

**Summary of discussions of the Local Academy Committee meeting held on
Monday, 9 March 2026
5:00 – 6:30 pm**

Membership	Initials	Governor Category	Absence
Mr R Lancaster	RL	Chair of Governors Appointed	
Mr P Kelly	PK	Vice Chair of Governors Appointed	
Mrs C Donlan-Harrison	CDH	Appointed	
Mr R Charnock	RC	Appointed	
Mr M Williams	MW	Staff	A
Mr D Newmann	DN	Appointed	
Mrs R Henderson	RH	Appointed	Via TEAMs
Mrs N Troman-Green	NTG	Elected parent	
Mrs H Gray	HG	Elected parent	A
Vacancy Appointed x 1			

In Attendance	Initials	Position	Absence
Mr D Vernon	DV	Executive Principal	
Mr J Hardy	OH	Principal	
Mrs S Baines	SB	Governance Professional	
Ms A Leatham-Pugh	ALP	Vice Principal	
Mr C Longmore	CL	Assistant Principal	
Mr E Kirt	EK	Post 16 representative	

Quorate	5	Present	7
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Outstanding Action log

C	= Complete	CF	=Carried forward	I	= Incomplete (carried forward more than once)
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Agenda item	Meeting Ref	Action Required	Responsible Person	Timeline	Update	Complete / carried forward
AC/01526/2	Aut 1	Governor Statutory Training		10.11.25		PK/RC/CH to complete ASAP Item now complete
AC/94/2425	Sum 2	Safeguarding link governors to review rates of attendance spring term 26	RL/BH	12.01.26	c/f	Item now complete

Q = Question from Governors

A = Answer from senior leaders

Agenda item	Key points/Summary	Action Required	Responsible person Timeline
AC/47/25/26	<p>Welcome</p> <p>The chair welcomed all to the meeting, in particular Mrs Vicky Brabham who had expressed an interest in becoming an appointed governor.</p> <p>The Chair, Vice and GP had previously met with Mrs Brabham to discuss her completed application form. Vicky gave a tailored, concise narrative of herself highlighting her key strengths and how they dovetail with the role of governor.</p> <p>Vicky confirmed she was still a firm candidate for the role and was asked to leave the meeting whilst voting took place.</p> <p>Vicky left the meeting at 17:08 and returned at 17:09</p> <p>Mrs Brabham was unanimously appointed to the role of appointed governor at Tuxford Academy, subject to</p>		

	<p>the statutory recruitment pre-employment checks, for a term of office of four years, with effect from 9 March 2026 to 8 March 2030.</p> <p>Mrs Brabham accepted the role.</p>		
AC/48/25/26	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr M Williams due to a previous appointment - Mrs H Gray due to ill health 		
AC/49/25/26	<p>Governor visit</p> <p>Mrs Henderson gave her apologies as she was only able to join the meeting until 6pm due a previous engagement.</p> <p>Mrs Henderson gave a verbal update on her visit to the academy's options evening.</p> <p>Very busy, great atmosphere, staff very enthusiastic and engaging with students.</p> <p>86% attendance by parents/carers</p>		
AC/50/25/26	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Governors were reminded of Statutory mandatory training deadline for 25/26.</p> <p>There were no changes to declarations of interest made at the start of the year and no declarations in relation to the agenda.</p>	[Action] RC& CDH to complete training	RC, CDH March 2026
AC/51/25/26	<p>Behaviour/Attitudes presentation</p> <p>Mr C Longmore</p> <p>Q: How successful is the Alternative Provision (AP) offer?</p> <p>A: Success varies depending on the complex needs of individual students. Pastoral leads assess each case individually, and success is generally measured through improved engagement and behaviour following tailored support. The AP also offers vocational pathways such as mechanics,</p>		

