow.

The annual review will take place during the summer term.

Executive level

METHODOLOGY



UNDER REVIEW