

Summary of discussions of the Local Academy Committee meeting

held on Wednesday 24th September at 5:15pm at Bracken Lane Academy

Membership	Initials	Governor	Absence
Mr A Murray Chair	AMU	Appointed	A
Mrs F Simpson Vice	FS	Appointed	
Mrs C Wyles	CW	Appointed	
Mrs J Gawthorpe	JG	Appointed	
Dr E Farrar	EF	Appointed	A
Mr M Wintle	MW	Appointed	
Mrs M Malcolm	MM	Appointed Parent	
Mrs S Willows	SW	Appointed	A
Mrs K Clearly	KC	Appointed Parent	
Mr A Michael	AMI	Appointed	A

In Attendance	Initials	Position	Absence
Mrs H Cawkill	HC	Principal - Bracken Lane	
Mrs S Kahler	SK	Principal - Thrumpton	
Mrs L Spacey	LS	Executive Principal	A
Mrs N Benson	NB	Governance Professional (GP)	

Quorum	5	Governor's present	6
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Outstanding Actions Log

C = Complete **CF** = Carried forward **I** = Incomplete (carried forward more than once)

Agenda item	Meeting Ref	Action Required	Responsible Person	Timeline	Update	Status
AC/59/2425	2425 - 6	Contact KC regarding non-attendance	NB	23/07/25		C
AC/62/2425	2425 - 6	complete Code of conduct	All Govs	16/07/25	All complete	C
AC/62/2425	2425 - 6	complete declaration of interests	All Govs	16/07/25	MW to complete	CF
AC/62/2425	2425 - 6	complete skills audit	All Govs	16/07/25	All complete	CF
AC/62/2425	2425 - 6	schedule a separate meeting for governors to discuss Action plan	NB	23/07/25	NB to send a poll for dates	CF
AC/65/2425	2425 - 6	carried forward from AC/51/2425 All Govs to upload pen portraits	All Govs	23/07/25	SW, JG, CW, AMI to complete	I

Q = Question from Governors

A = Answer from senior leaders

Agenda item	Key points / Summary	Action Required	Responsible Person	Timeline
AC/01/2526	Apologies for absence Apologies received from AMI and AMU, EF and SW. FS agreed to chair the meeting.			
AC/02/2526	Governance Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governors were reminded to complete all outstanding code of conduct, declaration of interests and skills audits by 30th September. - NB has shared potential dates for a meeting to discuss the action plan activity. Meeting to be held before the next LAC. - Governors were reminded to complete all mandatory training by 30th Sept. - Training schedule shared with governors - Changes to the LAC meetings cycle, agendas and minute taking discussed 	Complete declaration of interests Respond to NB with availability Complete mandatory training modules on National College	MW All Govs All Govs	30/09/25 30/09/25 30/09/25
AC/03/2526	Minutes of the last meeting Minutes of meeting dated 9 th July 2025 were received and agreed.			
AC/04/2526	Matters Arising Outstanding Actions Log discussed and updated			
AC/05/2526	Principals Reports Bracken Lane The principal delivered an in-depth review of SATS results verbally. The report could not be shared at this stage as it had not been possible to anonymise the document which contains children's names. An anonymised version will be provided to governors as soon as possible.	Share anonymised outcomes report with governors	HC/NB	

