

Minutes of the Local Academy Committee meeting held on Thursday 18th January 2024 at 4.30pm Via MS Teams

Governor name	Initials	Governor category	A = absence
Mr Joseph Krogulec	JK	Appointed LAC governor	
Mrs Elaine Twigger	ET	Appointed QEA Trustee LAC governor	
Mrs Rachel Williams	RW	Staff Appointed LAC governor	
Miss Julie Evans	JE	Appointed LAC governor	
Mr Anthony Darby	AD	Diocesan AC governor	
Mrs Joanne Bull	JB	Appointed LAC governor	А
Vacancy x 2		Parent AC governor	
Vacancy		QEA Trustee governor	

In attendance:

Staff name	Initials	Role	
Mrs Caroline Saxelby	CS	Executive Principal	Α
Miss Donna Percival	DP	Principal	
Mrs Fiona Garlick	FG	Vice Principal	
Miss Kayleigh Horner	KH	Assistant Principal	Left at 5.06pm
Mr Charlie Pyle	СР	Assistant Principal	Left at 5.06pm
Mrs Alice Hooton	АН	Assistant Principal	Left at 6.15pm
Mr Mathew Watson	MW	Assistant Principal	Absent
Mrs Louise Hart	LH	Parent Governor Candidate/observer	
Mrs Emma Paine	EP	Governance Professional (Clerk)	
Quorum Required	3	Governors Present	5

Governor support, questions and challenge: Responses

Item No	Item	Action/ by who/when
QEA/030/	Welcome	-
23/24	Welcome to the new members of Senior Leadership Staff were made and introductions to the Academy Committee governors were provided.	
	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received and agreed from Mrs Saxelby due to work commitments and Mrs Bull due to personal commitments.	
	Prayer	
	The Staff governor led the committee and attendees through a school prayer for Epiphany.	



QEA/031/ 23/24	Declaration of interest and any changes to be advised There were no declarations of interest, either direct or indirect, for any items of business on the agenda. The chair asked if anyone had any declarations to update. Academy Committee governors confirmed that the declarations given at the beginning of the academic year were correct. The Governance Professional reported changes to the Declaration of Interest made at the start of the academic year due to becoming a member on the Nottinghamshire County Council Education Trust Board.	
QEA/032/ 23/24	Local Training – ATL(Attitude to Learning)/Loyalty System The Vice Principal explained the reason behind the initiative was to offer a culture of belonging. Details had previously been provided to Academy Committee governors in the summer term. An update of progress and how this linked to the AIP (Academy Improvement Plan) objectives was offered.	
	The Vice Principal explained a student voice session had taken place. As a result of the outcomes of the meeting, it had been identified that first higher or consistent achievers should receive awards for their efforts made.	
	The intention of the initiative was to support students leaving the academy with a good character and high ambition.	
	The QEA (Queen Elizabeth's Academy) Way and behavioural expectations were embedded with students at the start of each academic year.	
	Details of the current ATL score were provided which was taken prior to the Christmas break. The Vice Principal explained how scores were added to the Loyalty Card to gain tangible points. Staff were involved in discussions and strategies in place to achieve further improvement.	
	Information was discussed at parent communication meetings which linked to the ATL and how students can improve.	
	Celebration and Awards assemblies took place to show impact in a safe and orderly environment.	
	Discussions around the impact shown and achievement that has taken place for year groups was provided.	
	Academy Committee governors acknowledged that Year 7 students wanted to make a good impression and the initiative is successful with the year group receiving high levels of points and for Year 11 students, the initiative has to be learnt as they have been attending the academy for some time already. The Vice Principal highlighted the achievement numbers for Years 7 and Year 11. Academy Committee governors suggested if there is a centre of high performing students this will set the tone for the year group.	

Academy Committee governors asked if the initiative was inclusive to SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) students due to the difficulties some students may experience achieving this if not tailored to support their needs.

The Principal reported steps have been put in place with the SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) team to ensure ATL is accessible and supportive for SEND student's needs. Details of the steps taken and how this was being implemented with praise points tickets.

Rewards events of Bowling and Christmas Movie afternoon had taken place currently at the choice of students. The Vice Principal raised concern around the continual funding of the rewards events.

Academy Committee governors asked whether there were other means of achieving funding to support this, such as Christmas Fayre or other fundraising activities that may support this.

The Principal explained that the Queen Elizabeth's Endowed Trust offers a high level of funding support to the academy for educational trips and visits to support students and it was not a simple solution to achieve external funding. The Queen Elizabeth's Endowed Trust were thanked for the continual support that is offered with funding.

