



SCHOOLS ALLIANCE
for EXCELLENCE

AN EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT IS BETTER FOR ALL



Consultancy
Services
2025/26

School Improvement & Governance
Programme 2025/26

Our School Improvement & Governance Consultancy Services

Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE) is an education partnership made up of Surrey trusts, schools and education professionals. We share a commitment for all children and young people to flourish, enjoy learning and achieve the best possible outcomes through excellent education.

We offer a range of school improvement and governance consultancy services and bespoke packages delivered by leading local practitioners including Headteachers, Deputy Heads and Specialist Senior Teachers. We look forward to working with you, and supporting you with up-to-date knowledge and high quality expertise which you will easily be able to put into practice to benefit you, your team, your students and pupils.

We are pleased to confirm there has been no increase in our prices.

The SAfE Team



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Leadership and Governance Service Level Agreement

Built around our robust quality framework and designed to achieve continuous improvement within your school, academy or trust, this package offers a year-long programme and includes:

- A dedicated Leadership Support Partner (LSP)
- An initial advisory deployment visit to agree priorities with the CEO or with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors
- Leadership Review, Development and Appraisal support
- 3 days (or equivalent) of leadership, curriculum and governance support*
- SAE Annual Leadership Conference — 1 place

£3,200
+VAT

*Depending on your priorities and plans, bespoke packages could include:

- SAE governance support
- Inclusion reviews
- Teaching and learning reviews
- Curriculum development
- Subject leader development
- Safeguarding reviews
- Tailored deep dives or general school support
- Bespoke training sessions or programmes
- Website audit



The leadership development support we received through our SLA with SAE provided us with invaluable opportunities to prioritize our focus on strategy when the day-to-day business is pulling us in other directions.



Headteacher feedback



[Click here for
more
information](#)



Academy and Trust Excellence Programme

SAfE understands the scale of the challenge facing academy trust leadership and offers access to national expertise through high-quality, practitioner-led and cost-effective best practice support.

SAfE also offer inclusion reviews to help schools understand and gain a holistic insight into how they go about engaging and supporting their whole community to do well. In addition to tailored support for your unique governance and improvement journey, Academy and Trust Excellence packages could include:

Academy Trust Peer Reviews

- Aligned to DfE 'academy trust assurance framework'
- Led and facilitated by experienced advisors
- Academy trusts matched with peer academy trusts
- Enables development and improvement in trusts
- Powerful open questions in a spirit of appreciative inquiry, challenge and collaboration
- Academy trusts acting collaboratively to learn from each other and support improvement



from £680
+VAT

External Review of Governance

- Governance experts use their experience to deliver external reviews of governance within trusts of all sizes
- Our approach aligns to the latest quality assurance framework for multi-academy trusts
- Extensions can include developing a trustee-led performance management approach to support your CEO to achieve their objectives and your ambitions for the academy trust

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com

Flexible rates available for academy trusts with multiple schools
wishing to access our Academy Excellence programmes

Leadership Review & Development – Headteacher Appraisal

Inspirational leaders develop and lead the best schools. Trust, academy and school leaders who work with SAfE to support their developmental and continuous reflection have demonstrated strong evidence of every child in their school getting the very best educational experience.

We believe great leadership strives to ensure high quality inclusive educational experiences for all learners. Creating learning environments where individuals feel safe and belong, where they are challenged to do their best and where experiences provide meaning and purposeful development. To do this, our leaders need support and challenge which is what we offer as part of our leadership, review and development package.

SAfE's unparalleled leadership review and development package includes:

- Guidance and mentoring from an experienced SAfE Advisor who will support you with objectives setting and active self-evaluation to achieve your strategic priorities
- Periodic check ins and a supportive mid-year review
- A meeting with governors and access for all governors to training resources, coaching materials, templates and guidance

£880
+VAT



[Click here for
more
information](#)



Thank you so much for the exceptional support SAfE has provided since I took over as Head of School. The visits and development days were always so positive and insightful – SAfE had a great way of recognising the school's strengths while also clearly identifying areas for development in a constructive and encouraging way.

