

Cambridgeshire Educational Trust

Trustees meeting

Minutes from the 6th July 2017

Present: Helen Arnold (HA), Kath Hutchinson (KH), Roger Mann (RM), Eva Pepper (EP), Simon Peyton-Jones (Chair)(SPJ), Jim Warwick (JW), Mary Sanders (MS), Jo Burroughes (JB), Peter Rodgers (PR), Luke Tunmer (LT), Michaela Eschbach (ME), Martin Russell (MR), Leonie Isaacson (LI) and Anne Constantine (AC).

1. **Apologies:** Lucy Lewis, Shahida Rahman, Masum Shaikh, SLT, Morag Morrison-Helme.
2. **Declarations of Interests:** Nothing new to declare.
3. **Register of Business Interests:** Nothing new to declare.

4. **Downham Market Academy**

The trustees discussed whether to proceed to take Downham Market Academy into our MAT. After a robust discussion everyone was in favour. MS proposed and AC seconded.

5. **Governance Structure**

A paper was circulated prior to the meeting to governors outlining a proposed model for the MAT governance structure. We have been going through the process of adopting new articles of association that re constitute us as a multi academy trust, but we have held off changing any of our governance structures since Chesterton been the only school in our trust.

The top level MAT board should be a relatively small body concerned with the overall trust level issues. Discussion included:

- The proposed number of meetings a year
- Meeting logistics: in the short term it may make sense to hold the FGB and MAT board meetings on the same evening.
- Whether the local governing bodies should have sub-committees
- What decisions are taken by which group.
- PR spoke about existing committees and if we should re-think what we want to do and achieve within each committee.
- We are particularly keen to have an active and engaged set of governors, whilst at DMA this will need building up. We want the CCC and DMA governing bodies to

both feel empowered to lead their school, and feel invested in the MAT overall; discussions on how we achieve this will be needed.

A small working group, led by Jim Warwick, will bring back more detailed proposals to the next meeting.

6. **Staffing:** A confidential minute was taken at this point.

7. **A.O.B:** None

8. **Date of next meeting:** 10 October 2017