



**Becton Academy Council**  
**Tuesday 03 December 2024 at 16:00**  
**Chapel House, Langsett Road, Sheffield, S6 2UW**

<b>Those Present:</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
James Gibson	Executive Headteacher	JG
Joel Hardwick	Assistant CEO – Corporate Affairs	JH
Emily Martin	Assistant Headteacher	EM
David Poulson	Vice Chair	DP
Karon Ransom	Assistant Head Becton	KR
Gary Smith	Deputy Headteacher Becton	GS
<b>Also Present:</b>		
William Blakeney	Staff Governor	WB
Susan Creese	Community Governor	SC
Anthony Gore	Governor	AG
Rebecca Horne	Governance Clerk	RH
Mitch Stringer	Community Governor	MS
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Emma Bellamy	Chair/Executive Assurance Partner	EB
Stephen Ducey	Staff Governor	SD

<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1.1. To receive apologies for absence  Apologies were received from SD and EB.	
1.2. To accept apologies for absence  Apologies were accepted for SD and EB.	
<b>2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</b>	
2.1 Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered.  None.	
2.2 Confirmation of new Staff (Non-Teaching) Governor – Will Blakeney	

<p>The academy council unanimously approved the confirmation of new Staff Governor, WB.</p> <p>2.3 Confirmation of new Community Governor – Anthony Gore</p> <p>The academy council unanimously approved the confirmation of new Community Governor, AG.</p>	
<p><b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b></p>	
<p>3.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda.</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b>4. CHAPEL HOUSE ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE MINUTES</b></p>	
<p>4.1. To approve the minutes of the following meetings: <b>Chapel House Academy Local Governance meeting held on 21 May 2024.</b></p> <p>The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>4.2. Review Action Tracker</p> <p>The outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.</p> <p>4.3. Matters Arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.</p>	
<p><b>5. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED</b></p>	
<p>5.1 Headteacher Report</p> <p>JG explained that they are significantly under capacity in hospital education at the moment. This is primarily due to CAMHS.</p> <p>JG highlighted the temporary closure of Emerald Rogers. The proposal is to reopen and accept pupils by January 2025.</p> <p>JG discussed pupil numbers and is optimistic next year will be better.</p> <p><b>JH – In relation to Silverdale numbers, do we have any idea when they may increase?</b> JH, we’re are more hopeful to be up to capacity next year.</p> <p><u>Leadership &amp; Management</u></p> <p>The schools SIP and SEF were sent out prior to the meeting for information. JG explained the changes proposed by both the DFE and OFSTED and he feels the school will soon be entering a phase of transition in order to adapt to new policy frameworks.</p>	

JG explained there's been a significant shift in the school's leadership structure following MK's resignation as Head of School. The altered SLT structure is as follows from January 2025:

- Gary Smith – Head of School
- Karon Ransom – Deputy Head
- Emily Martin – Deputy Head

JG outlined two potential frameworks for enhancing Governors' engagement with the school, particularly through more focused visits.

JG explained two new governor models have been proposed.

**Governors linked to Areas of Responsibility – Model 1**

Leadership – linked with JG

Behaviour & Attitudes & Safeguarding – linked with GS

Quality of Education – linked with EM

Personal Development – linked with KR

- **Governors linked to Pupil Cohorts/Sites – Model 2**

- Becton Centre – KR
- Chapel House – GS
- SCH – EM
- Silverdale Hub – JG

**DP – Why split into two? Can't you link the governor to a member of the SLT?** JG, yes, we could do, that is an option and happy to have it a mix of both.

JG's perspective highlights an important goal: to strengthen the connection between Governors, school leaders, staff, and pupils by providing a more formalised structure for their involvement.

**SC – What are you thinking in terms of time? SCH is easy for me from work. If you are rotating and going to all the sites, it depends on terms of time and how often. I would struggle to get to Becton but can get to most.** JG, for me you wouldn't need to travel to all sites. You would have a meeting focused on the area but also get to know the staff at that area in particular.

Suggestions to align Governors with areas where they fit best is an excellent way to enhance engagement and effectiveness. Matching Governors' expertise, interests, or strengths to relevant school areas ensures their contributions are meaningful and impactful.

