



**Notes and Action Record of the Hillocks Primary Academy
Local Academy Committee Spring 1 meeting
Held on Monday 18th May at 17:00 at Hillocks**

Membership	Initials	Governor category	Absence
Susan Beasley (Chair of Governors)	SBea	Appointed AC governor	
Henry Reader	HR	Appointed AC governor	
Jemma Mee	JM	Appointed Parent AC governor	
Lucy Murungi	LM	Appointed AC governor	
Simon Bennett	SBen	Appointed AC governor	

In attendance	Initials	Position	Absence
Gareth Letton	GL	Executive Principal	
Claire Gledhill	CG	Principal	
Lynsey Parker	LP	Governance Professional / Clerk to Governors	

Quorum Required	3	Governors present	5
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Action Record

Agenda / action ref	Meeting Ref	Action Required	Responsible Person	Timeline	Update	Complete / Carried Forward / Incomplete

Notes of meeting

Blue text = academy committee governor check and challenge

Green text = academy committee governor decision-making / approval

Q= Question from governors
A=Answer from senior leaders

Agenda item	Key points /summary of discussion	Action Required	Responsible Person	Timeline
HPA/35/2526 Welcome and apologies	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.			
HPA/36/2526 Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest for any items on the agenda. It was confirmed that the declarations already provided were correct.			
HPA/37/2526 Notes of last meeting / action log	Notes of the previous meeting were received and agreed. Action log was reviewed and it was confirmed that there were no actions outstanding from the previous meeting. Discussion took place on the format of the last meeting and the notes and it was agreed to format to make clear whenever governors have carried out assurance and visit-type activities during LAC meetings, such as looking at examples of students work and of marking.			
HPA/38/2526 Governance Report	<u>Link visits</u> Governors confirmed that in advance of the meeting they had received link visit reports in respect of health and safety and quality of education. SBen confirmed that his health and safety visit consisted of a site walk followed by attendance at the H&S LAMG meeting. Q – Is the new site manager working pattern working well? A – Yes, rather than split shifts, is now around during the day to improve school environment. Trust cluster manager layer has been helpful plus SBen’s input as link governor. It was agreed that LM would feedback on her quality of education visit at the relevant points on the agenda. <u>Policies</u>			

	Governors confirmed that they had received the summary of policies recently approved at Trust Board level. It was confirmed that there are now very few academy specific policies / policy appendices for local academy committee governors to review.			
HPA/39/2526 Principal's report	Progress of AIP and RISE plan Q – What action is taking place for any areas that are not green? A – RAG ratings are assessed against end-of-year outcomes rather than individual termly milestones. Progress against both the rolling AIP and RISE plan is reviewed regularly, including formal reviews every three months by the RISE Advisor. The latest RISE review was highly positive. Q – What is the rationale behind the current RAG rating for the oracy objective? A - Initial activity focused on developing leadership capacity and staff training. Subsequent work has concentrated on embedding classroom practice. Whole-school impact is still developing, though we intentionally avoided introducing too many competing initiatives and are instead we are embedding oracy within existing curriculum, including mathematical vocabulary and language. CG and GL agreed to review the RAG ratings to ensure they accurately reflect expected progress at each stage of implementation and enable governors to identify any areas requiring additional scrutiny. GL advised that the RISE plan gives structure, order and sequencing to the work, and that this was really important at the start when all strands needed to improve. The RISE plan is a good reference document for Governors. Governors noted that findings from the latest RISE review were consistent with evidence seen during recent monitoring visits.			