The Vice Principal reported a review of understanding parents was to take place in efforts to raise additional funding.

The QE Endowed Trust governor acknowledged and agreed with the Principals comments and suggested the Endowed Trust would be informed of the situation and whether any additional support can be offered.

The Vice Principal explained steps being taken to advertise the initiative in the school community via social media.

Additional CPD (Continued Professional Development) was to take place with staff.

Academy Committee governors asked whether it was acceptable for governors to attend the CPD on the 22nd January 2024 with staff and would this be welcomed by staff. The Principal confirmed this was acceptable and staff would welcome this.

The Chair acknowledged that an AIR (Academy Improvement Review) meeting had taken place with the Trust.

The Chair thanked Miss Horner and Mr Pyle for attending the meeting and making introductions.

Mr Pyle and Miss Horner left the meeting at 5.06pm.

ET 14/03/24

ET/Clerk

Governor Training Record

The Chair acknowledged Mrs Twigger had been experiencing issues accessing Learning Link to complete the training required. Steps would be put in place to resolve any issues arising.

Mr Darby was to complete the skills audit. Mr Darby suggested the audit had been completed. The Governance Professional explained this had not come through currently, a review of the information would take place and direct contact made with Mr Darby, if this had not been received.

Link Governor Training attended

The Chair asked whether any Link Governor training had been missed. The Governance Professional advised training had not been missed with outlook diary invites being forwarded for specific governors and a table of dates available in governor share point. The Governance Professional advised that Safeguarding link governor training was due to take place on the 20th February 2024 at 1pm. **The Chair requested governors** provided information if they were unable to attend the Link Governor training session to ensure another governor could attend as a substitute, in addition a recording of the meeting would be made available after the session. The QEA Governor explained training was due to take place on 6th May 2024 which was a bank holiday and asked whether this would be moved.

The Governance Professional confirmed this would actioned with the Trust and thanked the governor for highlighting this.

Chair/Trustees meeting feedback

The Chair acknowledged the Academy Committee was aligned to other Committees in the Trust regarding areas of focus. Financial roles and responsibilities was being focused on. Improvements to support further communication and working relationships with Trustees was to be put in place.

Discussion regarding Governor Conference preferences

- Academy Committee governors explained the conference should be in a central location which is easily accessible for all.
- Academy Committee governors suggested the last conference was a long distance for anyone who could not easily access the venue.
- Academy Committee governors suggested a date was provided well in advance to ensure diary commitments could be secured.
- It was suggested an agenda should be forwarded with dates and times to ensure engagement and attendance of governors.

CoG (Chair of Governors)/VCoG (Vice Chair of Governors) & Trustees Meeting – 5/3/24@Tuxford Academy/Vice Chair Vacancy

ASAP

AD/Clerk ASAP

JK/Gov

ASAP

Clerk/Trust

Actioned

Govs 14/03/24



	The Chair explained governors were able to attend at the CoG/Trustees meeting taking place on the 5 th March 2024 as there was a space for a Vice Chair. Academy Committee governors were to get in contact if they were interested in attending.	Govs
	The Chair reported there was currently a vacancy for a Vice Chair. Information was available in governor share point for review by anyone interested in the role of Vice Chair. The Chair suggested if no governors were willing to take up the position, then contact may be made directly for a governor to be nominated. Governors were requested to approach the Chair with expressions of interest for the role.	14/03/24
QEA/033/	Parent Governor Election	
23/24	Mrs L Hart	
25,21	The Chair confirmed Mrs Hart had attended two previous Academy Committee meetings as an observer and had completed all requested documentation relating to the role of Parent governor and to ensure safer recruitment rules were met.	
	Mrs Hart left the room at 17.17pm.	
	The Chair explained all necessary criteria and legal requirements had been completed satisfactorily and signed off.	
	The Academy Committee governors were in agreement that Mrs Hart would be elected as an Appointed Parent Governor for a four year term of office. Mrs Hart returned to the meeting at 17.22pm.	
	The Chair welcomed Mrs Hart to the committee.	
QEA/034/ 23/24	Things to Celebrate The Principal reported events taking place prior to the Christmas break had been positive. It was reported the Christmas Disco was the best attended with all year groups being represented. There had been good attendance from parents at the Awards evening.	
	Mrs Twigger, Miss Evans and Mr Darby confirmed attendance at the Christmas Concert and reported the talent of students and level of confidence shown by students when performing should be acknowledged. Academy Committee governors praised the staff lead in supporting and nurturing students to build talents and confidence.	
	The Principal reported the increasing numbers of student admissions of 210 in September 2024. The Principal explained the Local Authority had approached the Academy regarding students external to the local area. The Principal reported the admissions would take the Academy over PAN (Published Admission Numbers).	



