

**Minutes of the Autumn Term Local Academy Committee Meeting 1
held on Monday 23rd September 2024 at 5.15pm via MS Teams.**

Membership	Initial	Category	Absence
Ms J England	JE	Staff Governor	A
Mr K Leckie	KL	Appointed Governor	A
Ms C Marion	CM	Appointed Governor	
Mr R Osborn	RO (Chair)	Appointed Governor	
Mrs S Riches	SR	Parent Governor	
Mr G Roberts	GR	Appointed Governor	
Ms S Wilson	SW	Appointed Governor	A
Quorum required: 4 Governors present: 4			

In Attendance	Initial	Position	Absence
Mrs A Hewitt	AH	Governance Professional	
Mr T Jackson	TIJ	Vice Principal	
Miss K O'Hagan	KOH	Observer	
Mr T Reid	TER	Principal	
Mr D Vernon	DV	Executive Principal	

Training: Review of Exam Results 2023/24, Mr Jackson

Mr Jackson presented the overview of qualification results 2024 which included the key headlines from the ERM. The PowerPoint will be available on SharePoint following the meeting.

Year 13 (A-level and Level 3 qualifications)

2020 and 2021 results were teacher assessed grades and this year the results have returned to pre-Covid normality. Grades in England are up overall compared to 2023; Wales and Northern Ireland have lowered. Overall, the proportion of top grades is just over two percentage points higher than it was in 2019. JCQ data is back to normal in terms of grade boundaries.

Average Point Score (APS) in 2024 was 32.13, a C+ average across Year 13 - this is lower than 2019. Historically we have 20-30% A and A* so this is slightly lower than 2019 at 17% for 2024 and also historically 75-85% A*-C, so lower again in 2024 at 69.4%.

Nationally there is a variation across regions from 2019 to 2024 for A and A* grades and this year the East Midlands was the lowest region.

Mr Jackson talked through the next few slides relating to specific subject areas and their attainment, APS and Value Added (VA – equivalent to Progress 8). This particular cohort did their GCSEs in 2022 using the advanced information. Data shows cohort numbers which vary considerably, some subjects and very low numbers. East Leake Academy's results overall are in line with the other

academies in the Trust, of which the majority achieved a C as the average A-level grade in 2024. Mr Jackson stated that the academy is proud of their results after some students have experienced a difficult 7 years; some students who didn't do as well at GCSE have done well at A-level.

Regarding onward destinations, it is an interesting year. There is an uplift in the number of students who do not want to go to university. There are 8 students having a gap year (8 out of 71) with other destinations including apprenticeships, army, police, employment and the probation service. Historically, more students have gone on to university and now the range of destinations are increasing.

Year 11 (GCSE qualifications)

Nationally, results were more in line with pre-pandemic results. Students need to achieve a grade 4 or higher in maths and English Language to avoid a re-sit. Headlines include Progress 8 (P8) at -0.12 compared to -0.24 in 2019 and Attainment 8 of 4.75 (this is all the average grades added together). Fischer Family Trust (1,800 schools, 340,000 students) data is more aligned to what the academy receive as validated data and show P8 at 0.04. This is encouraging as a 3-year trend. English and maths are slightly lower than the overall figure, although other subjects (from the open buckets) are higher. ELA are in the top 20% of schools for Sports Studies results; the bottom end subjects include drama, geography, German, history and English literature. Higher grades were also achieved in triples science (32 students), religious studies and computing.

Governors enquired whether the academy are concerned that English and maths are lower down in this ranking. Mr Jackson responded that all 173 students took English and maths, whereas the other subjects are smaller cohorts. Poor/weak maths skills can also link with other subjects such as sciences and skills that students need in English literature also impact on Humanities subjects. The Principal added that the Attainment 8 measure is a better measure for this than progress, but there is obviously work to do – no alarm bells but the team have identified issues to work on and it is already an improving picture. The level is not where we want it to be, however the academy is pleased with the trend in results.

Regarding progress within pupil groups, the national picture shows that students have achieved at least half a grade below the national average, however those with free school meals (FSM) have achieved a 5th of a grade higher. The academy will review its strategy in light of the results. There were 14 students with SEND and it is encouraging to see the gap closing – this must be sustained. Student profiles are accessible in every classroom and the academy have supported with Access Arrangements where possible.

Looking across the Trust, ELA has performed the best in Attainment 8 and Progress 8 compared to the other academies. There has been a real impact shown from the interventions that were put in place following the February mock exams and the academy are continuing this for 2024/25, including science.

Looking ahead, there have been Middle Leader discussions and Faculty time to look at question level analysis, QLA individual topics and carry out curriculum planning. There have been over 100 reviews on marks at 23% increased a grade. Mr Jackson and Mr Tebbett are using a package called 'Pupil Progress' to track each individual student for each subject.

