

The Heath Family (NW) Multi Academy Trust
PART I - Minutes from the MAT Board meeting held on
Thursday 14th October 2021 at 8.00 am

***** This meeting was held remotely using Microsoft Teams *****

<u>Present:</u> Helen Stevenson (Chair), Edward Vitalis, Karl Smith, Morag Davies, Tony Gundersen, Mark Stanton, Kate Whittlesey, Annette Williams, David Donnelly, Sharon Black, Craig Parkinson, Judith McConville		<u>Apologies:</u> Janine Inglis, Christopher Davis, Alison Duckworth Non attenders:			
		Clerk: Trish Roberts			
Items	Discussion	Action	Who	When	Notes
1. Welcome, introductions & apologies	Ms Stevenson welcomed everyone to the meeting. At the meeting apologies were accepted from Ms J Inglis; and since the meeting, apologies have also received from Mr C Davis and Ms A Duckworth.				
2. Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests	Trustees have received a copy of the Trust's Register of Business Interests 2021-22 prior to the meeting. Trustees reviewed the details and no changes were requested. Trustees also reviewed the Register against the agenda and no declarations were received in respect of this meeting: CP also noted that the Register of Business Interests 2021-22 has been uploaded onto the Trust's website.				
3. To receive/ ratify PART I and PART II Minutes from THF Board meeting held on 06.09.21	Trustees received an electronic copy of PART I and PART II minutes from the MAT Board meeting held on 06.09.21. There were no amendments to be made and therefore the minutes were accepted as a true record and ratified. RESOLVE: That PART I and PART II minutes of the MAT Board meeting held on 06.09.21 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	Chair of the Board to sign agreed MAT Board Minutes from 06.09.21	H Stevenson	ASAP	
4. To review Matters Arising not included on the Agenda	Matters Arising from Minutes of 06.09.21 Register of Business Interests 2021-22: Mr Parkinson advised Trustees that the updated register for 2021-22 has been published on the Trust's website.				

<p>5. (to include Action Tracker)</p>	<p>Trust Strategy: Mr Donnelly advised that a lead for the strategic planning session has not yet been secured, noting that Trustees’ preference was for someone with a non-educational background to facilitate.</p> <p>Discussion followed with regards the possible links between the strategy and the external review of governance; Mr Donnelly also noted that there are Trustees within the board who have the expertise to lead such sessions, but by going out to an external facilitator it allows all Trustees to take part as participants. Further discussion followed regarding possible facilitators for both sessions.</p> <p>Q: Do we have a scope for the visioning session? A: Yes</p> <p>Q: Is there a way to secure a session/lead where we can get a combination of both view and guidance? The Board agreed that it would be good to secure someone from outside the sector to lead a planning session, and then bring the draft document to someone from the MAT sector, eg David Carter</p> <p>Discussion then followed regarding whether the strategy session would be to review/refresh the current strategy document, or whether the session would be starting with a complete re-write of the document. Mr Donnelly provided some background with regards the current strategy document, and his thoughts about moving it forward; Mr Vitalis stated that he did not think the blank sheet approach would be appropriate, noting that everyone involved has done far too much work to start from ground zero. Everyone in attendance agreed. Discussion then moved on to next steps.</p> <p>Ms Stevenson suggested that a small working group come together in order to work up a brief for the strategy session, and then they would come back to the rest of the Trustees to gain consensus. All agreed. Discussion followed regarding which Trustees would be involved in the working group. Ms Stevenson advised that the committee Chairs and herself would need to be involved, and also offered other Trustees the option to join. Mr Stanton volunteered. A meeting poll will be sent to Trustees/Exec Officers in order to identify/agree a date in Nov 2021.</p>	<p>Identify/agree date for Strategy Working Group session</p>	<p>TGM, Trustees, Exec Officers</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	
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<p>6. Chair's Action Report (to receive)</p>	<p>Trustees received an electronic copy of the Chair's Action & Governor Membership Update 14.10.21 report and updated Trustee Code of Conduct document prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Governor Recruitment: Mrs Roberts provided an update in relation to recruitment processes currently taking place.</p> <p>Mrs Roberts reported that since the report was produced Ms Stevenson has approved a further Trust Appointed Governor appointment for The Heath School (Mrs Amanda Lovell-Kennedy – recently retired Head of School at TPS). Ms Stevenson spoke about discussions she had with the committee chairs in relation to this appointment, ie the possible/perceived conflict of interest; but noted that the LGBs' needs outweighed the potential risks.</p> <p>Mr Donnelly provided a brief summary with regards the changing governance structure at The Heath; noting that Principals will also be discussing the effectiveness of LGBs at their session on 21.10.21.</p> <p>Trustee Code of Conduct: Ms Stevenson noted that Trustees had received the updated document, and then asked Trustees if they were happy to agree the changes; Trustees,</p> <p>RESOLVED: to approve the updated Trustee Code of Conduct 2021-22</p>				
<p>7. Coronavirus Update</p>	<p>Mr Parkinson provided an update to Trustees.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson explained that the next Trustee Coronavirus fortnightly briefing is due out to Trustees by Friday (15.10.21), and noted that the briefing will provide updated data re Covid cases (year to date/year group) for Trustees.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson reported that Halton Public Health officials are working with THS, as they are seeing a large number of cases; this will include the deployment of a mobile testing unit on site so that staff and students have access to PCR tests. Mr Parkinson also advised that the school has reinstated additional measures in and around school, particularly the reintroduction of face coverings in communal and hard to distance areas. Mr Parkinson also spoke about the issues around children not attending school due to someone testing positive; ie once someone in the household tests positive, the child also takes a PCR test at that point, however during the time they are awaiting results, they are still in contact with the positive case, and as such the child could</p>				

