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

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.

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 well-being 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 regulatory framework that schools operate within
- Attend the following meetings:

Autumn Term 1	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
	Link trustee group meeting
Summer Term 1	School visit
	School advocate group meeting
Summer Term 2	Link trustee group meeting
	Governance Day

4. Support you will receive:

- Briefings on key trust initiatives from the central team
- Governance day to be held at the end of each academic year with opportunity to meet as a head advocate group and as a school group
- Induction, including safeguarding training and DBS, mental health/well-being training, other relevant training/CPD and IT support
- 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.