

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Present / Apols / Absent</b>		<b>Governor</b>	<b>Present / Apols / Absent</b>
Kevin Wilson (KW) <b>CH</b>	Present		Julie Stevens (JS)	Present
Alan Jones (AJo)	Present		Jon Coupland (JC)	Apology
Philip Sanders (PS)	Apology		Sally Hubbard (SH)	Apology
Peter Rodgers (PR)	Present (from 19:00)		Tim Alexander (TA) <b>CO-VC</b>	Present
Jan Montague (JM)	Present		Ralph Crook (RC) <b>CO-VC</b>	Present
Nigel Larcombe-Williams (NLW)	Apology		Caroline Jordan (CJ)	Present
Alex Jackson (AJa)	Present		Andrew Willetts (AW)	Apology
Sarah Jones (SJ)	Present		Sean Sweeney (SSw)	Present

**Also Present**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Jay Hooper (JH)	Clerk		Stuart Ridley (SR)	Governor nominee
Barbara Manning (BM)	Vice Principal		Tim Randell (TR)	Associate member nominee
Sue Miller (SM)	Associate member nominee		Adrian Wade (AWA)	Associate member nominee

**Agenda**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Chair	Welcome & Apologies
2	Chair	Declarations of interest
3	Chair	Minutes of previous meeting
4	Chair	Matters arising and not on the agenda
5	Chair	Appointment of new governors
6	SJ	Exam results

7	SJ	Principal's report
8	KW / SJ	MAT update
9	SJ	Ofsted preparation
10	SJ	Teaching & Learning reviews
11	KW	Governor Strategy Day
12	All	Activity update
		Next meeting 07 December 2016 (6pm)

Ref	Action / Decision	Owner	Date	Complete by
	<b>Meeting Open: 18:02</b>			
1602.1	NL-W (work commitment); PS (work commitment); JC (prior commitment); SH (holiday); AW (family commitment); sanctioned. PR indicated late arrival due to work commitment			
1602.2.	None declared; reminder issued			
1602.3	Minutes 1516 13.07.2016 agreed and signed			
1602.4	1516.5 - AJa has received 'tepid' interest. One person interested, AJa will approach again 1516.7 - on agenda			
1602.5	<b>Decision:</b> SR appointed as a Co-opted governor, following satisfactory completion of relevant checks. Prop: TA; Sec: AJa; carried unan  Three nominations for Associate membership considered. Meetings have taken place, and references partially taken up. <b>Decision:</b> TR, AWA and SM appointed as Associate Members, subject to successful completion of all reference checks. Appointment of TR - Prop:CJ; Sec: AJa; carried unan Appointment of AWA - Prop: CJ; Sec: RC carried unan Appointment of SM - Prop: TA; Sec:AJa; carried unan  All candidates welcomed to the governing body. JH will commence induction processes with all.	JH	22.09.16	End Oct
1602.6 + 1602.7	SJ opened discussion around exam results, circulated			