**JG on behalf of EB**

EB likes both proposals for governor models and is happy to go with either. EB personally would lean towards model 1 so governors are skilled and can talk about 'one area' of the school confidently whilst also having an understanding of each site. It would also help with governor monitoring and visits as they are linked to one area/SLT.

After members discussed both proposed models in depth it was decided that SLT's will contact Governors as per their interests. This will be carried forward to the Spring 25

**SLT'S**

meeting. **ACTION: SLT's to contact Governors with their interests in relation to the proposed governor models.**

11/11/25

#### Sickness Absence Data

JG reported sickness absence has improved compared to the previous year.

**DP – Is there any pattern to the sickness absence?** JG, no.

#### Quality of Education

JG explained the quality of education continues to be a strength within the school, with sustained excellence across all areas. As part of the commitment to maintaining high standards, a new Quality Assurance (QA) process has been introduced. EM is working alongside Darren Dickinson to ensure our teaching practices remain robust and effective.

A new CPD structure was explained by EM. This will be based on a four-part cycle and is being developed in collaboration with staff. This approach will be grounded in staff consultation to identify and prioritise key areas, particularly around teaching and learning and supporting sporting students.

The new CPD structure facilitates staff to work across a range of groups and share the research that they have carried out while also listening to others and learning from their best practice.

#### Pupil Engagement in Learning

JG was pleased to report that this year, 44 Year 11 pupils sat their external examinations, compared to 33 pupils last year. This increase in participation highlights the ongoing efforts to provide all students with the opportunity to demonstrate their academic progress. Examinations were held across a variety of locations, including Chapel House, The Becton Centre, and some students even sat exams from home, ensuring that every pupil could take part in a setting that best suited their individual needs.

The results were circulated to the members prior to the meeting. In general, the school are very happy with the results.

#### Behaviour and Attitudes

GS explained that the phone ban which was recently introduced within the school has been met with a positive response from students.

No exclusions or suspensions have been reported.

#### Attendance Data

Overall attendance for 2024/2025:  
SCH – 100%

<p>Silverdale – 69.6% Becton – 97% Chapel House – 57.1% (on roll), 9.4% (Outreach), 43.2% (In Reach)</p> <p>GS explained, following government guidelines, he has implemented a new attendance code (C2) for students on a reduced provision. This code is used to accurately record the attendance of students who may be attending school on a part-time basis due to individual circumstances such as health needs, behavioural support, or other temporary factors.</p> <p><u>Personal Development</u></p> <p>Nothing further to discuss.</p> <p><u>Community Voice Report</u></p> <p>JG announced that, starting in the next academic year, they will be holding Parents Evenings to further engage with families and discuss the progress of students.</p> <p>JG shared that the school has recently launched a new weekly parent support group, led by a seconded CAMHS worker. This initiative is designed to support parents in understanding and managing the mental health and well-being of their children. The group has already proven to be very valuable to those attending.</p> <p>5.1.1 Appendix A – School SEF</p> <p>Circulated for information.</p> <p>5.1.2 Appendix B – Update SIP</p> <p>Circulated for information.</p> <p>5.2 Draft School Dashboard Summary</p> <p>JG explained that pupil attendance was RAG rated as requires improvement. KR feels improvement of attendance has been shown for their site giving the cohort of pupils.</p> <p>5.3 Budget Report</p> <p>Circulated for information.</p> <p>5.4 Teaching Staff Appraisal Outcome Report</p> <p>JG on behalf of EB –</p> <p>EB approves the pay recommendations.</p>	
<p><b>6. TRUST MATTERS</b></p>	
<p>6.1. Trust verbal update of key issues</p>	

<p>JG announced they are in discussions with another hospital school, based in Nottingham, which may be joining the Trust. This school has a <b>four</b>-tier campus and will have a similar staffing structure to the Becton sites. JG and GS had the opportunity to visit the school last week to gain a better understanding of its operations and student needs.</p>	
<p><b>7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b></p>	
<p>7.1. To consider any other urgent business</p> <p>None raised.</p>	
<p><b>8. CONFIDENTIALITY</b></p>	
<p>8.1. To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting</p> <p>None raised.</p>	
<p><b>9. DATES OF NEXT MEETING</b></p>	

Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	16:00 – 18:00	Chapel House
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	16:00 – 18:00	Chapel House

**Minutes approved**

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE