

**Moorland Hub Meeting
Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 5:30 pm via Teams**

Present: Sarah Luxton (SL), Vivienne Hodges (VH), Charlotte Roe – Governance Professional (GP), Paul Brassley (PB), Anthony Arnold (AA), Olli Heathman (OH), Lynda Cooper (LC), Sam McCarthy-Patmore (SMP), Ewa Ziubryniewicz (EZ), Rosie Stamp (RS), Caroline Rolls (CR)

Clerk: Penny Young (PY)

No	Item and Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies The Chair welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. She welcomed Sarah Luxton who is Acting Academy Head at Hennock whilst Chrit Martiin is on paternity leave.</p> <p>The Chair accepted apologies from Olivia Gentile, Rob Steemson, Dan Turner, Alex Waterman. Chris Martin,</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest None</p>	
3.	<p>Approval of the last meeting minutes – 14.12.2022 Approved</p>	
4.1	<p>Strategic Governance <u>Focused Visits for this half term:</u> Ilsington – RS reported on visits - see attached report. They had also followed up with an Ethos meeting this week and now just waiting for Ofsted! SMP - no joy recruiting staff. OH – recruitment needs flagging. If a number of schools are struggling and if the money is there and you can't get staff then this needs to be thought about. SMP – said how supported she felt by the governors who are also involved in other aspects of the school. Great group supporting school, really powerful and good to know they are out there. Barnes – DT sent a Head's report – attached. EZ has not been in this year. Has a new job now and after half term will be in every 2 wks . Moretonhampstead – VH reported that governors had not got in to school this term, but had Ofsted at the end of last term. One governor attended and the report has been published, and the school was Good. Ofsted, in their final report highlighted the problems with SEND children and the very slow response time by DCC to provide extra help. Report has been sent to all governors. Alex is setting up a meeting for governors early March.. Widecombe – AA reported as no governors present. Had a visit from Chloe Schwab but not on SEND, but had Ofsted on 26th Jan. Had governor support for Ofsted and will book a meeting in early March to go through SEND. LC – broadly how was the experience? AA – it went well. The hardest moment is when you are waiting. When you get the call and the adrenalin kicks it its fine. Staff fantastic. Everyone pulled together. Great support from the Trust and the community. A Trustee attended, Nicky Dunford, Becky Humphreys, Lizzie, Sarah - a lot of support. Report should be first or second week after half term. CR – Felt very supported by everyone. We have been preparing for a long time. Felt positive to do it and can now focus on what we want to focus on. Great team effort. Hennock – LC – I caught up with SL this week. SL also SENDCO, talked through SEND and PP. I wanted to get an overall picture of the school and see if any change since I came in last year. No concerns at all. Robust processes. Talked about progress rather than attainment. A lot of support within the Trust again for SL. Very well put together process. SL – You asked about data and Andy Keays will show me how to access it.</p>	
4.2	<p><u>Focused visits coming up:</u> Mid year progress towards targets. Review and impact of Trust improvement plan This is what S&C require: Questions/documentation for this focus · A detailed analysis of nationally reported data on EYFS, Y1 Phonic check, Y4 multiplication</p>	