	LM confirmed she saw all of the points CG mentioned in relation to oracy in action in her quality of education visit and that it was great to see. Next time she will speak to staff about their views, during this visit all were busy teaching Q – There appears to have been a significant pivot in the maths curriculum – what is driving the improvements? A – Maths progress a real strength. Successful introduction of Magma Maths, Power Maths and Number Sense along with staff CPD. Internal assessment data shows outcomes at Key Stage 2 are much improved since the autumn. Power Maths already being used with Year5 as well as Year 6 and will be rolled out more widely next year. Number Sense is also having an impact on fluency and strong foundations. Q – Was NELI introduced through RISE? A – Yes. CG and Early Years lead leading initially, plus investment in how we implement. LM commented that it was fantastic to see in action; every pupil had a chance to get involved, all were included, their listening was ‘delicious’. CG explained the approach in terms of sentence stems, story telling, using books, using screen, with children practicing how to use words every day. CG advised that in terms of next steps, the academy is now mapping continuous provision against the books being read in class to continue to reinforce vocabulary, and sharing practice with other academies. 20 week programme – baseline plus end of programme data. Governors commented that 20 weeks seems a long time period to not have any quantitative data on progress. CG explained that teaching expertise comes in here around recognising children’s needs and how to respond.			
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	Governors commented that it was clear that children have such a secure foundation now, it will be good to see their movement and progression through school. Q - The RISE review and Principal's report present different Year 6 data. Which position is most current? A – Principal’s report has the latest data on assessments to date. Q – How have the Year 6 SATs gone? A – Children were fantastic, calm and purposeful. CG explained that the majority of children accessed SATs in the hall; smaller SEMH group who did not receives extra time but emotional support; 3 children with additional time. LM advised that her link visit coincides with SATs testing. The process was impressive, children were happy, teachers helping last minute with those who needed it. In the hall, children were ready, followed rules well. CG advised the governors the invigilators had feedback how well managed the process was. SBea commented that it was positive that other governors have witnessed this after her observing the process for the last couple of years. Governors thanked all staff for their hard work, and for continuing to know the children really well and doing all they can to get the best out of them. Principal’s report <u>Attendance</u> Governors reviewed latest DfE attendance data and noted the continued improvements. Overall attendance = 94% PA = 14% PA better than similar schools Much progress with disadvantaged cohort			
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	Q – Is attendance work still as resource intensive? A – We have benefited from a funded attendance advisor secondment. This post has recently reduced hours so we have reallocated hours internally for an additional day a week from within the school office. More sustainable for the team to develop this capacity internally. Member of staff works alongside advisor to learn from his practice. As an example, children with medical needs are increasing, through the funded secondment we have had access to knowledge and expertise of how to record, etc. Governors noted the importance of continuity for families and welcomed the academy's focus on embedding attendance responsibility across the wider staff team. CG outlined ongoing next steps relating to inclusive attendance and the use of MyAcademy app to improve monitoring and reporting without needing manual intervention. Data is reviewed weekly in staff meetings. Inclusive attendance work starts next week with staff. <u>Safeguarding</u> Governors confirmed that they had received the Prevent Duty document for Hillocks, which is updated annually along with Patrick Knight, Trust Safeguarding lead; and the Notts Police Prevent / counter terrorism data (latest 23/24), which provided additional contextual safeguarding information for governors. All governors received the safeguarding report to the LAC and welcomed the formatting and colour coding of the report noting the latest updates were clear. Q – How has the recent pupil survey influenced online safety provision and training? A – CG has gone through pupil voice with all staff so all aware of the issues. Academy had been dealing with some unkindness online and out of school. Following learning from a recent conference, focus is on asking the children the right questions to illicit response. Computing lead has asked more questions / probing with the			
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	children what their concerns were and children reported feeling reluctant to report any online issues because of fears that devices may be removed by parents. Computing lead has carried out QA of computing sessions for each year groups and so there is assurance of our curriculum and provision. CG working with parents to build trust, provide advice to keep children safe e.g blocking people, etc. In terms of wider parental engagement with online safety, the academy signposts to ATTFF resources, have put on a workshop where 1 parent attended. CG has taken the issue to the Trust's safeguarding strategic development group as to how to approach in greater depth collectively across the Trust Discussions took place on early engagement of parents and ideas and options were discussed. CG advised that Kate and Suzy who deliver some existing sessions could develop a longer term plan for strategic engagement and key messaging with parents in all year groups. Q - MyConcern reports show that SEMH, anxiety are highest categories – is this impacted by phone use and online safety? Q – There are some reports of Child on child abuse – is this becoming an issue and how is this being tackled in the academy? A - 1 incident could have several markers / flags. 1-2 children could also account for a disproportionate number of recorded incidents. Some incidents of racism have been reported. Governors received assurance that additional work is taking place through educating the children, an academy Equality, Diversity and Inclusion action plan and through staff training. For SEMH, a range of targeted support, including Thrive provision, is in place and is having a positive impact on children's wellbeing, behaviour and engagement. Impact on children's mental health and regulation has been incredibly positive. Behaviour			
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	overall is excellent and there is a growing sense of belonging. Academy continues to look at root causes of behaviour. <u>Behaviour</u> Q – There have been 27 suspensions this year to date, with fewer days of suspension from last year - how many children does this relate to? A – 3, all complex cases. It was agreed that the Principal would add how many children have received suspensions into next report. Governors agreed that this was a positive change and the impact of all the work on behaviour was clear to see. <u>Staffing</u> Q – are the two ECTs at the academy both staying next year? A - Yes. Really pleasing that they want to stay with us. Great team in place. We will continue to invest in professional development. <u>Admissions for 2026/27</u> Discussion took place on pupil numbers in each year group and class sizes. Year 3-4 challenging next year. Governors were reminded of forthcoming stability of year group sizes when Hillocks PAN changes and then new intake progresses through the school. <u>Risks</u> Academy closure process (adverse weather) – governors commented that they were satisfied with the reasoning for the current risk score and that the mitigating actions will reduce the risks identified. Q – For the attainment risk, can you explain the reasoning for this being downgraded? A – As well as the actions that have been put in place, looked closely out our latest assessment data and predictions on outcomes to inform the likelihood score for this risk. Leaders are satisfied that this is reducing. Governors accepted the change to the overall risk score.			
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	Stakeholder engagement All governors welcome and encouraged to attend summer term and end of term events. It was agreed to consider a governor's award for the Awards Assembly this year.			
HPA/40/2526 Determination of Confidentiality	Governors determined that there were no confidential discussions			
HPA/41/2526 Report to / from Trustees	A report will be submitted to Trustees following the meeting. The responses to our reports from the Trust G&P Committee will also be shared with the governors.			
HPA/42/2526 Date and time of next meeting	Monday 6 th July at 5.00pm at Hillocks The meeting closed at 19.06			

Signed by Chair: S Beasley	Date:
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