	<p>and read in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>This item was taken together with agenda item 1602.7 as both linked. All documents had been circulated and read in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Governors has tabled some questions in advance of the meeting, and discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why the healthy % outcomes for English &amp; Maths were individually higher than the combined Basics %</li> <li>● Closing the gap - at 18% below the national average</li> <li>● Gender gap</li> <li>● The impact of the interventions made in Literacy (biggest impact Accelerated Reader)</li> </ul> <p>Governors challenged results in some areas, and in particular with science, where plans for improvement were requested. Areas covered in discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Concerns for Computing, SEN and Science</li> <li>● Improvement Plans for Science (new objective in School Improvement Plan)</li> <li>● Action Plan in geography</li> <li>● Appropriate faculty location for Computing</li> <li>● SEN improvement plan, based on findings from external review. Restructure of management now in place.</li> <li>● Differences between outcomes and predictions, and the % at yr 11 who achieved as expected</li> <li>● Interventions required in Mathematics</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked which metrics will be used to monitor improvement, and when these will be reported. SJ responded that data drops in Nov 16 and Feb17 will be used.</p> <p>Governors were reminded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● need to question what is happening in Years 8 &amp; 9, and not wait for Year 11 outcomes</li> <li>● Governor role in monitoring improvement actions is key, especially for all disadvantaged groups, and those falling behind</li> <li>● Governors involved in faculty reviews need to keep gaps and SEN groups in mind</li> </ul> <p>SJ circulated copies of data reports in alternative formats, which were easier to read and provoked more questions.</p>			
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	<p>Governors also noted:  Comparisons against other school difficult as data is changing  Reliability of Progress 8 as a measure is questionable  Lots to celebrate</p> <p><b>Action:</b> BM to send out new staff booklet</p>	BM	22.09.16	01.10.16
1602.8	<p>KW provided brief background and update on discussions to date, around move to Academy status. SJ and KW attended meeting on 20 Sept with 40 schools, including a significant number of secondaries, mostly from Co-operative or Foundation Trusts. General thinking is to form a 'Super MAT' for Greater Devon.</p> <p>Rebecca Clark (Commissioner for Schools SW) was the keynote speaker, and was clearly in favour of the concept, although cautioning a slow and careful consideration for the final structure.  (PR joined meeting 19:00)</p> <p>The principal question asked of those attending - are you Out, or are you possibly In - in which case, let's start talking.</p> <p>Governors discussed and questioned many aspects of the proposals, with discussion including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether we still need to become an Academy at all ( concluding, Yes as alternative will not be viable. Now no real alternative option)</li> <li>• Opportunity to work collaboratively and negotiate a way forward, rather than relinquish all control</li> <li>• Proceeding with a Co-operative ethos a clearer way forward</li> </ul> <p>Concerns were voiced, particularly in respect of protecting terms and conditions of employment. Also the potential impact on recruitment - which like almost everything else at this stage, is unknown</p> <p>Discussion also encompassed areas where there is potential benefit</p> <p>Governors concluded that their prime task is to protect the community and future education of our children, this is a reasonable option where risk can be managed to an extent. Doing nothing is no longer an option, and this is not the wrong decision for our children. Governors agreed they could not say to parents and prospective parents, that standing alone we could provide the best / a better education for the future.</p>			

	<p>No-one agreed that the response should be 'definitely Out'.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> Proceed with discussions.</p> <p>All - it will be helpful for anyone with the skills and interest, to put themselves forward to maintain contact and communications with the governing body. As soon as meeting dates are known, we will be able to decide who will attend.</p> <p>Those declaring interest in being involved: KW, SSw, RC, TA, Adrian Wade</p>	ALL (to JH)	22.09.16	15.10.16
1602.9	<p>SJ noted the changes to Ofsted framework, and circulated an updated extract as relates to leadership and governance.</p> <p>Governor files explained</p>			
1602.10	<p>Schedule for T&amp;L reviews not yet set. SJ happy for governors to approach faculty heads direct to arrange best times.</p> <p>Process requires some coordination, and important to ensure that there is a changing mix of governors for each review, to ensure we maintain an objective view.</p> <p>PR would welcome role in arranging reviews.</p>			
1602.11	<p>Decision: Governor strategy Day will not take place; this will be arranged another term, as and when more progress has been made around future plans</p>			
1602.12	<p>All to email JH with activity in and for the school since their last meeting.</p> <p>KW: attended MAT meeting, met with prospective governor</p> <p>TA: attended parents evening as VC, attended production Oliver, met with prospective governors</p>	ALL	22.09.16	End Sept
1602.13	<p>Appointed 1 new governor, and 3 Associate members</p> <p>Discussed and challenged the exam results and progress in some subjects</p> <p>Modified the School Improvement Plan</p> <p>Discussion of the future shape of education in Devon</p> <p>Discussed participation and role in teaching &amp; learning reviews</p>			

**Meeting Closed: 20:06**