<p>Successes</p> <p>Phonics and Early reading</p> <p>MTC was a cohort specific success.</p> <p>Early years outcomes improved on last year.</p> <p>Year 1 and 2 has improved year on year.</p> <p>KS2 reading and writing</p> <p>Areas for development</p> <p>Children achieving greater depth in maths</p> <p>Closing the gap between SEND & PP children and the rest of the group</p> <p>Attainment and progress made isn't where would like it to be.</p> <p>Q - How do the children with PP and SEND impact on the data?</p> <p>A - There are so few PP children at BL that those with both PP and SEND create a significant spike in the data. Most schools' data for SEND and PP children is lower but it important to ensure that progress from their starting points is good or better.</p> <p>Q – Is it correct that data is plotted from reception to the end of Year 6 and beyond, and this is used to predict GCSE grades? Can these predictions be altered as the child progresses through the system?</p> <p>A – first cohort that went through the system was supposed to be reviewed to assess progress.</p> <p>Reception children do an early year profile - baseline in September. Profiled at the end of the year. Expected that they either stay at the same level of progress or improve throughout.</p> <p>If they fall off their trajectory, it is the school's responsibility to get them back on the right line. If not, there is likely to be a specific reason such as trauma, SEND needs, non-attendance etc.</p>			
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<p>Q - What are the word reading and word comprehension figures and is there a gender gap, if so why and what's being done about that gap. A - 96% in early years, communication and language is delivered using a supportive tool called launchpad to ensure children aren't missing certain steps.</p> <p>Govs - The GLD is good and well above national average, and this is down to good teaching.</p> <p>HC – until every child has the same opportunity to learn through school, there's more that can be done.</p> <p>Q - How many children from nursery are now in reception. A – A small number left around Christmas-time but the rest moved up into reception. The phonics cohort was 25. The score of 88% was under the 90% target however due to the group being small, 1 child skewed the figures. There were 3 children that didn't achieve GLD.</p> <p>Q - Will they get them at the retest in year 2. A - 1 is unlikely to get there</p> <p><u>Governors requested that HC pass on to staff that results are amazing.</u></p> <p>HC - Looking to train some phonics tutors (parents / governors etc) HC talked through the rest of the KS1 data.</p> <p>Q – What is being done to work on writing moving forwards. A – the work is more around embedding rather than a new approach as this was a key focus last year. And the work put into writing towards GD last year shows in the improvement this year.</p> <p>Evaluation of AIP 24-25 RAG rated objectives were shown to governors. KR1.4 will carry forward into next objectives</p>			
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	<p>KR2.4 will be shared with governors later this year once packaged.</p> <p>Attendance review summer term 24-25 School target is 97% (this was the pre covid figure) HC – Vic Read assistant principal is taking a proactive approach with children not coming in unwell and encouraging them to attend when slightly under the weather. The Attendance plan will be shared when signed off.</p> <p>AIP 25-26 OBJ 1 brings into it the KR1.4 from last year OBJ 2 being led by HC and being support by Cat Summers OBJ 3 revisiting last year and will hit ground running with presentational aspects of oracy.</p> <p>Q – Does this include debating? A - Yes, and this is all part of the voice 21 programme.</p> <p>Q – Is this Oracy work having an impact of the learning council? A – The children have asked for participation on the learning council to be on a rolling cycle to give all children a chance. School captains will feed back to the learning council.</p> <p>Trips calendar HC - We have been careful to think about cost this year and therefore some adjustments have been made. All staff have been told that visits need to cover all of the curriculum.</p> <p>Admissions Admission numbers reviewed for 2025-2026 noting amendments to class sizes in KS2 following LAC agreement at the July meeting. Admission appendix for 2027/28 received. Governors noted there were no proposed changes. Governors determined the admissions for 2027/28</p>		
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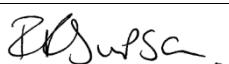
