

Minutes – Frome Vale Academy Council

Version	<i>Final</i>	
Date	15 January 2019	
Location:	Frome Vale Academy	
Time:	5.00 pm	
Present:	Noelle Rumball (NR)	Sponsor Academy Councillor (Chair)
	Martyn Poole (MP)	Sponsor Academy Councillor
	Laura Walder (LW)	Parent Academy Councillor
	Nikki Dawson (ND)	Student Advocate
	Jan Saunders (JS)	Principal
	Colin Ogden (CO)	Sponsor Councillor
	Brian Atkins (BA)	Sponsor Councillor
	Mandy Milsom (MM)	Executive Principal
Attendees:	Linda Corbidge (LC)	Academy Council Clerk

Apologies:

Minutes

Item	Description	Action
1	Introductions	
1.1	Welcome and introductions by NR.	
2	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	None.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	
3.1	Minutes were agreed as accurate.	
4	Matters Arising	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School expectations were circulated with minutes of the last meeting. Newsletters/event details to Academy Council – these were now being circulated. Updated Policy schedule – <u>JS to email to LC to be circulated with the minutes.</u> 	JS
5	Academy Councillor feedback on visits	
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immersion Day 23 November – LW and NR attended. LR visited classes, including Forest and Year 1; NR and LW did an Early Years training sessions and attended the weekly assembly. It was good to see progression Reception to Year 4. LW encouraged all councillors to visit ‘as it makes it real’. In response to a parent questionnaire commenting that they don’t know enough about the Academy Council it was agreed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>A ‘Come and meet the Academy Council’ event would take place on Wednesday 6 February (8.30-9.30 am).</u> Photos of Academy Councillors should be included in newsletters and could also be placed on the noticeboard by the school gates. 	ALL

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	<p>All ACs to email a head portrait to JS and a sentence on why they are involved in the Academy Council at FVA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next Immersion Day is 8 February (am and lunch) – NR would send out an electronic calendar invitation and confirm a schedule for the day JS would send a ‘Cake & Conversation’ date & Immersion Day date for next term All councillors confirmed their intention to attend Year 6 Graduation – 18 July at 2.00 pm; JS would send out an electronic calendar invitation. <p>The Clerk would keep record of all AC scheduled school events so they are planned for the year (Agenda for July meeting).</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>NR JS</p> <p>JS</p> <p>Agenda</p>
6	Governance	
6.1	<p>Membership – It was confirmed that Maria Cerepanova had been appointed as staff councillor and Joyce Soyemi had been appointed as Parent Councillor. Both were appointed as there had been no nominations from parents or staff members. A further sponsor councillor appointment would hopefully be confirmed before the next meeting. JS would send their contact details to LC for induction.</p> <p>Vice Chair vacancy – LW would attend COAC on behalf of NR (next meet 28 Feb at 5.00 pm) – NR to send details. It was noted that the Academy Council should have a Vice Chair; NR asked ACs to email her if they were interested.</p>	<p>JS</p> <p>NR ALL</p>
6.2	<p>NR reported that discussion at COAC had included the strategic plan, data dashboard and volunteer paperwork requirements. The Exclusion Policy had also been agreed; this would be circulated for noting at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Agenda</p>
6.3	<p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> had taken place this term on Friday afternoons – this had covered Early Years, Pupil Premium, Next Step Learning. AC agreed that it had been really helpful. JS would email a date for re-scheduled SEND training. NR commented that the National Governance Network provided good training – MM would take this back to the Central Team to find out if CLF has access to their online modules. Councillors to advise JS if there are particular areas they would like a refresher on every year, or any other training requirements in addition to those that should run every year as part of best practice (Pupil Premium, Safeguarding, SEND school based context training). Clerk would circulate CLF and Governor Development Service Training dates for booking Councillors to email the clerk with details of any training they attend. 	<p>JS</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>LC ALL</p>
7	Academy Council Report	
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors were pleased to see the positive Evening Post article about FVA. Councillors asked if the teacher leaving shortly would have an impact on the school. JS explained that a member of staff had also returned to the school and there had been a term of good transition between the two teachers. Councillors questioned the data for Maths in Year 5 (AC report). JS explained that Term 1 was slightly out of date data (MM would report back re meeting timing not coinciding with data drop). JS presented a table which showed how the academy closely monitored individual progress in year groups; this was analysed at termly curriculum leader meetings and 	

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	<p>pupil progress meetings with teachers. There were a number of children who would normally be on track in Maths who were not on track at present and the academy had recruited another member of staff to provide booster support in Year 4 and 5 lessons tailored to individual needs, using PIXL data. Children were now at 74% as a result of the booster and 2 children were off booster already with close monitoring. Testing was now taking precedent over Teaching Assessment in Year 5. Pupils were mainly high attaining with 5 or 6 children having significant need. A teacher had demonstrated to JS today that pupils were making progress. Year 1 was also a focus due to children in the cohort. Council asked if any children were likely to move to a more appropriate setting by Year 6 It was noted one or two were likely to move. Year 5 were good writers; this had been moderated by JS. It was reported the Year 5 PIXL reading test had been hard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council asked how the children felt about testing. Councillors heard that the culture in the school leads to children enjoying testing which was a result of good preparation, including mindfulness. • Council requested the number in each cohort to be included on the AC Report as the small number of pupils in Year 6 skewed the statistics. JS explained the Year 6 focus on children not likely to achieve which included 3 children with significant needs. Councillors asked if children yet to be on track in Term 2 were likely to achieve. JS said that, based on model last year, she was confident the majority of children would achieve. • Council questioned the progress in Year 1 Phonics – It was explained that children had come out of Early Years not strong in Phonics; there were also some attendance issues, however good progress was now being made. Reading was an issue in Year 1. It was reported there was lots of catch up provision in place as Reading was an issue in Year 1 - the last review had commented that progress was outstanding from Early Years to Year 1. • Council asked if the 7 higher attaining children in Year 6 were on track. It was reported that writing was weaker – this was a focus as they need to be exceeding. Reading was strong with positive progress already. (CO left the meeting) • Council asked how lateness was being tackled. Council heard that an attendance analysis had been done which had identified 18 children. Some were parenting issues. • Discussion followed on attendance – the academy were focussing on children under 90%, with catch up interventions in place. Council asked for a further report on attendance with individual anonymised data. (LW left the meeting) 	
7.2	Finance Report - noted.	
7.3	Policies – Updated Sex and Relationships Education, Uniform Policies and Staff Mobile Phone protocols were approved/noted on recommendation from the Principal.	
7.4	Safeguarding – Term 2 Report was noted.	
7.5	Risk Register – no changes, taken forward to next meeting	
8	Ofsted Framework Pilot Inspection	
8.1	JS reported that the academy had agreed to take part in a framework pilot inspection in the first 3 weeks of next term. The new framework was a move to a more holistic curriculum, not just outcomes. The academy would gain enormously from it and were as prepared as possible; already having held an	

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	INSET on Curriculum with 4 x key themes. Frome Vale Citizens was already in place but the academy were now ensuring everything gets recorded, including display of photos. Councillors are advised that this pilot inspection is not public knowledge, and should they be asked about it by parents or other interested parties, Frome Vale is helping Ofsted with a piece of research.	
9	Student Voice / Student Advocate	
9.1	Taken forward to next meeting.	
10	Matters for the attention of the Board	
10.1	None.	
11	AOB	
11.1	<u>It was agreed that future meetings should start with a pre meet at 4.45 pm, with the academy council meeting starting at 5.00 pm.</u>	ALL
	Next Meetings	
	5 March, 30 April, 18 July – all at 5.00 pm	

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm