

# Minutes – Herons’ Moor Academy

**Meeting Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
**Location:** HMA  
**Time:** 5.00pm

<b>Chair:</b>	Kathryn Volk (KV)	Sponsor Councillor & Chair
	Wendy Stack (WS)	Support Staff Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
	Julie Fox (JF)	Principal
	Susie Weaver (SW)	Director of Education
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Parent Councillor
	<i>Vacancy</i>	LA Representative Councillor
	Fleur Kent (FK)	Sponsor Councillor
	Vicky Green (VG)	Teacher Councillor
	Jillian Gorra (JG)	Sponsor Councillor
	Dave Beesley (DB)	Student Advocate

**Apologies:** Stuart Harrington (SH) Sponsor Councillor

**Absent:** Tom Crabtree (TC) Sponsor Councillor

**In Attendance:** Sue Burns (SB) Clerk  
 Tricia Brabham (TB) Assistant Head of Governance

Item	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	Action
1.1	KV welcomed Tricia Brabham to the meeting and introductions were made.	
1.2	Apologies were received and accepted for Stuart Harrington.	
1.3	Absent without apologies: Tom Crabtree.	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	None declared.	
3.0	Voice 21	
3.1	Voice 21 focuses on all children, but we have an additional focus on disadvantaged children.	
3.2	We set high expectations for oracy and give children the skills for this.	
3.3	We value every voice which means that we listen to children even if what they are saying is not relevant.	
3.4	We teach listening and speaking skills and harness oracy to elevate learning. We assess progress using a Voice 21 toolkit.	
3.5	Two staff meetings have covered ‘listening ladders’ and have set some discussion guidelines which we’ve also adopted in adult meetings.	
3.6	‘Talk tactics’ are ways to challenge/probe/investigate what is being discussed which the teachers model first.	
3.7	We will do a SWOT analysis shortly and Voice 21 offers free courses on their website which each of our staff have signed up to.	



7.5	There are only three spaces across the whole school which is pleasing.	
7.6	We are continuing to promote attendance because it is not where we want it to be, although sometimes PP children have better attendance than their peers.	
7.7	One Y6 cohort has poor attendance, therefore when the cohort moves on, we should see attendance approve.	
7.8	<b>Is there a pattern to the absence in Y6?</b> There are a range of reasons like medical conditions and holidays and there are some children whose families don't engage with school and don't value education.	
7.9	<b>Has there been any improvement in lateness sine the change in times?</b> Yes, the culture is changing, and lateness has declined.	
7.10	<b>Is Nursery attendance impacted?</b> Some EAL pupils go to visit family abroad. We have an issue with some families who bring their children in, even though they are ill.	
7.11	There has been some staff absence which we are managing.	
7.12	The Reception teacher will return to school on a phased-return following a long absence.	
7.13	Staff Mental Health training has taken place, and the NHS Mental Health lead will be supporting two or three key children for several weeks. Staff refer children to the Inclusion Team, and we select the children from there.	
7.14	We are moving things forward with the facilities team and we are being supported by the CLF legal team.	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Data</b>	
8.1	The analysis of the last Y6 mock has been completed.	
8.2	Our predictions are: Reading 80% above the CLF and national. Writing has been challenging and we are predicting 73%. Maths 78%. Lunchtime and Easter support has been provided for the writing including small groups. We are anticipating being moderated for Writing. Several children will not sit the SATs.	
8.3	<b>Can school refusers take the SATs at home?</b> It is not appropriate for children who have not been following the curriculum.	
8.4	<i>Whole school DOOYA data tabled.</i>	
8.5	The data is very positive compared to CLF all school data. We are analysing the data to identify children who are on the cusp and are not yet secure.	
8.6	<b>Are there any O2's that should be Y's?</b> We are determining where about they are on the O2 scale and where there may be some disparity.	
8.7	The writing judgements are made against the National Curriculum and are moderated twice a year.	
8.8	We are using White Rose Maths less now and therefore can't rely on using it for assessment.	
8.9	<i>Dave left the meeting at 6.05pm</i>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Budget</b>	
9.1	The budget has not yet been signed off for next year.	
9.2	This year's budget is in line with board requirements because we have been full most of the year.	
9.3	Staff costs have increased due to teachers pensions but the support staff pay ward was less than anticipated.	

9.4	Supply costs are over budget due to staff absence, but we try to cover internally wherever possible.	
9.5	The campus costs have reduced e.g. energy prices have reduced.	
9.6	<b>Will the campus costs reduce further?</b> No because we have to pay over the standard costs to cover any additional work that needs doing, like the roof.	
10.0	<b>Governance - TB</b>	
10.1	We are working on the Governohub roll-out project.	
10.2	The governance team has increased in capacity with some additional staff appointments.	
11.0	<b>Policies</b>	
11.1	<p><b>Policies to Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching and learning</li> <li>• SEND</li> <li>• School trips and activities</li> <li>• Medical conditions</li> <li>• Remote learning</li> </ul> <p>The Academy Councillors noted the above policies.</p>	
11.2	<p><b>Policies to Approve:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidentiality</li> <li>• Nursery Admissions</li> <li>• Nursery Ts and Cs</li> <li>• Display</li> <li>• Behaviour</li> <li>• School trips</li> </ul> <p>The Academy Council approved the above policies.</p>	
12.0	<b>Matters for the attention of the board</b>	
12.1	None	
13.0	<b>AOB</b>	
13.1	None.	
14.0	<b>Close of Meeting</b>	
14.1	The meeting closed at 6.15pm	