## The Netherhall School and Oakes College **Local Governing Body Meeting Minutes**



10 May 2022 via Zoom

## **Governors Present**

Shelley Monk (SM Chair), Chris Tooley (CT Principal), Nicky Odgers (NO), Paul Bullen-Smith (PBS), Rob Driscoll (RD), Gilles Monniaux (GM) and Kit Temple (KT)

## Others Present

Steve Lewis (SL), Roxanna Glennon Lynch (RGL), Tom Hunter (TH) and Janet Goldsworthy (Clerk)

The meeting was quorate throughout.

	ITEM	ACTION
1.	Acceptance of Apologies for Absence	
	Apologies were received from Ellie Wood and RC.	
2.	Declarations of Interest with regard to agenda items	
	There were no declarations of interest.	
3	Agree minutes of last meeting and matters arising	
	There were no amendments to the minutes of 08.12.2022 and 23.03.2022 and the minutes were subsequently approved by all governors present.  GM requested that the minutes of 08.12.2022 be amended to reflect that the Resources meeting would have technically been quorate but that as only 3 out of 5 governors could attend, it was not felt effective to hold the meeting.  Check to ensure contact names have been added to the Safeguarding Policy and a link to the Safeguarding Policy has been added to the website.  Check that SEND policy and SEND statement have been reviewed SM had emailed KJ regarding whole trust access to The Key which is expensive if signing up as an individual school and is awaiting a response.  It was agreed that agreed minutes would be circulated to governors as soon as possible after the LGB so that everyone had a chance to complete their actions before the next meeting.	SL NO SM CT/SM/JG
4.	Supplementary safeguarding training	
	SL joined the meeting and gave a presentation updating governors on safeguarding.  Q How does the school ensure that staff are always up to date with safeguarding as this area is complex and there is much to retain.  A Regular training sessions and weekly updates are given.  Q How will the school deal with Non Fundable Tokens if these are brought into school to trade?  A E Safety and E Commerce is being currently considered so that the school has a response in this area.	

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	Q How will the school deal with brought into school to trade? A E Safety and E Commerce is the school has a response in the	Non Fundable Toker being currently consi	ns if these are	
	A Regular training sessions and	•		

The governors thanked SL for his excellent presentation and SL recorded his thanks to RC as a critical friend to the school. SL left the meeting. KS3 achievement report 5. TH joined the meeting. A report relating to KS3 achievement had been circulated prior to the meeting. TH confirmed that the trends for KS3 achievement are positive reflecting the changes made to the curriculum. Any anomalies were in relation to the assessment process. Q Both Science and Drama assessments seem to be an issue? A In general, most pupils seem to be achieving well with PP and SEND pupils achieving less well but the last external assessment was 3 years ago so this proposition needs to be confirmed post GCSEs. It would also appear that it is no longer the case that KS3, is 'catch up' but that outcomes improve significantly at this stage. Q There seems to be more red in higher attaining than lower attaining? What is the plan for this? A Higher attaining pupils have traditionally done comparatively less well than others but the focus has changed from the higher achievers to PP and SEND. This reflects the fact that resources are being targeted where needed. Governors thanked TH for his detailed report and responses and TH left the meeting. Anglian Learning at Home DB joined the meeting. A proposal for AL at Home had been circulated prior to the meeting. Key points of note:-DB has lead this project and had appreciated the opportunity to develop as a leader which is at the heart of the school's approach to improvement. He thanked CT for this opportunity. The proposal centres around provision for those pupils who aren't able to access the curriculum in school and is a response to the DfE requirement that pupils with more than 15 days continuous absence must be offered learning at home. Generally this type of provision is expensive and unaffordable so the school has developed its own provision which has received a positive response from other AL leaders and it is hoped will be approved by the LA which would also afford Ofsted approval for the provision. Q Will Anglian Learning at home staff be qualified? A The school will be recruiting qualified staff for these positions. Q What is the drive for this proposal? A The school needs to engage with pupils who cannot access the curriculum in school on a level at which they can progress and achieve and which is affordable and personalised to each pupil in

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contrast to Academy 21. It is hoped that the requirement to spend

1 day each week in school, probably Friday, will be a stepping stone back to mainstream provision.

**Q** Is Friday the best day for these pupils to come to school? Anxiety is a real issue preventing these pupils from coming to school and may not be a panacea for all such pupils. Zoom or home visits could be a solution.

**A** It is envisaged that 6 pupils from years 9, 10 and 11 could begin in September 2022. Each pupil on the scheme will have a mentor to support and encourage them back to school.

NO offered to liaise with DB for advice and guidance from the HCC scheme with which she is involved.

CT said that this is an exciting development for the school and that DB had contributed hugely to the drive to get this project off the ground. The project had been discussed with DC at trust level and was a trailblazer and an example of NHL providing an innovative solution at an affordable cost in its support of AL.

Governors were impressed and thanked DB for his commitment and determination in relation to this project.

DB left the meeting.

## 7. SEND update, policy and statement

RGL had circulated a SEND update prior to the meeting.