	<p>Thrumpton</p> <p>The principal delivered an in-depth review of SATS results verbally. The report could not be shared at this stage as it had not been possible to anonymise the document which contains children's names. An anonymised version will be provided to governors as soon as possible.</p> <p>Successes</p> <p>Phonics and reading MTC – 100% scored more than 22 KS2 maths 96% were at expected or at GD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing is a main focus this year. - More children meeting communication and language due to the focus on intervention, embedding the use of launchpad and being explicit about the way we interact with children. - Upward trend in word comprehension and word reading due to embedding of Read Write Inc. - Learning outdoors and using the environment has also been a focus. - Slight decline in maths early learning goal. Have joined an EEF jigsaw trial looking at reception teaching. Focusing on understanding of numbers and fluency. This is an upscaled project and is proven to add at least a month. And will be good CPD for the school. - Whole school approach about developing early writing and fine motor skills. <p>Year 2 – end of KS1 outcomes</p> <p>83% in reading , 70% in writing, 80% in maths</p> <p>Areas to work on.</p> <p>Fluency of writing and ensuring specific interventions, whole school project around handwriting.</p>	<p>Share anonymised outcomes report with governors</p>	<p>SK/NB</p>	
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<p>MTC Targeted interventions, number sense, TTRS 96% scored more than 22, some was due to illness on the day.</p> <p>Year 6 Reading - 75% and 22% at GD Writing - 71% and 7% at GD. Writing was moderated and Ellie has been asked to be a moderator for the county. Maths - 96% (only 1 child missed expected) Overall combined - 61%</p> <p>The Thrumpton AIP was changed last Easter due to new leadership so is working from Easter to Easter. SK is relatively new to Voice 21 so is planning to visit a Voice 21 school of excellence in Scunthorpe to help develop more understanding of how to use it.</p> <p>Attendance There has been a high proportion of holidays in term time which are now being fined. There has also been a pattern of birthdays being taken off with the family. Attendance has been relaunched emphasising the importance of being there every day with a new approach to birthdays. Children that attend school on their birthday get their photo with a light up number and at lunchtime they have a special tablecloth and have a fuss made of them to encourage children to want to be in school on their birthday. Fridays are also a concern and 'Hot Chocolate Fridays' have been reintroduced.</p> <p>This time last year attendance was at 93% and now it's 98% so we are already seeing an impact. Every day a class gets 100% attendance they get a letter of #TEAMTHRUMPTON on their door, when complete the class will get a treat.</p> <p>Trip Tracker - Shared</p>			
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	<p>Admissions – numbers lower in nursery than would like and campaign has been launched to encourage visits.</p> <p>Admission appendix for 2027/28 received. Governors noted there were no proposed changes. Governors determined the admissions for 2027/28</p>		
AC/06/2526	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Bracken Lane</p> <p>HC – shared the safeguarding checklist.</p> <p>All staff training is up to date</p> <p>Mental health provision best practice document is on the website.</p> <p>MW – Ofsted are going to have an extra inspector on day 1 which will be around safeguarding.</p> <p>HC - Social media – particularly WhatsApp remains a concern.</p> <p>Parents are being sent #Wake up Wednesday and online safety is being discussed in PSHE and in some cases staff are working directly with parents where interventions are necessary.</p> <p>Thrumpton</p> <p>SK has been on harmful sexual behaviour training and will roll this out with staff. Laos working on online safety and issues with social media. The mental health first aider is working well and enhanced the way she records interactions to give a wholistic picture which works very well. Sadly, there has been an increase in domestic abuse and violence. DDSL gap identified due to maternity leave needs to be filled and staff are being trained.</p>		
AC/07/2526	<p>Stakeholders</p> <p>The role of the Executive Principals responsible for the primaries have changed: Lucy Spacey (LS) is now focusing on SEND and Inclusion and Gareth Letton (GL)'s focus is on curriculum and quality of education.</p>		

	<p>HC, SK and Tracey Blacknall (TB) at Tuxford Primary Academy are working together as a triad to support one another.</p> <p>LS and GL may attend some LAC meetings when it is relevant to the agenda.</p>			
AC/08/2526	<p>How have VMV of Trust/Equality been upheld</p> <p>It was agreed that the VMV of the Trust & Equality has been upheld.</p>			
AC/09/2526	<p>Complete report to Trustees</p> <p>It was agreed that NB would summarise the minutes into a report to trustees and this will include.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Praise for principals and staff at both academies for the SATs results ○ Governors welcome the changes to agendas and feel that allowing a more in depth look at outcomes would be better for this first meeting of the academic year. 	Compete report to trustees	NB	30/09/25
AC/10/2526	<p>Determine Confidentiality</p> <p>Governors considered whether anything discussed during the meeting should be deemed as confidential. It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any confidential items discussed have been recorded separately. - There had been no Equality Act implications. 			
AC/11/2526	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 19th November at 5:15 pm at Thrumpton Academy</p> <p>Meeting closed at 7:01pm</p>			

Signed by Chair: Fiona Simpson (vice Chair)



Date: 02/10/2025