The Principal explained recruitment continues to take place with new staff members being recruited, which would support teaching capacity as a result of the high number of admissions taking place. The Principal reported a visit to HSFC (Hucknall Sixth Form Centre) had taken place to support students with pastoral work and a focus on their future educational provision as a result of the changes being made to HSFC. The Principal explained the Dementia Choir would be holding their Summer Music Festival at the Academy on the 7 th July 2024 with representation from the Academy Choir. Governors were invited to attend the event. Further details would be provided when these become available. It was further reported that the Gold Arts Mark was achieved by the arts	
department, which praised the offer and leadership of the faculty to support students and the wider school community. Governors praised the achievement.	
Minutes of the meeting dated 16 th November 2023 The minutes of the meeting, having previously been received were agreed and signed by the chair.	
Outstanding O18/23/24: Staff absence and turnover figures The Principal explained the stability index is below national average and the Academy is showing stability in respect of staff absence and turnover. O18/23/24: Student/Parent Voice survey results The Principal reported a student survey was to take place in February for academies Trust wide. This was to be reported at the March meeting. The Chair requested Trust wide survey results are shared with governors as soon as they become available. O18/23/24: Report back to Trust regarding support from QEA Endowed Trust The Principal explained the support offered by the Queen Elizabeth's Endowed Trust in respect of educational visits. The Principal requested thanks to be passed on to the Queen Elizabeth's Endowed Trust for the continued support offered. The QEA Trustee governor confirmed thanks would be forwarded to the Trustees at the AGM (Annual General Meeting) to take place and suggested a meeting would be arranged for the Chair of the Local Academy Committee and the Chair of the Endowed Trust. O18/23/24: East Midlands Today to attend Remembrance Event 2024	DP 14/03/24 ET ASAP
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	appearance had taken place, in efforts to achieve their attendance to televise the event on Remembrance Day. 022/23/24: PP (Pupil Premium) new strategies being introduced The Principal reported a new PP strategy was available for governors review on the Academy website. Governors were requested to review the document and direct questions to Mr Watson directly for adequate response to be provided. The Chair requested this was reviewed at the March meeting. The Governance Professional advised the link would be forwarded for governor information purposes. The remaining agenda items regarding matters arising had been actioned and were not revisited.	MW/DP/Gov 14/03/24 Clerk actioned
	The Chair thanked the Diocesan governor for providing a Link Visit Report.	
QEA/037/ 23/24	ERM (Educational Review Meeting) Report The Chair acknowledged the Report had been circulated and reviewed prior to the Academy Committee meeting and invited Academy Committee governors to challenge the information provided. • Safeguarding (Checklist)Compliance/Culture/NCC NSCP SiE The Principal confirmed the NCC NSCP SiE had been reviewed by the safeguarding link governor and signed off by the Chair of governors; and subsequently returned to the Local Authority in the deadlines requested. A discussion regarding safeguarding trends took place and was	
	 Equity Diversity and Inclusion update The Chair acknowledged there had been a rise in racism taking place. The Chair asked how this was being addressed and if there was a long term plan in place. Mrs Hooton reported there was a Trust wide development programme in place regarding Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in addition to steps being put in place when incidences arise. • a review of strengths and weaknesses to identify gaps, to ensure adequate support could be offered for the diverse school community and in efforts to align to the Trusts vision. As a result of the review a focus on what is required to support further development will take place. • steps were being put in place to identify discrimination in all forms. • Steps are being put in place by allocated staff to support with the work being done across the academy and to ensure student 	

focussed initiatives such as celebrating Diwali and black history month to celebrate the differences in the Christian setting.

 Steps are in place to work with students regarding the nine protected characteristics.

The Chair thanked Mrs Hooton for providing the information and asked that Mrs Hooton continued to provide updates regarding the work being actioned and steps being put in place to support development locally and across the trust.

Quality of Education

The Chair acknowledged persistent absence figures and attainment 8 scores. The Chair asked whether there were any areas of challenge and any implications of issues arising in the mock examination results. The Principal reported the mock examinations held in November 2023 had highlighted a concern after review of data. It had been identified that attendance in the year group was the core reason for the low targets achieved and the impact of lost learning. The Principal acknowledged persistent absence figures for the year group were high. The Principal reported the role of strategic lead for attendance had been undertaken to ensure strategies could be developed to tackle attendance and persistent absence. As a result of discussions with staff it was reported steps would be supported by the Attitude to Learning initiative with students and during assemblies.