Headteacher feedback

Headteacher & Senior Leader Recruitment

Recruiting a Headteacher is a key statutory duty for governing bodies. We support you in securing strong leaders committed to inclusion and equity. SAfE provides advice, support, and resources for a seamless recruitment process for headteachers, executive headteachers and CEOs.

SAfE Leadership Support Partner

- Meet with Chair of Governors, trustees, or board
- Define leadership role and assess school/trust goals
- Manage a bespoke timeline and key milestones
- Provide guidance on advertisement, job description, and person specification
- Give candidate shortlisting feedback
- Assist with interview planning to assess alignment with school needs and highlight how the capabilities of each applicant meets your trust or school's requirements
- Shortlist feedback on candidates
- Complete assessment tasks covering financial controls, curriculum engagement, data management, and strategic planning
- Assess stakeholder and student engagement
- Create bespoke interview questions and model answers
- Attend the interview panel

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com

It was a pleasure to welcome SAfE into our school to complete a SEN Inclusion Review. The process allowed us to evaluate what is working well and what the key development points are for the future. The review was collaborative and personalised to the needs of our school.

Headteacher feedback

*£1,020
+VAT

**£1,700
+VAT

*Recruitment package plus participation on one-day interview panel £1,020 +vat

**Recruitment package plus participation on two-day interview panel £1,700 +vat

School Improvement Bespoke Package

Our School Improvement Leadership Support Partners (LSPs) are appointed because of their exceptional, relevant and recognised track records working within trusts, secondary, primary or specialist schools.

Your dedicated LSP will act as your mentor and professional advisor, supporting leaders to evaluate performance, identify priorities for improvement and plan effective change. As part of their initial visit, your LSP may also refer you to other specialist SAfE advisors. Working with you and your team to define half-day to multi-day projects, this service can be combined with others to create a bespoke package.

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com



from £680
+VAT

Curriculum, Teaching & Achievement Bespoke Services

Our 'pay as you go' consultancy is also a great way to support your whole school improvement priorities and create tailored solutions to help you achieve your plans. Here are some aspects that could supplement your school improvement plans for next year:

Curriculum Development

With the recommendations of the DfE Curriculum and Assessment Review due out in the autumn term, we expect a key priority will be reviewing your curriculum offer in line with the recommendations and continuing to refine your current curriculum. Our Teaching and Learning Leads can facilitate this process with leaders providing subject reviews as well as advice on curriculum sequencing and planning.

Preparation for OFSTED Inspections

The new framework will be published in time for the new academic year with the first inspections starting in November. In addition to the OFSTED Framework in practice workshops we run for schools in the inspection window, we offer support for leaders and governors enabling them to feel confident ahead of inspection by:

- Facilitating effective self-evaluation and writing your self-evaluation form (SEF)
- Supporting new leaders action planning
- Providing governor training



from £380
+VAT

External Quality Assurance

If you like to have an external perspective to triangulate your monitoring and evaluation, we can provide additional visits in between your annual Key Support Needs Analysis visit. This can be particularly helpful as part of an implementation phase of a new initiative.

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com

SEND/Inclusion Reviews Bespoke Package

Whole school SEND reviews can take place over 1-2 days focusing on policies, practices and putting systems in place to support SEND and Inclusion. Joint learning walks are undertaken to help share views and support leadership development. Reviews are tailored to the needs of each setting but can include the following:

- Review of the school website along with key SEND documents
- Analysis of SEND data and tracking to understand the impact of additional provision
- Focus on SEND paperwork to understand how all staff use it and how learners use it to develop self-advocacy and ongoing independence
- Staff, student, governor and parental voice to provide a holistic insight into practices in each setting
- Working with key staff to identify key areas for development

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com



*£880
+VAT

** £1560
+VAT

*SEND/Inclusion Review one-day £880 +VAT

**SEND/Inclusion Review two-day £1560 +VAT

Headteacher Coaching Package

Being a Headteacher is highly rewarding and immensely challenging. Coaching can assist Headteachers to navigate the complexities of the role.

