

# Minutes – Herons’ Moor Academy

**Meeting Date:** 3 July 2026  
**Location:** HMA  
**Time:** 5.00pm

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| <b>Chair:</b> | Karen Ryan (KR)        | Sponsor Councillor              |
|               | Wendy Stack (WS)       | Support Staff Councillor        |
|               | <i>Vacancy</i>         | Parent Councillor               |
|               | Stuart Harrington (SH) | Sponsor Councillor (Vice Chair) |
|               | <i>Vacancy</i>         | Teacher Councillor              |
|               | Fleur Kent (FK)        | Sponsor Councillor              |

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| <b>Apologies</b> | Andrew Csoka (AC) | Parent Councillor |
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| <b>In Attendance</b> | Georgie Tinker (GT) | Principal           |
|                      | Craig Jones (CJ)    | Executive Principal |
|                      | Dave Beesley (DB)   | Vice Principal      |
|                      | Sue Burns (SB)      | Clerk               |
|                      | Vicky Green (VG)    | Observing           |
|                      | Grant Jones (GJ)    | Observing           |

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| <b>Absent</b> | Tom Crabtree (TC) | Sponsor Councillor |
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| Item | Welcome, Introductions and Apologies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Action |
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| 1.1  | KR welcomed everyone to the meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |        |
| 1.2  | Absent with apologies:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| 2.0  | Declarations of Interest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |        |
| 2.1  | None declared.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |        |
| 3.0  | Minutes of Previous Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |
| 3.1  | The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |        |
| 3.2  | Global majority heritage data is now available = 80 children out of 440.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |        |
| 3.3  | The Castle Primary School had a leaflet to advertise Academy Council vacancies – Tracy French provided a poster that we used to advertise the vacancies.                                                                                                                                                           |        |
| 4.0  | Academy Council Membership & COAC Update                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |        |
| 4.1  | Stuart Harrington’s Term of Office has been renewed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |        |
| 4.2  | There remains a Sponsor Councillor vacancy following no expressions of interest to the last advertisement. The vacancy will be advertised again next term.                                                                                                                                                         |        |
| 4.3  | A Teacher Councillor election will be arranged for next term.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |        |
| 4.4  | The CLF Central Team have reminded all Academy Councils that they only need the following Link Roles: Safeguarding, SEND and Disadvantaged.                                                                                                                                                                        |        |
|      | <p>The Academy Councillors queried whether the term ‘Disadvantaged’ is a negative term and that ‘Inclusion Link’ would be a better term.</p> <p><b>ACTION: CJ to raise whether Inclusion Link should be used as terminology instead of Disadvantaged Link AC because the term could be deemed as negative.</b></p> | CJ     |

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| 4.5  | Tom Crabtree has been absent from meetings since January without sending apologies, therefore the Clerk will follow up with him – Post Meeting Addendum: Clerk emailed Tom Crabtree on 15 July 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
| 5.0  | <b>Academy Council Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
|      | <b>Attendance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
| 5.1  | <p><b>The attendance data indicates that Y6 has the lowest attendance. What challenges have Y6 had this year?</b></p> <p>Ironically, all the Y6 children attended their Secondary School transition days and the SATs days. The Y6 cohort has been a challenging cohort. Term time holidays remains an issue. Of the 15 children in Y6 with less than 90% attendance, 7 PP children had take term time holidays, some of them twice and one of them three times. Term time holidays are fewer lower down the school so we are anticipating and improvement in attendance.</p> |    |
| 5.2  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| 5.3  | <p><b>Do you challenge parents about term time holidays?</b></p> <p>Yes, and we have a weekly article in the newsletter to champion attendance and the impact of absence. We've held individual conversations with families who have broken weeks or long weekends. We also encourage parents to give their children calpol and send them to school. Another issue we have is with medical appointments mid-morning and the children not then coming to school.</p>                                                                                                           |    |
| 5.4  | <p><b>Have you spoken to the Drs surgery to request appointments outside of school days are offered?</b></p> <p>No, but that is something we can explore.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
| 5.5  | <b>ACTION: GT to speak to the Drs surgery to request that appointments outside of the school day is offered where possible.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | GT |
| 5.6  | <i>The Academy Councillors congratulated the school on achieving 95.1% attendance despite ongoing challenges.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
|      | <b>Curriculum and Teaching</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |    |
| 5.7  | Geography, History and Science was a focus this year and have had a deep dive as part of the ARV. The Subject Leads have an understanding of how to monitor the delivery of the subject.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    |
| 5.8  | <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| 5.9  | <p><b>What is task design?</b></p> <p>The requirement to think carefully about how a task engages the child and results in impact. e.g. zones of relevance and odd one out are more impactful than colouring in countries. Well designed task can also be used as assessment.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
| 5.10 | Every Subject Leader gets half a day every other term to undertake monitoring and delivery. The teachers do their own planning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |    |
|      | <b>EYFS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |
| 5.11 | We use a range of techniques recommended by the Education Endowment Fund and during lesson drop-ins it is clear which teachers are using oracy effectively. Therefore we are sharing best practice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |
| 5.12 | <p><b>What is See-Saw?</b></p> <p>It's a communication app for parents so that we can share what their children are learning. We can also use it with individual parents to share 'Wow' moments.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
| 5.13 | Has Little Authors been successful?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |

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|            | The aim is for children to engage with purposeful writing and at the last ARV visit it was noted that the children were more engaged with the writing station.                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
|            | <b>Achievement and Outcomes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 5.14       | Y6 SATS results are delayed until tomorrow and will be shared at the first AC meeting next year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| 5.15       | Is there any concern that the SATS data will be accurate given the delay?<br>No, but the Trust is linked to several organisations that could champion this if required.                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| 5.16       | 83% of the Reception children achieved GLD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| 5.17       | 88% of Y1 children passed the Phonics screen. Working with the Portishead Phonics hub has been impactful. We have identified which children require support for the retake in Y2.                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 5.18       | The MTC score was 23.6 which we are pleased with due to the needs in the cohort which is above the Trust absence. We say many children make significant progress.                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 5.19       | Y6 Writing – 81% achieved ARE or higher. A whole school moderation took place at the end of June which indicates that we have several children who should achieve greater depth in writing next year.                                                                                                                                          |  |
| 5.20       | The Trust has adopted Unlocking Letters and Sounds because there are local trainers and the scheme is impactful.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|            | <b>Personal Development.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| 5.21       | <b>What is OPAL?</b><br>Opportunities for play for all at breaktimes and lunchtimes. We had a visit yesterday and a baseline was determined using pupil voice and the lunchtime staff. Opal will review the site to determine how it can be utilised to improve play opportunities. At the first inset day all staff will receive CPD in play. |  |
| 5.22       | We've had a lot of enrichment activities that have taken place this term, along with companies who have visited the site and offered enrichment and learning activities and individuals who have talked about their world of work.                                                                                                             |  |
| 5.23       | The School Camp to Kilve was very successful and encouraged children to embrace their resilience.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Health &amp; Safety</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| 6.1        | The Health & Safety Report has been circulated via Governorhub.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 6.2        | LED Lighting is being explored as a replacement option across the site, the costs of which are being explored because the old-style bulbs are no longer available.                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| 6.3        | On 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 SH met with the Campus Committee. The new site supervisor is very proactive, and the team's training is up to date.                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| 6.4        | A lockdown drill took place recently which was successful.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| 6.5        | The accident rate has decreased.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
| <b>7.0</b> | <b>Safeguarding</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| 7.1        | We had to manage a school closure due to the red alert heat wave and being part of a Trust was very supportive.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| 7.2        | <b>Did you provide work for the children to do at home?</b><br>We encouraged the parents to continue with reading, spelling and times tables during closure.                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| 7.3        | <b>How do you know that children feel safe in school?</b><br>A pupil survey is undertaken in school to capture pupil voice. We use iPads and QR codes.                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| 7.4        | [REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |

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| 7.5  | <b>ACTION: GT to liaise with the Trust Safeguarding Lead to determine if the number of racist incidents is higher than other schools in the Trust.</b>                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>GT</b> |
| 8.0  | <b>Policies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |
| 8.1  | <b>Policies to Approve:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RE</li> <li>• Collective Worship</li> <li>• Attendance</li> <li>• Pre-School Admissions</li> <li>• Pre-School Terms and Conditions</li> <li>• RE policy</li> <li>• SEND Policy</li> </ul> <p><i>The Academy Council approved the above policies.</i></p> |           |
| 9.0  | <b>Matters for the attention of the board/COAC</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |           |
| 9.1  | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |           |
| 10.0 | <b>AOB</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| 10.1 | CJ advised that a Tewkesbury Primary School will join the Trust next academic year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |           |
| 10.2 | The Academy Council wished all the staff a restful summer break.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |           |