The Chair congratulated and thanked all the staff and commented that in general the results are good and with the trend being back at the pre-Covid point, it allows us to get an upward trajectory. It is good to see the academy doing so well within the Trust also. The interventions are seen to be making a huge difference and the +1 for Progress 8 shows its working and creating a positive effect. The Chair thanked Mr Jackson for the detailed presentation.

6.03pm		Action
AC/01/2425	<p>Apologies for absence and welcome to our observer Apologies were received and accepted from Miss England (family commitments), Mr Leckie (illness) and Mrs Wilson (work commitment).</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Miss O'Hagan to the meeting. Miss O'Hagan was invited to observe following her application to become an Appointed Governor and meeting with the Chair of Governors. Everyone introduced themselves.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for convening via Teams due to today's school closure (due to flooding in the kitchens).</p>	
AC/02/2425	<p>Declaration of Interest and any changes to declarations made. There were no declarations of interest, either direct or indirect, for any items of business on the agenda.</p>	
AC/03/2425	<p>Minutes of the previous Academy Committee 01.07.24 The minutes of the previous Academy Committee meeting were received and approved as an accurate record.</p>	
AC/04/2425	<p>Matters arising from the previous meeting The Chair noted that the items highlighted in red have been added to the main agenda.</p> <p>AC/71/2324 (see AC/08/2425 item on agenda) AC/59/2324 Matters Arising, page 34 AC/49/2324 Principal's Report, point 2 Safeguarding, page 30: Principal to speak with Mrs Baxter regarding data on the SENSO/Watchguard system – this item has been a rolling action since March. Complete at September meeting.</p> <p>AC/71/2324 AC/60/2324 Governance Matters – the Chair noted that Mr Leckie was absent from the meeting, therefore no feedback was provided regarding the INSET day. Action to roll over to next meeting in November.</p> <p>AC/71/2324 AC/60/2324 Governance Matters – the Chair of Governors completed an end of term governors report and this was published in the academy summer newsletter which the Clerk emailed out to governors on 26th July. The governor report is also available on the academy website.</p>	Clerk/KL