	<p>become infected whilst waiting for results. It is expected that schools will therefore need to be asking for further (Lateral Flow) testing to take place at the point of the child returning to school.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson also advised that Covid cases in primaries has steadied off and are now pretty static.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson informed Trustees that Covid vaccinations have been administered on site to children at THS; and currently figures are showing around a 30% uptake for eligible students. Mr Parkinson then provided further details in relation to this figure, ie Y7 are in the main out of scope as they are under the age of 12. Mr Parkinson also advised that a follow up session will be set up at the school after half term to administer more doses to those requesting them. Mr Parkinson also explained that vaccinations will be starting at the other secondary schools after half term.</p> <p><i>Q: It is not in the Government’s Plan B document, but if you look at other countries such as Australia, they are moving to a ‘no jab, no job’ approach - do you think this is something we need to keep an eye on, ie do you think education may follow the approach of the health sector?</i></p> <p><i>A: It is right to keep the potential effects of such a rule being implemented under review and consider its wider implications, but it is not felt to be a likely course of action to be recommended by Government at this stage.</i></p> <p>Mr Parkinson also noted that Covid-related illness continues to be discounted from within the Trust Sickness Absence Management Policy. It is likely the Government will review Covid matters during the next 6 weeks or so. Mr Parkinson advised that Trustees will be updated as soon as any new guidance has been received.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson ended his response noting that the ‘no jab, no job’ approach is more of a precedent within the Health sector due to the nature of their work, but that it is not envisaged that the approach will be expected within education. Mr Parkinson assured Trustees that contact will be made with legal in order to ensure the Trust is acting correctly should any suggestions of this type be made by Government.</p>				
<p>8. CEO Report</p>	<p>Trustees received electronic copies of the CEO report (dated October 2021) prior to the meeting.</p>				

	<p>Mr Donnelly reported:</p> <p>School Improvement – Mr Donnelly explained his rationale behind suggesting the move from red to amber grading; in that the red grading was given when schools were impacted by C19 closures etc which led to some key roles being suspended; and now the schools are operating as near normally as possible and all school processes have been reinstated. Discussion followed regarding the proposed change and all present agreed that it would be prudent to keep the red grading until the meeting with the RSC (Nov 21) had taken place; this would then provide a good temperature check and also provide an external validation of data/evidence.</p> <p>Ofsted – Mr Donnelly explained his rationale behind the grading remaining at amber; in that all of our schools within the Trust fall within the Ofsted inspection window and therefore there is potential for all schools to be inspected this year. Mr Donnelly then provided Trustees with potential inspection ‘due by’ dates for each of the schools within the Trust:</p> <table data-bbox="313 715 1355 785"> <tr> <td>TPS & DPS – imminent</td> <td>BWP – Nov 2022</td> <td>LHS – Sep 2022</td> <td>LMP – Feb 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HPS – Apr 2023</td> <td>THS – Sep 2023</td> <td>PFP – Apr 2025</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Mr Donnelly assured Trustees that although these are the expected ‘due by’ dates, the Trust and its schools are working on the basis that inspection could happen within the next week. Mr Donnelly also advised that Ofsted are currently working on risk assessments but it is expected that they will return to full inspections this term.</p> <p>Safeguarding – Mr Donnelly advised that a full Safeguarding update would be provided within agenda item 8.</p> <p>Health & Safety – Mr Donnelly advised that whilst the country is still in the midst of the pandemic, the H&S grading has and continues to remain at amber.</p> <p>HR – Mr Donnelly reported that THS’ Head of School has resigned from post and will leave as of 31.12.21; a recruitment process is currently underway and interviews are due to take place w/c 18.10.21, with a view to appointing by the end of Oct 2021. Mr Donnelly advised that he hopes the new appointment will be able to take up the post as of 01.01.22.</p>	TPS & DPS – imminent	BWP – Nov 2022	LHS – Sep 2022	LMP – Feb 2023	HPS – Apr 2023	THS – Sep 2023	PFP – Apr 2025					
TPS & DPS – imminent	BWP – Nov 2022	LHS – Sep 2022	LMP – Feb 2023										
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Q: Does the Head of School Scheme of Delegation allow for a Trust Board representative at the interview?
A: Not currently, but we could look to introduce this into it; ie, we could invite a Trustee to participate in the final part of the process – Mr Donnelly asked Trustees to contact him if they were interested in being involved.

