A Rivers’ **Headteacher Advocate** will gain assurance that “Love, Learn, Live” is being lived in our schools in the following ways:

**Role description:**

**1. You will:**

* Seek assurance that the head is listened to, supported and challenged

**2. Purpose of your role:**

* To support heads to be great leaders
* To be a critical friend to the head – to support and challenge
* To support the wellbeing of the head and signpost support if needed
* To be a voice at board level for heads

**3. Your duties and responsibilities:**

* Flexible/informal meetings with head as needed
* Be available during Ofsted inspections, if required
* Maintain confidentiality and be accessible
* Have an understanding of the school and trust and the regulatory framework that schools operate within
* Attend the following meetings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Autumn Term 1 | Trust governance team day for advocates, trustees, members, heads and executive team  School visit  School advocate group meeting |
| Autumn Term 2 | Link trustee group meeting |
| Spring term 1 | School visit |
| Spring Term 2 | School advocate group meeting |
| Summer Term 1 | School visit  School advocate group meeting |
| Summer Term 2 | Link trustee group meeting |

**4. Support you will receive:**

* Briefings on key trust initiatives from the central team
* Governance team day to be held at the beginning of each academic year with opportunity to meet as a head advocate group and as a school group
* Role description
* Induction, including safeguarding training and DBS, mental health/wellbeing training and other relevant training/CPD
* IT support – Teams channel
* Link trustee/CEO

**5. Reporting back:**

* Verbal reports at meetings
* Share three ‘*What is going well?*’ bullet points and three ‘*It would be even better if’* bullet points twice a year with the link trustee in order to give advocates a voice at trust board level

**6. Knowing the impact of your role:**

* Discussions with the head
* 360-degree reviews
* Smooth implementation of new initiatives and projects

\*The headteacher advocate may not be a close relative of a pupil at the school.

**LOVE**

* The Head feels confident to carry out their role.
* The Head feels that their wellbeing is important to the trust.

**LEARN**

* The Head receives appropriate training.
* The Head takes opportunities to learn from other schools within and outside the trust.

**LIVE**

* The Head feels that they have opportunities to develop themselves and their staff team.
* The Head and their team can articulate the school’s strengths and next steps.