

Minutes – Wicklea Academy Council

Meeting Date: Thursday 16th January 2025
Location: WLA
Time: 5.00pm

Chair:	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor & Chair
	Jamie Conn (JC)	Sponsor Councillor
	Harriet Potter (HP)	Sponsor Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
	Stephen Pratt (SP)	Parent Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Parent Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Teacher Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Support Staff Councillor

In Attendance	Heather Morris (HM)	Principal
	Jan Saunders (JS)	Senior Principal (<i>joined via Teams and left at 6.00pm</i>)
	Sue Burns (SB)	Clerk

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Item	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	Action
1.1	JC welcomed Harriet Potter to the meeting.	
1.2	No apologies were required.	
1.3	The meeting was quorate.	
1.4	Jamie Conn acted as Chair for this meeting.	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	Stephen Pratt is a Trustee for the Charity 'Talk Club'.	
2.2	Minutes of Previous Meeting & Actions	
2.3	The minutes of the previous meeting (12.11.24) were agreed to be an accurate record.	
2.4	3.4 HM to approach staff who have leadership aspirations to apply for the AC vacancies – Completed.	
2.5	4.2 HM to draft a simplified Behaviour Policy to use as part of the Y2 transition process, to include social stories – In progress. HM is meeting with St Annes Infants next week to discuss transition.	
3.0	Academy Council Membership	
3.1	There are three Sponsor AC vacancies, a Parent AC vacancy, a Support Staff vacancy and a Teaching AC vacancy.	
3.2	There has been no interest in the Teacher and Support Staff Academy Council vacancies, but they will continue to be advertised.	
3.3	There were no responses to the Parent AC vacancy advertisements, but one parent who works at UWE has expressed an interest and will speak to HM this term.	
4.0	Academy Council Report	
	Behaviour and Attitudes	

4.1	[REDACTED]	
4.2	Team Teach training has been undertaken by staff and crisis management training took place last week.	
4.3	<p>Child on child incidents have increased significantly?</p> <p>A group of Y3 children have been acting out wrestling, and football in Y6 was problematic. Football has been removed at lunchtimes which has addressed this issue.</p> <p>JS: Moving forward we can use an alternative code for 'rough play' where there is no intent and then determine if there is any underlying need around physicality to develop gross motor skills.</p>	
4.4	<p>Has the Behaviour Policy been updated?</p> <p>I consulted with Tony Searle (CLF Executive Principal) who confirmed that the policy is trauma informed and meets the needs of the school. 'Safe hands' have been added to the policy, and we have introduced that in assemblies. We have reminded the staff about the policy and to ensure that all staff are applying it consistently.</p>	
	Attendance	
4.5	We are the second highest Bristol CLF school for attendance. There was a lot of genuine illness at the end of last term.	
4.6	We are joining an 'Impact Ed' project this term to determine what the barriers are to attendance, particularly for PP children.	
4.7	We are issuing penalty notices where appropriate.	
4.8	We had 100% attendance for our disadvantaged children on Christmas Dinner Day.	
	Quality of Education	
4.9	We have undertaken a lot of work around pedagogy and what good teaching and learning looks like. This is becoming apparent during learning walks. Katie Moore from the Institute did a Maths Learning Walk and confirmed an improvement on last year.	
4.10	I've done two lesson observations this week and can see that training has been taken onboard and applied.	
4.11	I provided the same training with TAs on Inset day which was well received and was based on the SCITT materials.	
4.12	<p>Do you have the capacity in the SLT for classroom observations.</p> <p>I attended a CLF Leadership Away Day in November and then made a plan. We need to be more strategic and prioritize observations even when we are having to cover absence. We have reviewed what leadership is and what we need to do to organize ourselves better. The AIP has been updated, and we've created a summary sheet with everyone's actions on it, per week. We will hold each other to account moving forward and we are encouraging staff to use appropriate line management structures.</p>	
4.13	<p>Who forms the SLT?</p> <p>The Vice Principal, the lower KS2 Phase Leader, the Upper KS2 Leader, and the SENCo.</p>	
4.14	<p>How is the independent scheduling of classes in the same year group working?</p> <p>It's working really well because it gives the teacher autonomy.</p>	
4.15	We have an ARV scheduled for the 4 th February 2025 which will be around pedagogy and reading. Rachel Simmons (CLF Reading Lead) will attend.	

4.16	I've been working with Chris Baker (CLF) who leads on professional development in the Trust and will provide additional support in developing the leaders. We are considering having a leadership review and providing feedback.	
	Data	
4.17	Has there been any update on the multiplication practice? The mock indicates an increase but there was a disparity between the two classes, therefore we are sharing best practice.	
4.18	Is it the provision or the demographic of the children in the class? Classroom observations will determine that over the next few weeks.	
4.19	All the data has improved, except for our greater-depth children. There is still a gap for children experiencing disadvantage, but it has reduced in some classes. Children experiencing disadvantage who are below ARE have been taught in small groups in the class which has resulted in accelerated progress.	
4.20	Are you tracking the progress of interventions? Yes, the SENCO is reviewing the interventions to ensure that they are being delivered and is then determining the impact.	
4.21	The PP strategy has been re-written following attending the CLF PP network meeting. The new three-year strategy runs from September 2024 and has been published on the website. Areas include attendance, emotional needs, quality of provision and how we will increase attainment.	
4.22	How many children received PP? 26% = £76,500 funding per year.	
4.23	ACTION: HM to arrange a PP Visit with HP during T3.	HM
4.24	How are the Y6 mocks going? We met with Chris Barrett (CLF Senior Principal) which indicates an increase on the previous mock and a 25% increase in our combined outcomes. This was the biggest increase in ARE progress in the CLF. We will now review each child to identify any gaps in learning that we can address to increase their marks and in which paper that applies to.	
4.25	When is the next mock? In two weeks' time.	
5.0	Safeguarding	
5.1	The Safeguarding Report was completed at the end of last term and has been circulated.	
5.2	We hold regular safeguarding team meetings, so we know what actions are in place.	
5.3	Online safety will be a focus in PSHE lessons next week.	
5.4	SP met with the FLW as part of his Safeguarding Link visit and will write up the report and circulate it.	
5.5	<i>JS left the meeting at 6.00pm</i>	
6.0	Policies	
6.1	Policies to Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
7.0	Matters for the Attention of the Board	
7.1	None.	
8.0	AOB	
8.1		
9.0	Close of Meeting	
9.1	The meeting closed at 6.40pm	