RGL gave a summary of her current thinking relating to SEND at the school:-

The school is due to receive a significant number of new EHCPs next academic year and has had 21 placement requests form the LA. This level of need and complexity requires careful planning.

RGL has been reviewing all students on the SEND register to identify who should be and who should not be on the register.

It would seem that in some subjects, progress for SEND is lower than in other subjects – this should not be the case and will be a focus for any Ofsted visit.

There are now 8 EHCPs due into Year 12 next year and this will be challenging. RGL has reiterated to parents of these pupils in trying to manage their expectations that this is a college and not a school although the college does have a reputation for offering individual support to its SEND pupils.

The recent parental survey of SEND pupils was universally positive and the next step will be to survey parents of K pupils receiving SEND support.

Governors are supportive of the whole school approach to SEND provision.

**Q** What has been the feedback from staff regarding the support and training for SEND offered this year?

A SEND training has been given on Inset Day for trauma informed practice and adverse impact which was positively received. It has become clear that the crossover between EAL and SEND is a challenge.

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	CT commented that he is delighted with the contribution made by RGL across the school in such a short period of time and congratulated RGL on her passion and thoroughness which is having a significant impact on students.	
8.	Review of Academy Improvement Plan	
	This review is driven by the request from governors for clarification of the evidence required to monitor the SIP. Key to the SIP is the underlying aim to develop leadership within the school which requires an iterative process of ongoing development which encourages ownership and freedom. Although AL were initially cautious of this approach, they are now onboard and have reshaped all Principal's targets to reflect what they now see as good practice.	
	As a result, the SIP now shows the impact and evidence required to evaluate progress against the outcomes. SLT meetings have a new focus on the SIP and the paperwork will support the detail for the strategic intent behind each outcome.	<b>O</b>
	At the next LGB in July, the actions will be updated and the impact and progress can be reviewed by examining the progress against the outcomes achieved.	
	<b>Q</b> Using this approach, how does the SLT know where to focus its efforts the following year?	
	<b>A</b> The focus will remain on all 9 outcomes but progress may not be asymmetric across each outcome.	
	<b>Q</b> How will governors know which of the 9 areas to examine in more detail?	
	A Progress against the outcomes will be detailed in the summary.	
	Thanks to GM for highlighting the changes to the SIP from the last version.SM would discuss with CT how updates to the SIP would be formatted.	CT/SM
9.	Risk Register	
	Governors discussed recruitment challenges which were common across the trust.AL were considering how to enhance career opportunities as an employer in order to attract more staff.	
	CT was tasked in reviewing the Risk Register with a view to the significant recruitment challenges and the potential impact on the curriculum and staffing timetabling. Any changes to the curriculum would need to be considered by governors at an EGM. CT would keep governors updated on recruitment challenges by email.	ст
	Q What does it mean by 'international recruitment'?	
	<b>A</b> This refers to recruiting in TES which has a global distribution and the use of recruitment agencies which recruit in other countries.	
10.	Governance items	
	The PP and SEND visit reports would be discussed at the next LGB in July.  There were no policies to be approved and no further AL governance updates.	

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11.	AOB	
	SM recorded her thanks to CT for his work in preparing for the	
	meeting.	
12.	Date and time of next meeting	
	TLB – 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2022	
	Resources – 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	
	LGB – 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	
	LGB planning meeting – 14th July 2022 – time tbc	

Items for Future Meetings				
Meeting	Item			
LGB	PP and SEND visit reports			

Actio	n Log		
ITEM	ACTION	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBILITY
3	Check with RGL that SEND policy and SEND statement have been reviewed	July 2022	NO
8	Discuss with CT how updates to the SIP would be formatted.	June 2022	CT/SM
9	Review the Risk Register with a view to the significant recruitment challenges and the potential impact on the curriculum and staffing timetabling	July 2022	СТ

Rolling Action Log			
ACTION	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE
Compile minutes from 08.12.2022		JG	Completed April 2022
Produce Register of Business Interests	July 2022	JG	Outstanding
Prepare supplementary training for governors		SL	Completed May 2022
Organise date for postponed Resources meeting		JG	Completed April 2022
Send comments on Safeguarding policy to JG		ALL	None received
Add contact names to Safeguarding policy	June 2022	SL	Check if done
Upload link to Safeguarding policy to school website	June 2022	SL	Check if done
Arrange meeting to discuss Pupil Premium Link Governor role		NO/PBS	Completed April 2022
Agree how to measure SIP strands		CT/SM	Completed May 2022
Feed back to AL forums about quality of AL central policies	Next forum	SM/JG	Outstanding

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CT to place advert in newsletter	May 2022	SM/SC	Outstanding
asking for parents interested in			
joining the LGB			
CT, GM and KT to forward contact	End of	CT,GM,KT,SM	Completed April
numbers to SM for inclusion within	February	,	2022
Critical Incident Plan	2022		
Investigate access to The Key	July 2022	SM	Ongoing

**Commented [SM2]:** February 2022 deadline. Responsibility SM /Sarah Casciano

Commented [SM3]: Requested but not received. I've sent to you by email to see if you wouldn't mind following up? Shall we say deadline at the end of Feb?