The Principal reported there was confidence around projections and predictions with steps to be put in place to ensure further improvements were achieved. The Principal explained strategies were in place with a focus on Year 11 students to ensure satisfactory outcomes could be achieved.

Academy Committee governors asked whether enrichments during recreational breaks for Year 11 was showing impact or whether attendances were required to show improvement to impact this. The Principal explained the impact lockdowns and strikes had taken with parents in the school community. The Principal reported an Improving Attendance Strategy had been developed in efforts to tackle the issues arising.

Academy Committee governors asked whether the increase in admissions for students outside of the local area was impacting on attendance figures.

The Principal explained the narrative around students undertaking long commute times to attend at the academy and support being offered. The Principal explained Fixed Penalty Notices were ineffective in preventing further absence for students.

Academy Committee governors suggested the impact of the current GCSE Curriculum in comparison to the previous GCSE curriculum using

AH 14/03/24 modules and coursework. Which previously supported the achievement process for Year 10 and Year 11 students.

Academy Committee governors asked whether Post 16 examination results were reflected in QEA data and whether there was any influence over this.

The Principal explained the academy was an 11-18 academy and all data for students on roll was owned by the Academy although not all students are being taught at the academy and accessing post 16 education at HSFC.

The Principal acknowledged information would be shared regarding mock examination results at the March meeting, in addition to the Attendance Strategy.

Mrs Hooton left the meeting at 6.15pm.

Academy specific information: -

Risk reports

The Principal reported after review of the risks had taken place with the Trust it had been decided that the risks would be condensed to five with no changes to the risk scoring or narrative. The Principal explained the greatest risk was a result of the increase in admission numbers, funding and infrastructure of the site.

Health & Safety

The Principal reported there were no issues arising with Health and Safety. **The Chair asked** whether there was any update on the leaks that had been caused as a result of the adverse weather conditions. The Principal confirmed repairs were taking place

 Data Protection (breaches/SARs(Single Access Request)/FOIA(Freedom of Information Act)/Police requests), complaints, claims

The Principal confirmed there were no issues with data protection breaches. The Principal reported requests are frequently made by Police as a result of issues arising in the community. Details of the process to be followed was provided.

The Principal reported one complaint had been received which was being dealt with by the Academy and in initial stages.

Confirm determined admission arrangements & approval of local appendix

The Principal acknowledged there were no changes to the PAN (Published Admission Numbers) of 180. The Principal explained the Local Authority would continue to be supported with additional admissions external to the catchment area. The Principal confirmed there was not to be a change to PAN as a result. Discussions took place around the reasons this would not change.

DP 14/03/24 The Principal reported as a result of high admissions, additional space is required to ensure capacity. The Principal provided details of the temporary structure required and a further canopied area for cover during recreational breaks. Discussions were to take place with the Queen Elizabeth's Trustees regarding any changes that were required to support the high admission numbers and infrastructure of the site.

Academy Committee governors asked how the temporary structure would be funded. The Principal confirmed the Local Authority would support funding for any additions to infrastructure to support the high admission numbers.

In-year admissions numbers – all year groups

The Principal reported the Academy was now full with a waiting list in place for Year 10. In year admissions could not be accepted due to staffing capacity. Admissions appeals continue to take place.

- Behaviour and attendance/PD (Personal Development) update
 The Principal reported information regarding behaviour had been
 shared in the ERM document which showed percentages and impact
 identified. It was explained issues arising with Year 8 students and the
 current culture regarding attendance which had impacted the figures.
 - P/Ex (Permanent Exclusion), Suspension, persistent absence and alternative provision in place

The Chair asked for clarity on MSI (Main School Isolation). The Principal explained how students escalated from detention and to class removal to an MSI following the behaviour pathway.

The Vice Principal explained steps put in place to build relationships with local schools and academies to support any managed moves that may be required to take place with parental agreement. The Principal explained steps are put in place at the start of the Autumn Term to ensure students and families are aware of behavioural expectations. The Chair suggested Mrs Hart was interested in taking the link area of behaviour and attendance.

Academy Committee governors asked if an on site Alterative Provision was in place, would this support in lowering figures for students attending alternative provision. The Vice Principal suggested issues arising as a result of students previously attending The Summit. The Vice Principal acknowledged a breakdown of figures would be provided. The Vice Principal reported as a result a Improving Culture strategy has been developed. The Vice Principal explained this would be shared for discussion at the March meeting.

