

Minutes - Herons' Moor Academy

Meeting Date: 29th April 2024

Location: HMA
Time: 5.00pm

Chair: Kathryn Volk (KV) Sponsor Councillor & Chair

Wendy Stack (WS) Support Staff Councillor

Vacancy Sponsor Councillor

Julie Fox (JF) Principal

Susie Weaver (SW) Director of Education Vacancy Parent Councillor

Vacancy 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 relevent.	
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.	



3.8	A listening walk has been arranged for T6 so that we can support staff with ensuring that everything they need is displayed in the classroom.	
3.9	Have the staff selected a range of courses so they can share learning?	
	A few have chosen the beginner's course, but the staff chose based on their cohort so if they	
	have a lot of EAL children then they've chosen that course. The staff can do as many courses	
	as they want to, but the school provides the time to complete one.	
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3.10	What percentage of students are EAL?	
	I would need to check this.	
3.11	Are there a lot of PP children who need to improve their oracy?	
	Many of them do, but we support them to access what they need.	
3.12	How does Voice 21 support children to be more confident?	
	Our School Councillors give a speech. Next year we will ensure that there is Voice 21 oracy in	
	place beforehand.	
3.13	Have you informed the parents about Voice 21?	
	There has been information for Early Years parents but not for the whole school cohort. We	
	could now consider doing.	
3.14	How can Voice 21 be adapted for non-verbal children?	
	We use our teacher judgement about where we set tasks for children. The programme has a	
	lot of resources for adaptation for different year groups.	
3.15	Tomorrow we will visit every classroom.	
3.16	Is oracy assessed across all subjects?	
3.10	Yes.	
3.17	Do you watch how staff are interacting with children on the playground?	
3.17	No, we have looked at outdoor learning, but not unstructured time.	
3.18	Are you going to apply for the Voice 21 accreditation?	
3.10	Yes, eventually but this is the first year of the scheme.	
4.0	Academy Council Membership	
4.1	A new Parent Academy Councillor (Simon Keeling) has been appointed without the need for an election and is current going through the HR checks process.	
5.0	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
5.1	The minutes of the previous meeting (21 st February 2024) were agreed to be a true and	
	accurate record.	
6.0	Matters Arising	
6.1	JF to invite Georgie Tinker to attend the T6 HMA AC meeting as an observer. JF to invite	
	Georgie Tinker to attend the T6 HMA AC meeting as an observer – In progress.	
6.2	JF to amend the Online Safety Policy to initiate that sanctions are applied to the perpetrator –	
0.2	Completed.	
7.0	Academy Council Report	
	Academy Council Report	
7.1		
7.2	Reception is full for next year which we are pleased about because other schools are not. But	
	Nursery is not full, so we are considering to promoting the provision.	
7.3	Will any of the children have an EHCP?	
	One.	
7.4	Will the change in government policy re Nursery provision increase the numbers?	
, . .	Having two-year olds and three-year olds together in one room will be challenging and the	
	ratios are different.	
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	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	Is there a pattern to the absence in Y6?	
	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	Has there been any improvement in lateness sine the change in times?	
	Yes, the culture is changing, and lateness has declined.	
7.10	Is Nursery attendance impacted?	
	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.	
8.0	Data	
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	Can school refusers take the SATs at home?	
	It is not appropriate for children who have not been following the curriculum.	
8.4	Whole school DOOYA data tabled.	
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	Are there any O2's that should be Y's?	
	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	Dave left the meeting at 6.05pm	
9.0	Budget	
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.	
	Staff costs have increased due to teachers pensions but the support staff pay ward was less	



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	Will the campus costs reduce further? No because we have to pay over the standard costs to cover any additional work that needs doing, like the roof.	
10.0	Governance - TB	
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	Policies	
11.1	Policies to Note: Teaching and learning SEND School trips and activities Medical conditions Remote learning The Academy Councillors noted the above policies.	
11.2	Policies to Approve:	
12.0	Matters for the attention of the board	
12.1	None	
13.0	AOB	
13.1	None.	
14.0	Close of Meeting	
14.1	The meeting closed at 6.15pm	