	<p>AC/72/2324 Local response following central training in Keeping Children Safe in Education – the Clerk confirmed that all governors have filed confirmation of reading the KCSIE document and completed the on-line training video.</p> <p>AC/73/2324 Governance Matters - Housekeeping for 2024/25, Governors to complete Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest by September 23rd meeting. – the Clerk confirmed that all governors have filed confirmation of completing the Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest for 2024/25.</p> <p>AC/74/2324 (see AC/08/2425 item on agenda) Education Review Report (ERM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff & pupil well-being - Clerk to add Staff wellbeing survey data to the September agenda. • PP and SEND Update - Mrs Wilson to provide a SEND report at the September meeting. • Professional development impact 2023/24 & planning for 2024/25 - Clerk to add PDP impact and planning to the September agenda. 	
AC/05/2425	<p>Governance Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Membership and recruitment: The Clerk reported that Miss O’Hagan has applied for the Appointed Governor vacancy; there is one further Appointed Governor vacancy should the committee wish to have a full complement of ten. A Parent Governor election will be held later this term. 2. Confirm link governors for 2024/25: The Chair confirmed that there were no changes to the link governor roles and they stand as follows: Safeguarding: Mr Roberts SEND/PP: Ms Marion Health & Safety: Mrs Riches Careers: Mr Osborn 3. Link governor reports – The Curriculum link governor report from July 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Mr Leckie was absent from the meeting, therefore there were no questions at this point. Action for item to be moved to the next meeting in November. 4. Governance Action Plan 2024/25: the draft document had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk stated that as the Chair of Governors was currently conducting 1:1 meetings with governors, there may be amendments to the action plan following these. A final plan will be issued at the November meeting. 	<p>Clerk/KL</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>5. Trust Training Plan 2024/25: the document had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair recommended that Mr Renshaw deliver a training session at the January Academy Committee meeting. The Clerk noted that the Governor Conference in October has been cancelled.</p>	
AC/06/2425	<p>ERM</p> <p>The report was circulated prior to the meeting and the following items were included in the ERM report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of 2024/25 AIP • Targets 2025 • Impact of additional funding – SEND/PP/Catch-up funding • Identified academy risks <p>The Principal reported an uplift in examination results which were pleasing. However, it is not where we want it to be or where it is capable of being. It is good to be able to report a positive impact and staff have been on board with the process; they want to engage.</p> <p>There is an AIR on Wednesday (Academy Improvement Review) and a Parent Voice has been circulated which will be interesting to see what feedback is given; this will inform where we are and how we have moved forward.</p> <p>The SEND gap has closed and this is a credit to Mrs Wilson, Assistant Principal/SENCo, who has done a lot of work in this area since September 2023. Confidence has increased with our parent/carers and teachers in meeting our students' needs. There is a trend in the right direction.</p> <p>The academy will continue to embed the AIP objectives maintained from last year and develop these further.</p> <p>The Chair asked for any questions regarding the ERM.</p> <p><u>Governors noted</u> that the results had been covered in the very focussed report from Mr Jackson and were pleased to see the useful 'key' has remained on the document. The Executive Principal highlighted that the FFT Progress 8 figure of 0.04 shows the trajectory moving in the right direction and the aim is to get above zero. There has been a greater focus on teaching and learning throughout the whole academy and the results are a credit to the work of the staff team.</p> <p><i>Additional items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding: The safeguarding template had been circulated prior to the meeting. <u>Governors commented</u> on the section 4 regarding the increase in 'child on child'. The Principal responded that the language 'child on child' refers to students being unkind so is perhaps not the most appropriate language used for the report. The academy continue to follow the graduated response. The SCR Checklist and SCR Overview forms (received via HR) had also been circulated prior to the meeting and governors confirmed sight of these. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND information report 2024/25 and SEND annual review 2023/24: The reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. <u>Governors felt</u> that the reports were rather general and more detail was required. The Principal suggested that Ms Marion arranged a link visit with Mrs Wilson. • Stakeholder engagement: The Principal confirmed the dates for the Y6 Open Evening on 9th October and the Post 16 Open Evening on 16th October and the Clerk will ask governors for their availability to attend on these events. There is also a PTA Fun Day on Saturday 28th September, at the academy. • Data Protection (any breaches/SARs/FOIA/Police requests): The Principal noted that there was nothing to report. • Complaints, claims (No's/overview): The Principal reported that no formal complaints had been received. • H&S Committee minutes: The Principal stated that the Health & Safety meeting was due to take place today but had been cancelled due to the flooding in school. This will need to go forward to the next meeting. • Professional development impact 2023/24 & planning for 2024/25: The document had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Principal reported that there has been a positive shift and engagement from staff regarding professional development planning. The senior team are 'pushing' expert staff in their chosen field, plus developing support staff. Staff are presenting at conferences and showcasing our work. • Data on the SENSO/Watchguard system: The filtering and monitoring update document had been circulated prior to the meeting. <u>The Chair noted</u> that trends can be seen but not specifics and asked the Principal if there was anything to raise. The Principal stated that if a topic is covered in the students' Personal Development lesson then the staff see a spike in that area. This allows us to have a responsive and proactive approach, and students are willing to talk. <u>Governors asked</u> whether mobile phones will be banned. The Principal responded that mobile phones are not allowed in school and are confiscated once seen. It is a difficult area to police, however parental engagement would be welcomed – parents do tend to contact their child via mobile whilst they are in school. The academy has stated their recommendations in newsletters. There haven't been any major issues, but use is monitored. • Budget summary 2024/25: The Executive Principal reported there are continued discussions at Trust level as to how budget information is reported to the Academy Committee. If this information is to be taken to the LAC, then conversations need to be robust rather than just for the sake of it. Governors would focus on value for money and whether Pupil Premium funding is being spent appropriately. <u>The Chair felt</u> that an overview would be more useful for governors rather than a detailed report, however, what are the benefits of governors having this report; Pupil Premium data is discussed throughout the year already and there is a link governor in place to feedback. 	<p>CM/EW</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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AC/07/2425	Policies The following ELA policy appendices were circulated for review prior to the meeting: 1. Attendance 2. On-line Safety 3. Safeguarding & Child Protection Governors noted that there were no summary pages so were unsure of the exact changes to these policies. The Principal confirmed that there were no material changes to these policies and will request a summary for material changes in the future.	
AC/08/2425	How has the Academy Committee held the Senior Leaders to account? The governors and Senior Leaders agreed that challenging questions had been offered to Senior Leaders, particularly concerning exam results and the ERM. Questions had been submitted in advance of the meeting and these were available on SharePoint.	
AC/09/2425	How have the vision, mission and values of the Trust been upheld? The governors agreed that these had been upheld.	
AC/10/2425	Complete the report to Trustees The report will be completed by the Clerk following the meeting.	Clerk
AC/11/2425	Determination of confidentiality of business and Equality Act consideration The Academy Committee agreed that there was nothing confidential to consider. The Equality Act was considered throughout the meeting.	
AC/12/2425	Date and time of next Academy Committee meeting. The next meeting will be held on Monday 18 th November 2024 at 5.15pm in the library.	
	The meeting closed at 18.43.	

Signed: *Richard Osborn* (approved by Chair for circulation)

Date: 04.11.24

Signed: *Tom Reid* (approved by Principal for circulation)

Date: 01.11.24