



ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday 9th October 2025
Time: 4.30pm
Venue: Laurus Cheadle Hulme

Clerk: N Burgess
Present: J Peet, C Leek, S Bagnall, E Tiddy, N Thompson, R Barlow, N Barnes, S Holmes, J Tyrell and M Retberg

Action	Initials
Governors are asked to read part one of KCSiE guidance	All
Governors are asked to update their register of business interests	All
Comparison of attainment data to other schools in the Trust to be discussed at the next meeting	JP
Governors are asked to complete the four mandatory training modules as soon as possible	All
Clerk to circulate training reminders	NB
Send training certificates to the Clerk for retention	All

Agenda – Part 1				
Category	Item	Notes	Action	
1	Governance Arrangements	Training	There were no significant changes to note to the KCSiE guidance. Governors are asked to read KCSiE Part one.	All
		Apologies	There were no apologies received for this meeting.	
		AOB items	There were no items of business to raise which were not included in the agenda for this meeting.	
		Declarations of interest in any of the agenda items	There were no declarations in any of the agenda items made.	
		Register on Business	Governors are asked to check their record on the Register of Business Interests circulated and inform the	All

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	Interests	Clerk of any changes.	
	Code of Conduct	Governors agreed to adhere to the Code of Conduct.	
	Minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes of the meeting held 12 th June 2025 were <u>approved</u> as an accurate record of the meeting and there were no matters arising.	
	Membership: Recruitment Update/Succession Planning	E Tiddy was welcomed to her first meeting as newly appointed Staff Governor.	
	Scheme of Delegation	There were no material changes to note to the Scheme of Delegation.	
	Trust Board updates	Governors received the reports for the Trust Board meetings in May and July 2025 had no further questions. It was noted that L Magrath would be retiring as CEO in July 2026 and that M Vevers had been appointed as CEO.	

2	School Performance & Accountability	<p>Review Head of School Report including:</p> <p>Pupil Outcomes</p> <p>Educational Achievement of looked after/previously looked after children</p> <p>Monitor Pupil Premium spending</p>	<p>Governors reviewed the Head of School report including headline results.</p> <p>It was noted that there was no Progress 8 measure for this cohort due to there being no KS2 attainment. This will also be applicable to the current year 11.</p> <p>This is the third set of GCSE results for the school, which have remained consistent at 60% 5+ including Maths and English.</p> <p>Governors noted the attainment gap for 5+ between disadvantaged and other students was higher than the previous year. It was confirmed that this had been reviewed in detail, and that there were a number of students with poor attendance, and also some who had gone on to alternative provision. There were also a number of students who were not entered for various specific reasons.</p> <p>Closing the gap in attainment is a big focus for leaders and work is ongoing.</p> <p>Q How do we compare in relation to other schools in the Trust?</p> <p>A We can bring this information to the next meeting. We have not yet tracked the data across the Trust. We also do not yet have the national data.</p> <p>Q – Are we able to look at the data for students in alternative provision who are included in the data?</p> <p>A – This is something we could look at internally, the difference is that some still did come to LCH but had poor attendance. It would be difficult to do. Governors were pleased to note that the PP gap is a priority for this year.</p> <p>JP confirmed the outcomes were exactly as predicted and that staff are becoming more accurate with their predictions for the students. JP also informed Governors that although the results were pleasing they were not where they would wish to be, and that better is always possible.</p> <p>Governors reviewed the comparison against all other Trust schools. Governors were pleased to note the school was second in the LA for 5+ including English and Maths measure.</p> <p>Q – How do the results compare against Greater Manchester?</p>	JP
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			<p>A – We are above national average, and this could move further due to remarks.</p> <p>Q – What is SEND E and SEND K? A – SEND E is an EHCP and SEND K is SEND Support. We have 15 more students with EHCPs in this cohort. We have the highest number of EHCPs compared to other Trust schools.</p> <p>Q – What is the number of students in the current year 7 with an EHCP? A – We have 18 students with an EHCP in year 7.</p> <p>Governors reviewed the individual outcomes by subject. There were some subjects which had performed very well. The Physics results were the second highest in the Trust. Languages had also performed well. Governors also noted the areas of focus.</p> <p>For some Subject Leaders it was their first set of results at LCH. Meetings have taken place with all Subject Leaders and there are plans in place moving forward. There is a need to get the fundamentals right and we know what needs to be done.</p> <p>Q – What are the fundamentals? A – Examples include teaching, expectations, attention and engagement.</p> <p>The impact of the work can be seen with the current year 11 as we started with them in year 10. We need to get the match up between Maths and English.</p> <p>Q – Have you had any successes with Maths and English re-marks? A – Limited, we have been inundated with requests.</p> <p>Q – How do you decide what to submit, and who pays? A – We contact the families if we recommend a re-mark. Subject Leaders can request a copy of the paper if the mark was close to a grade boundary. School pay and it is refunded if the re-mark is successful. Parents can request a re-mark and pay if they wish to. We would only submit if it is very close and the Class Teacher has found a mark when reviewing the paper.</p> <p>Q – Of the 213 students in the cohort, how many will need to resit their Maths and English? A- Approximately 40 in Maths and 35 in English.</p> <p>Governors then reviewed the Year 9 MFL outcomes</p>	
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			<p>which were very strong. National comparison is against students in year 11 who have chosen to select an MFL to study. Governors noted the results will count towards the headline figures when the students are in year 11.</p> <p>Governors had no further questions on the Head of School report.</p>	
		Confirm school curricula and assessment	<p>J Peet, as Head of School, confirmed to Governors that the school curricula and assessment is in line with statutory requirements and the Trust approach.</p>	

		<p>School Development Plan</p>	<p>The 3 year School Development Plan was circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Governors reviewed the summary of key priorities from within the plan, which had been reviewed in line with the new Ofsted framework. There is a plan behind each of the priorities for members of the SLT.</p> <p><u>Inclusion</u> To improve attendance and progress of SEND students.</p> <p><u>Curriculum and teaching</u> Work more closely with year 10 in preparation for year 11.</p> <p><u>Achievement</u> To increase outcomes to 5+ including English and Maths to 65%</p> <p><u>Attendance and Behaviour</u> Reduce PA and SA and review transition drop off points. Reduce the need for multiple suspensions.</p> <p><u>Personal Development and wellbeing</u> For students to aim higher from year 7, and to ensure there are no gaps in pastoral support so that no student is missed.</p> <p><u>Leadership and Governance</u> Improve staff recruitment and retention and consider workload. To also review professional learning offer to staff.</p> <p>Q – Do our students have the opportunity to apply for CHHS Sixth Form? A – Yes they do, there is an intake of 150 students. Our students need to know that they should not just aspire to achieve a 4 to get into a college. Entry criteria at CHHS Sixth Form is much higher. We need to be very clear in our message to the students, and to get ahead and be informing the students from KS3. We also need to make the students aware that they also need to look beyond the Sixth Form and for them to be motivated.</p> <p>Q – In Maths, do you offer Foundation and Higher, or do all students do the same? A – The tier of entry for our students is decided much closer to the exams. If the students take the Foundation paper the highest grade they can achieve is a 5. Some students to take the higher paper, but we need to be sure this is right for them, it is entirely student</p>	
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			<p>dependent.</p> <p>Q – Do the students only do one paper or the other? A – Yes, they can only do one.</p> <p>Governors had no further questions on the SDP.</p>	
3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update	<p>Governors reviewed the Management Accounts to 31st July 2025.</p> <p>There year had ended with a small surplus due to various in year savings. The outturn had been better than expected for the Trust and also the school. There had been a number of one-off savings, including late SEND funding and posts deleted from the structure. It was noted that it is still finely balanced.</p> <p>There had been changes to the staffing and SLT have a bigger teaching commitment. The headline is that the school were able to avoid any form of redundancies. It was also noted, trust wide, that a number of teachers were opting out of the Teacher’s Pension Scheme.</p> <p>Q – Do they get advice on opting out? A – Yes, they can but we as a Trust do not give financial advice.</p> <p>Q – As a Trust on the whole are we ok? A – There is support for each school and it is very tightly controlled.</p>	
		Policies	<p>Governors <u>approved</u> the Behaviour Policy.</p> <p>Governors received the Safeguarding Policy and there were points for clarification before approval.</p> <p>Q – In terms of tracking devices, is the policy saying this is not allowed? A – This point will need to be clarified by C Carling as Safeguarding Lead.</p> <p>Q – Has there been any thought given to mobile phones? A – It is a school-based decision. They can bring phones to school but they cannot use them in school.</p> <p>It was agreed that following clarification the Safeguarding Policy would be approved as a post meeting action.</p>	

		Ensure curriculum, behaviour and welfare policies are in line with statutory guidance	J Peet confirmed the school curriculum, behaviour and welfare policies are in line with statutory guidance.	
		Safeguarding and SEND link Governor updates	<p><u>SEND</u></p> <p>S Bagnall will be arranging a further meeting for after the half term break.</p> <p>There are currently 18 students in year 7 with an EHCP. Year 7 reviews are currently taking place. Year 7 attendance for SEND students is good.</p> <p><u>Safeguarding</u></p> <p>N Thompson has a link meeting arranged with C Carling for the week following this meeting.</p>	
4	Governor Development	Review Trust Training Plan	<p>Governors are asked to complete the mandatory training modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyber security GDPR Safeguarding Prevent. <p>The clerk will send individual training reminders to Governors.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>NB</p>
		Minute any training undertaken by Governors since the last meeting	Governors are asked to send their completed training certificates to the Clerk for retention.	All
		Academy Trust Handbook	The Academy Trust was circulated for Governors information.	

5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder engagement	<p>Governors were informed that there had been an information evening held for Year 7 parents/carers for Maths and English, which had been very well attended.</p> <p>Sports Presentation Evening has also taken place and was well attended.</p> <p>Year 11 Study Skills event is taking place following this meeting.</p> <p>Upcoming events include Year 9 Spanish GCSE information evening, Open Evening and SEND Literacy evening.</p>	
6	AOB		<p>Car parking on the school grounds was discussed and the limited availability which means congestion in the area at school drop off and pick up times.</p> <p>Building works on the school extension should be completed by Easter 2026.</p>	
7	Meeting Dates:	To note	<p>Thursday 5th March 2026 at 4.30pm</p> <p>Thursday 4th June 2026 at 4.30pm</p>	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes

Newly appointed Staff Governor, E Tiddy, was welcomed to her first meeting

Governors reviewed the Head of School report including: pupil outcomes and attainment of PP students

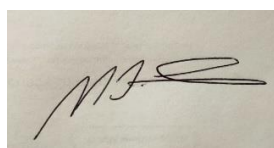
School Development Plan and priorities was reviewed

Governors reviewed the management accounts

Behaviour policy was approved

Governors received an update on stakeholder engagement including events held in school

Meeting closed at 18.00



N Thompson
Chair of Academy Committee
05.03.2026