Christian Distinctiveness

The Principal explained the introduction of school pastors was to take place with support being received from Street Pastors at the end of the academy day and be a presence in the community. The introduction of the pastor will enhance the distinctiveness team. **Academy Committee governors praised** the initiative being introduced.

FG 14/03/24



 HSFC Consultation The Principal explained the consultation that was in place with parents and students in the school community regarding changes taking place to HSFC from 2025 where the provision will be phased out.
The Chair asked whether consideration to offer provision at the Holgate Academy and National Academy sites offering post 16 provision would be beneficial for students. The Principal explained the difficulties this would present for students to attend from the Academy. The Principal explained the provision available in the Mansfield area at Vision West Notts and the links to Nottingham Trent University was beneficial. This was the preferred option with current year 11 students when asked.
Academy Committee governors asked whether it was possible to bring the post 16 provision back to the Queen Elizabeth's site. The Principal explained the difficulties in the post 16 provision returning to the Queen Elizabeth's site; regarding the number of students needed to ensure financial viability of the provision. Academy Committee governors acknowledged the difficulties this would cause.
QEA/038/ Policies
23/24 Trust Policy Updates
The Chair acknowledged Trust Policy updates had been made and were
available on the Trust website in respect of:-
Anti-bullying policy , Attendance policy & appendix, Behaviour policy
Early Years Foundation Stage policy & appendix, Online Safety,
Safeguarding and Low Level Concerns, Suspensions and Exclusions of
Pupils, Early Careers Teacher Policy, Whistleblowing policy, Health and
Safety Policy, Reserves and Investment Policy, EDI policy
Local Policy Appendix
The Principal confirmed there were no updates to any local policy
appendix.
QEA/039/ Link Visit Reports and feedback from visits The Chair calmould dead Link visit reports were quallable for Health 8
The Chair acknowledged Link visit reports were available for Health & Safety, Data Privacy, Careers, Personal Development.
Govs
The Chair requested governors arranged meetings to take place prior to 14/03/24
the Easter break, for the Spring term.
Link Governor Areas to be agreed (Link Schedule)
The Chair acknowledged Mrs Hart had suggested she would be happy to
take the Behaviour and Attendance area. The Chair was to have
discussions with Mrs Bull regarding preferred link areas and to be 14/03/24
agreed at the March meeting.



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QEA/040/	Governance Action Plan updates	
23/24	The Chair reported a review of the document had taken place with the	
	Governance Professional. Updates had been made to the document to	
	reflect new governors joining the committee. Academy Committee	
	governors were to get in touch with the Chair if there were any issues	
	arising. Academy Committee governors were satisfied with the updates	
	made.	
QEA/041/	How has the Academy Committee held senior leaders to account	
23/24	Academy Committee governors had challenged senior leaders regarding:	
	Attitude to Learning initiative	
	Attendance	
	Behaviour	
	HSFC provision	
QEA/042/	How have Vision, Mission and Values of Trust/Equity been upheld	
23/24	Academy Committee governors reported discussions regarding Equity,	
	Diversity and Inclusion had taken place with Mrs Hooton which	
	supported the Trust Vision, Mission and Values.	
QEA/043/	Consider information to be advised to the Trust Board and complete	
23/24	the report	
-	Academy Committee governors discussed the areas to be populated on	
	the document which was agreed by the Chair and subsequently	
	forwarded to the Head of Governance for review by Trustees.	
	, and the second	
	Information discussed in the academy committee meeting was added to	
	the document in respect of:-	
	- The ATL Initiative discussed	
	- Positive events taken place	
	- Governance Action Plan	
	- Termly Newsletter	
	- HSFC	
QEA/044/	Determination of confidentiality of business	
23/24	Equalities Act	
	Academy Committee governors considered whether anything discussed	
	during the meeting should be deemed as confidential. It was	
	Resolved:	
	- That confidential information had been discussed within agenda	
	item 037/23/24 should remain confidential to attendees of the	
	meeting until the end of the academic year	
	- Equalities Act implications were considered	
QEA/045/	Date and time of next meeting:	
23/24	Thursday 14 th March 2024	
	Training: 4.30pm - 5.00pm	
	Main Agenda: 5.00pm - 6.30pm	114 /Cl1
	The Chair requested a discussion took place with the Governance	JK/Clerk
	Professional regarding the May meeting dates.	ASAP
	The meeting closed at 6.50pm.	
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Signed: J Krogulec (chair) Date: Agreed at LAC meeting 25th March 2024