	<p>enabling students to excel in alternative curriculum areas.</p> <p>Q: How is the success of AP measured?</p> <p>A: There is no single quantitative metric due to the varied needs of the students. Instead, progress is monitored through regular reviews, case-by-case evaluation, and ongoing dialogue between pastoral leaders. Improvement in behaviour, engagement, and attendance at AP sessions are key indicators.</p> <p>Q: Can you explain the Tier Behaviour System?</p> <p>A: The tier system escalates support based on need. When a student reaches Tier 4, adapted timetables and more intensive interventions are considered. While this approach is not effective for every student, it provides a structured framework that has been beneficial for many.</p> <p>Q: Is the Focus Centre able to accommodate students given the reduction in AP places?</p> <p>A: Yes. The Focus Centre can accommodate up to 15 students, though capacity fluctuates daily. Current numbers are around 7–8 students.</p> <p>Q: Do other schools use the Focus Centre?</p> <p>A: Another school may seek to access the Focus Centre depending on individual student needs and availability.</p> <p>Q: How are students identified for support?</p> <p>A: Early identification occurs through EBAC meetings led by ALP supported by information from primary schools. Outreach workers engage with identified students prior to transition to support a smoother start to secondary school.</p>		
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	<p>Q: What is being done to address behaviour concerns in Year 8?</p> <p>A: Staff recognise that Year 8 students can become disengaged due to a lack of performance pressure. Trips and motivational activities are available, and the school is exploring expanding these opportunities to maintain engagement.</p> <p>Q: Is there a motivational driver similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award for Year 8?</p> <p>A: A new <i>Tuxford Award</i> is being developed to celebrate achievements in areas such as volunteering, Scouts, Cadets, and community involvement. It will operate at bronze, silver, and gold levels.</p> <p>However, governors noted that students may see this as school-based recognition, unlike the nationally recognised DofE programme.</p> <p>Mrs Henderson left the meeting at 6pm</p> <p>Q: Is there a trend in which teachers have higher levels of classroom removals?</p> <p>A: No clear trend has been established. Consistency remains an area for development. Work is ongoing with Heads of Faculty to support staff and ensure a consistent approach to behaviour management.</p> <p>A: Is there support for staff who experience frequent behaviour challenges?</p> <p>A: Yes. The school is developing targeted CPD to strengthen staff confidence and consistency in managing behaviour.</p>		
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	<p>Q: Who holds the authority for deciding suspensions? A: Suspension decisions sit with the principal following a professional challenge discussion with members of the SLT.</p> <p>Q: Can suspension data include information on managed moves? A: Yes. Governors requested this addition to improve understanding of behaviour trends.</p> <p>Q: How does our suspension rate compare with other trust schools? A: Another trust school has notably lower suspension levels. Governors agreed that strategies used there should be reviewed to identify good practice that could be adopted. Action: The governing body will explore comparative strategies in more detail.</p> <p>Q: Is year-on-year behaviour data available? A: This can be provided and will support monitoring of progress towards reducing the number of suspensions.</p> <p>Q: What feedback have staff given about behaviour in the school? A: A recent survey has not been conducted. Action: A staff behaviour survey will be reintroduced, timings TBC</p> <p>Q: Are restorative practices being used? A: Currently limited. Governors suggested that restorative opportunities should be reintroduced.</p> <p>Q: What rewards or recognition are provided to staff?</p>	<p>[Action]– Governors to explore comparative strategies in more detail.</p> <p>[Action] – OH to provide for May meeting</p> <p>[Action]: A staff behaviour survey will be reintroduced</p> <p>[Action] OH to consider with SLT</p>	<p>All July 26</p> <p>OH May 26</p> <p>OH TBC</p> <p>July 26</p>
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	<p>A: This is an area requiring development. The leadership team is considering approaches to strengthen staff recognition.</p> <p>Q: What has had the greatest positive impact on behaviour?</p> <p>A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured tutor time, which sets the tone for the day. • Strong relationships between staff and students, allowing proactive support. • Teachers greeting students at classroom doors, establishing positive routines. <p>Chair thanked Mr Longmore for his presentation. Mr Longmore left the meeting at 18:45</p>		
<p>AC/52/25/26</p>	<p>Safeguarding Culture & Compliance Ms Leatham-Pugh confirmed the academy are shortly scheduled to undergo a safeguarding review by the Trust.</p>		
<p>AC/53/25/26</p>	<p>Link governor visits AC/24/25/26 Link Governor visits Governors gave verbal updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Options year 9 – BH ▪ Prepare to perform – PK ▪ Student Voice – RL ▪ Parents/carers – 5 March RL/BH <p>Planned visits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance /safeguarding - 12.03.2026 • SEND - 16.03.2026 • Curriculum visit – PK – TBC • Staff wellbeing – MW/RL TBC 		

AC/54/25/26	Governance action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing - Plan to have last 30 minutes of next meeting to review GAP 		
AC/55/25/26	Governance report (by GP & CoG) to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Succession planning – Chair/Vice Chair • Vicky Brabham – Appointed governor wef 09.03.2026 – 08.03.2030 (4 Years) • Richard Charnock – resigned 09.03.2026 • Hanadi Gray – resigned 09.03.2026 • Claire Donlan-Harrison – TOO expires 27/03/2026 • 2 x appointed governor vacancies • 1 x parent governor vacancy 		
AC/56/25/26	Minutes of the last meeting 12 January 2026 (business) The minutes were approved as an accurate record and for circulation, proposed by Mrs C Donlan-Harrison and second by Mr P Kelly.		
AC/57/25/26	Matters arising AC/40/25/26 data collection and security. Concern raised regarding personal data being requested on paper not digitally.	[Action] DV to contact Head of Data and feedback May meeting	DV May 26
AC/58/25/26	How has the committee held senior leaders to account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Probing questions on Behaviour, attitudes and suspensions ▪ Suspension data 		
AC/59/25/26	How have VMV of the Trust/Equality/Nolan Principles been upheld It was agreed that the VMV of the Trust & Equality has been upheld		

AC/60/25/26	Report to Trustees The report was completed after the meeting and submitted to Trustees accordingly.		
AC/61/25/26	Determination of Confidentiality/Equalities Act Consideration Determine Confidentiality Governors considered whether anything discussed during the meeting should be deemed as confidential. It was resolved there were no items of confidentiality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There had been no Equality Act implications. 		
AC/62/25/26	Date and time of next meeting Monday, 27 April 2026 Meeting finished at 7pm		
	Signed by Chair <i>R Lancaster</i> Approved for circulation	Date: 27 April 2026	