Research by Leeds Beckett University, documented in 'Sustaining a vital profession', reports the significant and positive impacts of coaching on Headteacher well-being, confidence, self-belief and progression. Coaching has been cited as the most effective form of professional learning for Educators (EEF 2021).

From September 2025, SAE is delighted to offer a professional coaching service to Surrey Headteachers/Senior Leaders provided by a team of highly qualified coaches.

Package

For further information about how we can support you/your team, please contact us to discuss your needs. Our team of highly qualified, experienced and expert coaches look forward to supporting you in leadership.

- 6 x 90 minute online sessions (one each per half term)
- Access to remote support between sessions

Price by agreement, depending on blend of F2F/online

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com

from
£1580
+VAT



We are working with our SAE consultant to really sharpen our leadership team's change management skills and bring a greater coherence to our practice across our different roles.

Headteacher feedback



School Structural Change Support

SAfE offers independent, impartial support and guidance to schools considering academy conversion or federation.

- We can review options to understand the full range of pathways and structures available to your school
- Identify compatible trusts (for schools considering academy conversion)
- Understand the relevant processes and due diligence
- Mitigate risk through effective change management

Our experienced advisors possess in-depth knowledge of the academy system, federations, and related processes. They work closely with the DfE Regional Directors, the dioceses in Surrey, and Surrey County Council to ensure that you and your stakeholders are well-informed and well-prepared.

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com



from £680
+VAT

External Review of Governance

SAfE has developed a comprehensive External Review of Governance service to enhance the effectiveness of academy trust and school governing boards. Our robust process ensures a thorough and unbiased assessment of governance performance. Your trust, academy or school will benefit from:

- Objective evaluation and feedback by an impartial and experienced professional
- Practical and tailored recommendations to foster robust governance practices
- Capacity building within your board by enhancing knowledge and helping governors/trustees to meet their responsibilities more effectively

The 3-step review includes:

- An initial consultation to understand the specific needs and context of your school/trust
- Review of governance documents, interviews with governors/trustees and observation of your board in action to ensure a holistic understanding of performance
- Analysis of the data collected against best practice and governance frameworks to provide a detailed report that identifies strengths, areas for improvement and recommendations
- Presentation of findings to your board and support in creating an action plan

For more information contact us at admin@schoolsallexcel.com



Fantastic to have time to think about strategic objectives and how we can education the rest of the board. The result was a clear action plan which will improve the way we operate.



Governor feedback

£1,900
+VAT

Building Excellence in Governance

We provide bespoke training designed for your board's unique needs, developing the knowledge, skills and confidence for effective governance.

Popular training themes:

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Effective Governance
- Ofsted Preparation
- Finance for Governors

Can't see what you need? Every package includes a complimentary scoping session to ensure targeted development for your governors.

Training is delivered by experienced governance professionals in 2-hour sessions, scheduled at your convenience, either face-to-face or virtually.

Strategic Session Facilitation

Our experienced facilitators create space for productive conversations, helping your board:

- Develop your school's vision and strategic priorities
- Evaluate governance effectiveness
- Resolve complex challenges
- Build stronger team dynamics
- Focus on impact and outcomes

Our facilitators ensure every voice is heard and decisions are reached collaboratively.

For more information contact us at
admin@schoolsallexcel.com

from £480
+VAT



SAfE Clerking Service

Our clerking service combines local Surrey expertise with professional standards to support your governing board effectiveness.



Quality and expertise

- High-quality, trained clerks
- Expert central team support
- Continuous professional development



Local partnership

- Locally responsive service
- Understanding of local context
- Investment back into Surrey schools



Flexibility and choice

- Face-to-face or virtual meetings
- Simple, transparent pricing
- No long-term, restrictive contracts



Governance support

- Initial consultation with central team
- Annual website compliance audit
- 2-hour annual support session for Chairs & Headteachers

[Click here for
more
information](#)



£3,900
+VAT

[Click here for
more
information](#)



The coaching SAFE has provided for me has been game-changing. They have empowered me both through their support and their challenge to believe in my capabilities to lead our Trust into the next phase of its development. Their expertise and insight have been invaluable.



CEO feedback



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