

**Summary of discussions of the Local Academy Committee meeting held on
Monday, 27 April 2026
5:00 – 7:00 pm**

Membership	Initials	Governor Category	Absence
Mr R Lancaster	RL	Chair of Governors Appointed	
Mr P Kelly	PK	Vice Chair of Governors Appointed	A
Mr M Williams	MW	Staff	
Mr D Newmann	DN	Appointed	A
Mrs R Henderson	RH	Appointed	
Mrs N Troman-Green	NTG	Elected parent	A
Mrs V Brabham	VB	Appointed	
Vacancy Appointed x 2			
1x parent vacancy			

In Attendance	Initials	Position	Absence
Mr D Vernon	DV	Executive Principal	
Mr J Hardy	OH	Principal	
Mrs S Baines	SB	Governance Professional	
Tom Gill	TG	Post 16 representative	
In attendance			
Laura Stacey		Perspective governor	
Sally Sumpter		Perspective governor	

Quorum required	4	Present	4
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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/51/25/26	Spr 2	Governors to explore comparative strategies in more detail.	All	July 2026		CF
AC/51/25/26	Spr 2	year on year behaviour data available	OH	May 2026		CF complete
AC/51/25/26	Spr 2	Update on when staff behaviour survey to be rolled out	OH	TBC		CF
AC/51/25/26	Spr 2	Restorative practice possible reintroduction	OH	July 2026		CF
AC/40/25/26	Spr 2	data collection and security. Concern raised regarding personal data being requested on paper not digitally. DV – Head of Data	DV	May 2026		CF

Q = Question from Governors

A = Answer from senior leaders

Agenda item	Key points/Summary	Action Required	Responsible person Timeline
AC/63/25/26	Welcome The chair welcomed all to the meeting and in particular Laura Stacey and Sally Sumpter who were observing the meeting as perspective governors. In addition, Tom Gill Post 16 representative was in attendance. Laura , Sally and Tom were invited to provide delegates with a synopsis of themselves and what skills and attributes they could bring to the ACM.		
AC/64/25/26	Apologies for absence Apologies were received and accepted for: David Newman due to personal circumstances Peter Kelly due to previous commitment		

	▪ Update on when staff behaviour survey to be rolled out – OH TB ▪ Later in agenda, correlation between all stakeholders, parents, students staff. The chair asked Tom to comment on his thoughts on behaviour within the academy. Tom reported on Sixth Form behaviour and accountability, highlighting ongoing issues around the use of facilities such as toilets and the conference room. He noted concerns about an over-focus on grades rather than learning, stressing the importance of motivating students to engage positively with their learning and show respect for staff. Discussion acknowledged the need to recognise different learning approaches and the challenge for teachers in meeting diverse needs. Tom advised that greater emphasis should be placed on rewarding consistent effort and positive learning behaviours, not only short-term progress. ▪ Restorative practice possible reintroduction – OH The agenda item will be addressed during SLT meetings.		
AC/69/25/26	ERM Standards, Data & Outcomes Q: Why is there a gap between English and Maths outcomes? A: Maths is the main area of concern, currently around a third of a grade below expectations. English outcomes		

	are stronger due to significant staff expertise and examiner experience. Q: Are students sufficiently challenged through current target-setting? A: There is a risk that infrequent targets allow some students to lose momentum. Q: Does tiered entry disadvantage or demotivate students? A: Foundation entry can be demotivating, but higher tier carries risk if students underperform. Careful balancing is required, particularly in Maths, Science and MFL. Preparedness & Disadvantage Q: Is weaker performance linked to primary preparation? A: Preparation is variable. Students arrive from 46 different primaries with inconsistent Maths teaching and some missing foundational skills, worsened by COVID disruption. Q: How is disadvantage defined? A: Disadvantage is not based solely on FSM and uses a wider set of indicators. Q: How reliable is the school's assessment and target data? A: Historically data and predictions have been accurate, particularly in English where staff expertise is strong. Attendance Q: What is the current attendance position? A: Attendance is broadly in line locally but below school expectations. Influenza had a significant impact earlier in the academic year November 2025.		
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	Q: What are the main attendance concerns? A: SEND attendance and holiday absence remain the biggest challenges. Student Engagement Q: How is Year 8 motivation being addressed? A: Through formal assessments in English, Maths and Science, which students are taking seriously and engaging with positively. Student Numbers & Post-16 Q: What is the projected intake for September 2026? A: Year 7 intake is likely to increase to 256 following appeals, exceeding Year 11 leavers. Q: How strong is Post-16 retention? A: Around 120 students typically progress from Year 11 to Year 12, which is the minimum needed to sustain the curriculum. Q: Is SEND provision available in Sixth Form? A: Yes, though the proportion of SEND students is lower than in the main school. School Day & Timetable Q: What does stakeholder feedback say about the school day? A: Form time is successful. Break and lunch are considered too short, particularly lunch, although early finish is valued. Q: Why were the current timings introduced? A: To reduce behaviour incidents occurring at the end of breaks and lunchtimes.		
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	Q: What catering concerns have been raised? A: Students report limited choice, particularly healthy options in Sixth Form, though catering is constrained by PFI contracts. Q: Are changes to the timetable being considered? A: Yes. A revised model will be shared shortly, with any implementation planned for next academic year.		
AC/70/25/26	Safeguarding Culture & Compliance No changes since last meeting of 9 March 2026		
AC/71/25/26	Link governor visits AC/24/25/26 Link Governor visits Governors gave verbal updates • Attendance /safeguarding - 12.03.2026 • SEND - 16.03.2026 • Staff wellbeing – MW/RL TBC • Parent/carers voice -RL & RH • Student voice – RL 04.03.26 • Dance showcase - RL Planned visits • Curriculum visit – PK 02.05.26 • Safeguarding/SEND		
AC/72/25/26	Succession planning chair • Discussion took place regarding succession planning for the chair. • The GP to circulate invitations for governor colleagues to put their names forward before the meeting in 13 July 2026. • GP received one verbal expression of interest	[Action] GP to circulate expression of interest forms prior to July 26 meeting	

AC/73/25/26	Appointment of new governors Laura Stacey and Sally Sumpter confirmed they were very much firm interested candidates for the governor vacancies. The chair asked both candidates to leave the room whilst voting took place. Laura and Sally left the meeting at 18:44 and returned at 18:45 The chair confirmed it was a unanimous decision for both to be appointed as appointed Academy Committee governors for a period of four years with effect from 27 April 2026 to 26 April 2030 subject to statutory recruitment checks.	[Action] GP to carry out Induction and provide candidates with statutory mandatory training requirements	
AC/74/25/26	Parent governor vacancy update To be advertised summer term	[Action] to be advertised Summer Term 2026	
AC/75/25/26	Governance action plan - Enhancing the engagement between governors and the community Chair suggested the item to be addressed at the informal governor meeting TBC. - It was agreed for the Informal Governors meeting date – 29 June 2026 5 – 7 pm		
AC/76/25/26	How has the committee held senior leaders to account - Questions on ERM - Questions from p16 student - Scrutiny of data information - Governor visits		

AC/77/25/26	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/78/25/26	Complete report to trustees and receive comments from trustees from last report The report was completed after the meeting and submitted to Trustees accordingly.		
AC/79/25/26	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. There had been no Equality Act implications.		
AC/80/25/26	Date and time of next meeting Informal meeting - Monday, 29 June 2026 - Monday, 13 July 2026 Meeting finished at 7:00 pm		
	Signed by Chair R Lancaster Approved for circulation and publication	Date: 13 July 2026	