



**Becton Academy Council  
Tuesday 11 March 2025 at 16:00  
Chapel House, Langsett Road, Sheffield, S6 2UW**

| <b>Those Present:</b> | <b>Role</b>                       | <b>Initials</b> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| William Blakeney      | Staff Governor                    | WB              |
| Emma Bellamy          | Chair/Executive Assurance Partner | EB              |
| Susan Creese          | Community Governor                | SC              |
| Stephen Ducey         | Staff Governor                    | SD              |
| James Gibson          | Executive Headteacher             | JG              |
| Anthony Gore          | Governor                          | AG              |
| Joel Hardwick         | Assistant CEO – Corporate Affairs | JH              |
| David Poulson         | Vice Chair                        | DP              |
| Karon Ransom          | Assistant Head Becton             | KR              |
| Gary Smith            | Deputy Headteacher Becton         | GS              |
| Mitch Stringer        | Community Governor                | MS              |
|                       |                                   |                 |
| <b>Also Present:</b>  |                                   |                 |
| Rebecca Horne         | Governance Clerk                  | RH              |
|                       |                                   |                 |
| <b>Apologies:</b>     |                                   |                 |
| None                  |                                   |                 |

| <b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  | <b>Actions</b> |
|--|----------------|
| 1.1. To receive apologies for absence<br><br>None.                                 |                |
| 1.2. To accept apologies for absence<br><br>None.                                  |                |
| <b>2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</b>   |                |
| 2.1 Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered.<br><br>None. |                |
| <b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b>  |                |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>3.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda.</p> <p>None.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>4. BECTON ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE MINUTES</b></p>   |   |
| <p>4.1. To approve the minutes of the following meetings: <b>Becton Academy Local Governance meeting held on 3 December 2024.</b></p> <p>The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>4.2. Review Action Tracker</p> <p>As discussed at the last meeting, JG outlined a proposed model for Governor-SLT links, where each Governor would be paired with a specific SLT member to enhance school oversight. Governors have now met with SLT members, and the feedback has been positive.</p> <p>Future meetings will take place termly, with the possibility of rotating areas of oversight after a year to ensure a broad understanding of school operations. Feedback will be provided at each Academy Council meeting.</p> <p><b>Action – Proposed Governor Models – SLT Links for Governors to be put on all future meeting agendas.</b></p> <p>4.3. Matters Arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.</p> | <p><b>CLERKING SERVICES/ALL AGENDAS</b></p> |
| <p><b>5. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED</b></p>  |   |
| <p>5.1 Headteacher Report</p> <p><u>Leadership and Management</u></p> <p>JG reported on the recent Leadership and Management changes, particularly regarding Emily Martin (EM) leaving the school and the impact on teaching and learning.</p> <p>EM's departure was due to a secondment opportunity within Nexus MAT, allowing her to support another school until the end of the academic year. EM will be working there full time until Easter and, hopefully, part-time from then until September.</p> <p>As a result, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) has been significantly reduced, moving from five members in September to just three at present. To address this, JG confirmed that another staff member has been successfully seconded onto SLT to provide pastoral support. They will work closely with GS and attend all SLT meetings.</p>   |   |

During the Leadership and Management discussion, JG presented the relaunch for the school's Mission, Vision, and Values, emphasising the importance of input from staff, parents, and pupils.

As part of this process, JG highlighted ongoing discussions regarding a potential school name change. The pupils' preferred choice is currently Kingfisher Academy. Following a detailed discussion, the Governors unanimously agreed to proceed with this new name with a proposed launch date of the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

**Action: JH and JG to coordinate the next steps for the school's name change to Kingfisher Academy.**

**JH/JG  
08/07/25**

#### Quality of Education

JG explained that the quality of education continues to be strong, and the QA processes from the Central Trust this year have all indicated that the school is in a positive place. This is further reflected in the Maths Report, which was circulated with the papers prior to the meeting.

JG explained that a new Subject Specialist will be starting after Easter.

A curriculum review has been conducted at both the Becton and Chapel sites, with provisional timetabling set for the next academic year. The new subject leads will be responsible for developing the curriculum. Additionally, PSHE is now included in the curriculum for all pupils.

In relation to enrichment, JG is looking to create a more off-site curriculum, with a strong focus on health and well-being. Given the outdoor space at Becton, the plan is to take the pupils on days out to enhance their enrichment experience.

