

Minutes – Herons’ Moor Academy

Meeting Date: 16 July 2025
Location: HMA
Time: 5.00pm

Chair: Kathryn Volk (KV) Sponsor Councillor & Chair
 Wendy Stack (WS) Support Staff Councillor
Vacancy Parent Councillor
 Andrew Csoka (AC) Parent Councillor
 Stuart Harrington (SH) Sponsor Councillor
 Vicky Green (VG) Teacher Councillor
 Fleur Kent (FK) Sponsor Councillor
 Tom Crabtree (TC) Sponsor Councillor

Apologies Jillian Gorra (JG) Sponsor Councillor
 Dave Beesley (DB) Vice Principal

In Attendance Georgie Tinker (GT) Principal
 Tracy French (TF) Executive Principal
 Sue Burns (SB) Clerk
 Karen Ryan (KR) Observing

Item	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	Action
1.1	KV welcomed Andrew Csoka (new Parent AC) to the meeting and introductions were made.	
1.2	Absent with apologies: Jillian Gorra and Dave Beesley	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	None declared.	
3.0	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting (11 th March 2025) were agreed to be a true and accurate record.	
4.0	Academy Council Membership	
4.1	There remains one Parent Councillor vacancy.	
4.2	Kathryn Volk is stepping down as an Academy Councillor wef the end of term.	
4.3	The Academy Councillors thanked Kathryn for her support and commitment during her term of office.	
4.4	Karen Ryan will be the new AC Chair from September.	
	Policies	
	Policies to Approve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective Worship • EDI • Nursery Admissions* • Nursery Ts & Cs • SEND 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and Learning • Online Safety • Feedback • Attendance <p><i>*The Nursery Admissions Policy needs to be updated to indicate that children don't have to start at the beginning of term. The Nursery Ts and Cs doesn't indicate whether the £10 charge is levied every time someone is late.</i></p> <p><i>The Academy Councillors approved the above policies, subject to grammatical amendments.</i></p> <p>Policies to Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints • First Aid • Charging and Remissions • Data Protection • FOI <p><i>The Academy Councillors noted the above policies.</i></p>	
5.0	Academy Council Report - GT	
5.1	The inspection took place at the beginning of May 2025. It was a graded inspection which has not taken place at HMA for over 10 years. There were three inspectors, and they were very supportive during the inspection.	
5.2	The OFSTED findings and actions represent our understanding of the school which was pleasing.	
5.3	Safeguarding was effective, and the inspectors noted the rigour around Maths and EYFS.	
5.4	The inspection was a positive experience that all the staff engaged in. Handwriting presentation and behaviours for learning to deepen pupils' learning will be our focus moving forward.	
	Behaviour and Attitudes	
5.5	Attendance has improved and is now 95.3% which is an improvement on last year. Mondays and Fridays continue to be challenging due to families going away for the weekend. PP attendance is now in line with national PP attendance.	
5.6	Does attendance drop between Reception and Y1? No that's not a trend.	
5.7	We use day one phone calls, and we review attendance data weekly.	
5.8	Is Nursery full? No, there has been a drop in nursery-aged children in the area. Last year we were full.	
5.9	There are 53 children anticipated in Reception from September.	
5.10	The Y6 children are currently at camp. [REDACTED]	
5.11	There has been a reduction in Team Teach incidents. [REDACTED]	
5.12	Are the behaviour report cards for a set period of time? Yes, they were for Term 6 and we provide weekly feedback to parents.	
	Personal Development	
5.13	Some children found articulating RE and British Values with the inspectors. Therefore, we are going to focus on explicit teaching and recall next year.	

5.14	A child led Y5 dance club took place this term which was very effective.	
5.15	Forest school has been experienced by all children from Reception to Y5 this year which will be repeated next year.	
5.16	A representative of UK Parliament attended and discussed democracy, and our first careers day took place last week which the children were very engaged in. We will repeat the process every year.	
5.17	Are you tracking to ensure that disadvantaged children are able to attend clubs? Yes.	
5.18	We will not have a Y5 residential trip next year because it's expensive for parents to afford residential trips in Y5 and Y6.	
5.19	The CLF Safeguarding Annual Review has taken place. We've developed our whole school culture and we meet as a team and discuss individual children as well as strategic meetings reviewing processes.	
5.20	There is one CIC in the school.	
Outcomes		
5.21	Reading = 88% which is the second highest in the Trust. The CLF average was 77%. We had 37% reading at greater depth which is higher than the CLF average.	
5.22	Writing = 80% and 4% at greater depth.	
5.23	Maths = 83% ARE and 22% greater depth.	
5.24	Combined = 73%.	
5.25	Y4 MTC = 24.1 which is the highest score we've ever had, and we were fourth in the Trust. We also saw a big increase in PP pupils' results.	
5.26	Y1 Phonics = 80% Next year we are going to work with the St Peters Phonics Hub in Portishead to ensure that our scheme is delivered robustly. 38% of PP pupils passed their Phonics test which will be a focus moving forward.	
5.27	EYFS GLD = 79% vs the CLF average of 71%.	
5.28	Is there a correlation between attendance and improved outcomes? Yes.	
5.29	<i>KV left the meeting at 6.10pm</i>	
5.30	We have reviewed the teaching and learning framework and we've developed a new framework alongside the CLF. At staff meetings next year we will review an area and discuss the most effective way to develop teaching strategies. We will then monitor that using learning walks.	
5.31	We've mapped the curriculum across 39 weeks so that all the teachers are aware of which subject is being taught.	
5.32	Daily handwriting practice will continue next year.	
5.33	Learning behaviours are going to be recognized using our KOALA acronym and then celebrated in assemblies.	
Health & Safety		
5.34	The recent H&S Audit was outstanding, and all actions have been completed.	
5.35	Accidents are recorded consistently. There has only been one major incident, but it wasn't RIDDOR reportable.	
5.36	Stuart has completed several H&S walkarounds with the Site Manager and Ops Manager.	
5.37	ACTION: Shane Hawkins to follow up with the Site Manager about addressing lighting in the school.	SH
5.38	The Campus H&S Committee has met and discussed the fire evacuation arrangements for the whole campus including HMA.	

	Staffing Update	
5.39	Since the last meeting a member of staff has retired and an HLTA has been appointed for 2 days a week who has a Phonics background.	
5.40	A Reception teacher resigned at April and the class has been covered by a supply teacher. A new permanent teacher will be in post from September.	
5.41	One maternity leaver will return on a two day a week contract and one will return full time.	
5.42	We have one member of staff on long-term sick leave.	
6.0	Matters for the attention of the board/COAC	
6.1	None	
7.0	AOB	
7.1	The Nursery is going to be re-named as a Pre-School moving forward, but the data will still be collected under N1 and N2.	
7.2	The Academy Council congratulated the school and staff on their OFSTED inspection outcome and their SATs outcomes and wishes everyone a restful summer break.	
8.0	Close of Meeting	
8.1	The meeting closed at 6.30pm	