	<p>check, KS1 SATS and KS2 SATS, SEND and PPG analysis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Any identifications of concerns or additional adaptations that might be needed that arose from the analysis. · Broad overview of other groups on their progress and expectations to targets. · The governors only need to consider the data for this year only <p>LC – this sounds quite a daunting list. Has there been a data drop? AA – this is happening now? Timing of visits essential.</p> <p>GP - Looking at identifications of concerns and additional adaptations. Broad overview of other groups. Progress through the ASIP. The focus is mid year pupil outcomes. Overall focus disadvantaged children so that is why SEND and PP grant in there but how these specific areas are doing?)</p> <p>LC - Last year we had questions to circulate for governors, are they appropriate? LC to send to GP and she will check with Kate. LC - need to use governors time efficiently. We can have a general conversation about progress within schools. GP – my impression is it is now a general discussion. EIT drill down and the governors have more of a supportive soundboard discussion.</p> <p>PB – I found this an interesting exchange. It makes me wonder, what is it that Local Board governors do that EIT and Trustees don't do? Bit of a gap between what they are asking for and what they expect the governors to do? Does that make sense or am I misunderstanding then. GP – I agree with you. I am still trying to work out what is being looked for. We do our best and then ask for feedback and build on that. My understanding is that the local governors are being a soundboard, having a general discussion and supporting Academy Heads. PB - are we supposed to be challenging the heads? Getting very mixed messages. GP – go in and talk about this and see how the discussions evolve. You have just been in and done SEND, did you have specific questions? There is a SEND proforma that is circulated. GP – not aware of this.</p> <p>LC – this needs to go back to Trustees and ask for clarification. GP – it is all changing and we are trying to work around it. EIT is getting bigger. Met with Nicky and Cat. Nicky is trying to avoid is that EIT asking AH's and then governors ask the same. How can we use governors so they have a different impact to EIT. RS – is this in light of what is happening down the line?</p> <p>GP – trying things out to see what works. Then in September we are all clear what we are trying to do.</p> <p>LC – just to clarify the local meeting. Cat is Cat Radford ex chair of Totnes hub. Reshaping of the governance structure in September. In a phase of discussing what that might look like. Part of the notes included a power point that set out the strategy the Trust is proposing. This would see us move from our current structure of local board governors and see us pared back. This would be made up of about 8 people covering all schools, not 3 governors from each school. This would start from September 2023. There is an option to put yourself forward or step back and potentially support in another way. Trying to streamline and make the connection between Trustees and Local Board governors. Even in the new structure we need an idea of how the questions filter down.</p> <p>Does anyone have comments from the meeting that we want to feedback? RS – we had a discussion. Unsure about it all. Shared with SMP. It was new to her too.</p> <p>SMP - hard for us to comment as it has not been discussed in detail with us. LC – I was under the impression that this had been discussed with Heads and they were supportive? OH –the idea had been floated but possibly not put to all AH's. AA – it has been discussed in the past and we knew what was going to happen at the Local Board Working Party meetings, to which we are all invited. Academy Heads were speaking their opinions to Nicky. LC it is a personal thought process to go through about whether you want to remain. If you have feedback and the change and any thoughts, GP is collating. Next step is that Nicky will work with GP and Kate who is the chair of S&C, to put together a Terms of Reference for the new governor positions. This will go out alongside a survey.</p>	LC
<p>4.3</p>	<p>Update from S&C & Local Board Working Party meetings</p> <p>S&C I am not formally in the chair so I am not attending that meeting.</p> <p>The Governance Professional outlined the S&C meeting held on 25th January 2023. It was noted that the main focus was SEND and Pupil Premium with a presentation from Becky Humphreys (the Inclusion and Improvement Hub Lead). The minutes from this meeting would be available on the trust website once approved</p> <p>LC – I always summarise notes from our meeting for S&C and sent last lot to GP. GP – I have emailed back and want to know if that is enough information, Nicky Dunford gave her input. LC – I will do this again and email to GP to take to S&C. At the Local Board Working Party meeting we discussed setting a programme so that governor visits tie with S&C meeting.</p>	
<p>4.4</p>	<p>Governor Training</p> <p>GP – All governors should be aware we have bought CST training. Recently two hours on</p>	

	safeguarding training. When recording available will circulate so that all governors watch this. PY mentioned that all but one governor has done the Cyber Security training, a few governors have not done L2 training. GP to check with Alex Waterman to see if she is doing more training.	GP
5.1	Procedural matters <u>Safeguarding:</u> Nothing	
5.2	<u>SEND</u> Covered under focused visits	
5.3	<u>Sports premium grant & Pupil Premium grants</u> Nothing	
5.4	<u>Health & Safety and Risk Assessments</u> Isington, Widecombe and Bearnas all had H&S audits and did very well. Will (the maintenance man) is fantastic. Claire Slee (H&S) is great too. Widecombe has two CIF bids in for roof and fire system. Hennock also has a CIF bid for the roof. RS – did anything come back from the CCTV? GP – this is now underway and will be under the security in schools audit. LC – are we happy that is being tracked? Have there been any further incidents? SMP – no. GP – keep asking until the audit comes out and keep it on the radar.	
6.1	Personnel <u>Staffing:</u> CR – the only staff governor. Just had Ofsted, depending where you are in the cycle impacts on how staff feel. Going into an Ofsted a lot of the processes we are going through we don't do for Ofsted but that is a measure of how the school is functioning and how everything going. We are in a positive place and that was reflected in the minutes last time. Post Ofsted – we are exhausted and I think the process of Ofsted, recognising how it feels, the build up, the phone call, the event, there is a recognisable pattern in staff. There is no lull in teaching. You don't g through Ofsted and think "excellent, we can relax now", it all carries on after and it takes a while to catch your breath after. Our direction is clear. The impact of waiting for Ofsted is far worse than the actual event. This is a huge pressure. The team are great and things moving positively and keep moving forward. LC – really value your input. Governors - do you discuss staff wellbeing? Anything come up around the mood in schools that we want to note or track? SMP – we are expecting Ofsted any day. There has always been some pressure, since the hubs began to be inspected, we knew they would come. It has raised the anxiety level and constant pressure. AA – really well summed up. Free meals from the Trust has been great and the supportive nature from everyone really positive. The understanding of wellness and its on the forefront of peoples thoughts. LC – talking to SL and CM the feedback is a general positivity. Chris is settling in and made himself part of the school.	
6.2	<u>Parents:</u> Hennock really active PTFA and positive playground environment.	

Close 18:40pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 29th March 2023 – 5:30pm