**EB – Thinking about the broader curriculum, how does this impact the GCSE offerings? Does it change from year to year, or is it primarily based on current capacity?**

GS explained that, in terms of GCSE entries, Chapel House is the only site where the school enters students for GCSEs. The school will enter students for GCSEs in English, Maths, and Science based on the gaps they have when they arrive, taking into account the fact that many have been out of school for a long time. The ability to offer additional subjects beyond these is quite limited for the majority of students. However, this doesn't mean other subjects won't be offered if appropriate, though these are typically home-school led. The exams are hosted at the school but students are entered by their home school and the school delivers the exams as transfer candidates.

So far this year, with transfer candidates, we have GCSE entries in French, Spanish, Art, Business Studies, Sociology, and History.

In the current curriculum model, we have the potential for current Year 10 students, if they are with us in Year 11, to be entered for either Geography or History depending on their suitability.

JG added that next year the aim is to have all Year 11 students enrolled at the start of the year rather than midway through.

### Behaviour & Attitudes

GS provided an update on the school's strong behaviour record, highlighting that there have been no exclusions or suspensions.

Discussions also took place regarding the ongoing challenge of improving attendance, particularly for online Outreach students. Governors acknowledged the importance of ensuring access to education, even when this may impact attendance statistics.

### Personal Development

KR explained the implementation of a holistic data collection process for personal development, including interventions for students not making progress. This process provides a comprehensive understanding of students' well-being. The data collected serves multiple purposes; primarily, it helps staff verify that each student can effectively engage with the curriculum. Additionally, the data is used to inform Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and ensure targeted support for each student.

This data is collected once per term. Governors felt this was a positive data collection.

### Overall Effectiveness and Looking to the Next Headteacher's Report

JG highlighted that, in terms of overall effectiveness, the school appears to be in a strong position. The two reviews conducted by Nexus MAT provide evidence to support this. JG praised all members of his team, including senior leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, learning mentors, admin staff, and cleaners, for their hard work and dedication.

#### 5.1.1 Appendix 1 – Updated SIP

This was circulated for information prior to the meeting.

#### 5.1.2 Appendix 2 – Updated SEF

This was circulated for information prior to the meeting.

#### 5.2 Draft School Dashboard Summary

This was circulated for information prior to the meeting. JG reported that there are no significant changes to the Dashboard, aside from attendance requiring improvement. Overall, the performance remains reasonably strong.

#### 5.3 Budget Report

JG discussed the budget, highlighting a potential in-year deficit for the next year due to lower-than-expected pupil numbers at the Silverdale site. However, he is hopeful that increasing numbers will eventually lead to a surplus.

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <p>5.4 School Calendar</p> <p>This was circulated for information prior to the meeting.</p> <p>EB suggested that JG consider keeping the Governors in mind for any special events, in case they might want to attend.</p> <p>5.5 Skills Audit – Governor Self-Assessment</p> <p>EB mentioned that the Skills Audit needs to be completed on Governor Hub, with a deadline by the end of April.</p> <p>JP highlighted issues with completing the document on-line and that this was not editable. <b>Action – Clerking Services to discuss this further with AC, Corporate Governance Manager.</b></p> <p>5.6 Mission, Vision and Values</p> <p>This was discussed earlier in the meeting.</p> | <p><b>Clerking Services</b></p> |
| <p><b>6. TRUST MATTERS</b></p>  |                                 |
| <p>6.1. Trust verbal update of key issues</p> <p>JH provided an update on Nexus MAT, noting the addition of two new schools: Bents Green and Seven Hills. There is also potential for collaboration with HHELC, a Nottingham Hospital School, starting in September 2025.</p> <p>A Trust-wide conference took place recently at Magna, with 1,400 attendees.</p> <p>JH reported that Nexus recently won the MAT Association award for Specialist MAT of the Year.</p> <p>JH highlighted that there has been significant work happening around procurement, with the Chief Executive of Crown Commercial Services visiting Enterprise Works recently.</p>                                      |                                 |
| <p><b>7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b></p>  |                                 |
| <p>7.1. To consider any other urgent business</p> <p>SD shared a positive update regarding his attendance at the Nexus MAT Trust Staff Parliament on February 26th alongside WB.</p> <p>JG shared with the Governors that KR has been nominated for an honour and has been invited to a garden party in May. JG also emphasised that this recognition is thoroughly deserved.</p>   |                                 |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>8. CONFIDENTIALITY</b>  |  |
| 8.1. To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting<br><br>None raised. |  |
| <b>9. DATES OF NEXT MEETING</b>  |  |

|                                   |               |              |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 | 16:00 – 18:00 | Chapel House |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|

**Minutes approved**

| <b>CHAIR</b> | <b>SIGNATURE</b> | <b>DATE</b> |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
|              |                  |             |