

Minutes – Wicklea Academy Council

Meeting Date: 1st May 2025
Location: WLA
Time: 5.00pm

Chair:	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor & Chair
	Jamie Conn (JC)	Sponsor Councillor (<i>joined via Teams</i>)
	Harriet Potter (HP)	Sponsor Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
	Stephen Pratt (SP)	Parent Councillor
	Chris Evans (CE)	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	SP welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.	
1.2	No apologies were required.	
1.3	The meeting was quorate.	
1.4	Stephen Pratt acted as Chair for this meeting.	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
2.1a	Stephen Pratt is a Trustee for the Charity 'Talk Club'.	
2.1b	Chris Evans advised that he works for UWE and his wife is a governor at St Anne's Infants School.	
2.2	Minutes of Previous Meeting & Actions	
2.3	The minutes of the previous meeting (16.01.25) were agreed to be an accurate record.	
2.4	HM to arrange a PP Visit with HP during T3 – Completed. The meeting will take place during T6.	
3.0	Academy Council Membership	
3.1	There are three Sponsor AC vacancies, 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	Stephen Pratt advised that he will resign his post at the end of the academic year as his son is moving to Y7. The Academy Councillors thanked Stephen for his commitment and support during his term of office.	
4.0	Academy Council Report	
	Quality of Education	

4.1	We've been doing a lot of work around the curriculum and in February we attended a Trust collaboration day which was really impactful.	
4.2	A teacher has returned from maternity leave and is covering classes to provide release time for the Subject Leads. We are updating our documents to reflect how we will assess the impact.	
4.3	Our are using the DOOYA data from last term to focus on the O children to ensure that as many children as possible achieve O1.	
4.4	Is DOOYA a new assessment process for the school? Yes, we adopted it when we joined the Trust.	
4.5	Y3's data has remained the same which we've challenged. All the pupils are making expected progress. Combined is 64% which is in line with national data.	
4.6	Are you able to compare your data with the other schools in the CLF? Yes. We have access to a tremendous amount of data across the Trust.	
4.7	Pupil progress meetings have taken place, and the Progress Lead has scrutinised the data. Y4 Reading has dropped. This is due to three specific children who are being supported.	
4.8	The Y5 data has improved which is underpinned by the learning walks that we've undertaken.	
4.9	Y6 has also had an improvement in their data. We are supporting one pupil who is anxious about SATS.	
4.10	The Principal at Summerhill has supported us with raising attainment which has been very impactful.	
4.11	What outcomes are you anticipating? Hopefully in the 70's but we are hoping that the combined outcomes show a significant increase.	
4.12	The scale score is 100, but we aim for 105 so that there is some mitigation if the children have a bad day.	
4.13	The class teacher and the SLT know the children really well, therefore there is a team around them to support them.	
4.14	We have all the access arrangements in place so that the children are familiar with them on the day.	
4.15	The quality of education is the best it has been since I joined the school.	
4.16	We have reviewed our Maths provision, and the Trust is satisfied that it's in a good place to move forward from. Our next focus will be oracy.	
4.17	Our Core Team Meetings focus on all the children as individuals, as opposed to groups.	
4.18	Y4 girls are outperforming boys? The majority of the children with SEND needs in Y4 are boys.	
4.19	Are there any areas of the DOOYA data that you are concerned about? Yes, the PP gap remains which we are addressing.	
4.20	Have you changed how you are spending the PP premium? We are using it for pastoral support to ensure that the children are in a place where they are ready to learn which has been impactful.	
4.21	Does the PP premium also fund the Family Link Worker? In part, yes. It's an important role to support our families.	
4.22	ACTION: HM to add a DOOYA key to the AC Report.	HM
	Attendance	
4.23	Attendance has improved and is now 95.2% compared to 94.6% this time last year.	
4.24	National attendance is 94.5% and our attendance is higher than the CLF average.	
4.25	Our attendance processes are robust, and the profile of attendance remains high.	

4.26	Are you using penalty notices? Yes, where appropriate.	
4.27	What is the fine? £80 per parent, per child, which is cheaper than the cost of flights in holiday time.	
4.28	Do you receive the money? No, the LA processes the penalty notice and retains the fine.	
4.29	Do the families pay the fines? Yes.	
4.30	Can you demonstrate to families the gaps in learning that result from missing school? Yes, when needed.	
4.31	How many children are persistently absent? 13 children have absence below 80% which is 9.8% of our children.	
Safeguarding		
4.32	The CLF Safeguarding team have reviewed our safeguarding reports.	
4.33	We have 35 children on our vulnerable list, but no children on Child Protection.	
4.34	What is FIS? Families in Focus, which are the next level below Child Protection. FIF requires voluntary engagement from the family.	
4.35	[REDACTED]	
4.36	We have a robust transition process in place which will take place over a single day.	
4.37	We are bidding for replacement lighting and a replacement part in the boiler room which should reduce our electricity bills.	
4.38	Are the electricity bills high due to the increase in the cost of energy? We use a range of processes to reduce electrical use where possible. The solar panels are connected, and we use the energy that is generated from them.	
4.39	Would it be cost effective to install more solar panels? Our sustainability lead will investigate that.	
4.40	ACTION: HM to arrange to collect some student voice to review at the next meeting.	HM
Staffing		
4.40	[REDACTED]	
4.41	[REDACTED]	
4.42	Clare Westbury from MPA is supporting the office team part-time.	
5.0	Link Visits	
5.1	Safeguarding – SP met with HM today and will write up the visit and add it to Governorhub.	
6.0	Policies	
6.1	<p>Policies to Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints • Freedom on Information <p><i>The Academy Councillors noted the above policies.</i></p>	

7.0	Matters for the Attention of the Board	
7.1	None.	
8.0	AOB	
8.1	[REDACTED]	
9.0	Close of Meeting	
9.1	The meeting closed at 6.40pm	