Q: How many staff are currently isolating due to Covid?
A: There are currently 7-8 staff isolating due to testing positive, and there are two staff members awaiting test results. Attendance patterns are showing a rise in non-Covid related absence, ie flu/cold symptoms which are ‘knocking people for 6’. Staff who are showing Covid symptoms are absent for (in most cases) an initial two days as they are awaiting results, but even when the results come back negative, the staff member is feeling so poorly, it is taking a number of days for them to feel well enough to return to work.

Attendance – Mr Donnelly explained his rationale behind the grading moving to amber; in that attendance is a cause for concern, as although it is ahead of national, it still remains lower than in previous years. Mr Donnelly advised that there are a significant number of children absent due to C19; and then went on to provide a brief summary in terms of individual school’s attendance data (see pg3 CEO report).

Q: Do the DfE run shadow attendance data, ie non-Covid absence inclusive data?
A: They can’t now, as the X code is no longer in use in the same way, those children who are absent with Covid are now recorded as ‘absent due to illness’. The X code is only used for those children who are absent from school whilst they are awaiting PCR test results. The X code removes their absence from the attendance data, ie they do not get a present or absent mark and it doesn’t affect the school’s attendance.

Mrs Williams queried the impact the X code has on school attendance, ie if there is no difference between Covid-related illness and any other illness, there may be an impact on authorised/unauthorised absence.

Mr Donnelly also provided further detail in relation to TPS’ attendance figures; TPS’ overall attendance is lower than national, but is currently the highest in Knowsley. Mr Donnelly also advised that Y10/11 attendance is of particular concern across the borough, especially given it is further impacting their GCSE years. Mr Donnelly assured

	<p>Trustees that Trust/School staff are working closely with these year groups in order to get them back into school and learning.</p> <p>Q: Ms Stevenson noted that TPS have had a long-standing issue regarding non-attendance and with the changes in leadership (ie an Exec Principal and a new Head of School in place) when are Trustees going to see TPS's attendance picking up. Ms Stevenson also added that Trustees need to see changes in behaviour/attitude.</p> <p>A: Mr Donnelly advised that behaviour at TPS is very calm, and that senior/middle leadership are working effectively. Mr Donnelly also added that it was expected that TPS would have been moved out of category by now (save for the impact of Covid).</p> <p>Mr Donnelly also offered Trustees the opportunity to visit the school and meet with the Leadership team. Mr Smith and Ms Whittlesey confirmed that they would like to take up the opportunity. Mr Donnelly to arrange TPS visit in Nov 2021</p> <p>Mr Stanton also asked if he could take up a similar opportunity in respect of LHS/LMP. Mr Donnelly noted that as a Link Trustee, Trustees are more than welcome to approach schools directly; however, the TGM is also there to assist Trustees with organising any visits. Mr Donnelly also stated that he would wish to attend any initial school visits with Trustees, so that he is at hand in a supportive capacity.</p>	TPS visit/meet with L/ship to be arranged	DD	Oct/Nov 2021	
<p>9. Safeguarding Update</p>	<p>Trustees received an electronic copy of the document entitled Safeguarding Update October 2021 prior to the meeting.</p> <p>At the meeting Mr Donnelly reported on the key points from the document:</p> <p>Staff Code of Conduct: the changes alluded to are advisory, and therefore this action has not been as high a priority during the pandemic. The document has previously been checked by our legal team and they have confirmed that there is no requirement to change it, as it technically covers everything that is required; however, Exec Officers feel that it would be good to do. The grading is a 'technical red' in that it is only the final internal Staff Code of Conduct review that is still outstanding.</p> <p>Low Level Concern Policy: Exec Officers are currently reviewing this process and the Managing Allegations procedure has been updated to reflect low level concerns over the last 10 days. This framework will formalise what schools are already doing, and will</p>				

ensure consistency across all schools. Mr Parkinson assured Trustees that the updated document is due to go out to all schools imminently following review.

Q: Isn't it up to Principals/Headteachers to tackle some of this, ie how it works?

A: Yes, you are right – this procedure reinforces that it is the Principal/Headteacher who is responsible for this area within their schools. Likewise, it would be the CEO with regards the Trust team.

Trustees also spoke about concerns re GDPR, and issues of Leaders keeping covert records, ie if a staff member is spoken to, the behaviour cannot be allowed to go underground; and as such Trustees/Governors need to gain assurances.

Discussion followed with regards recording of Low Level Concerns; Trustees noted that there needs to be a firewall from records when there is an unsubstantiated/unfounded outcome. Trustees also noted that there are very clear processes when there are staff disciplinary issues, however with low level concerns it is more difficult; stressing that Low level concerns should not be routinely 'used against' an individual and should be recorded separately to the personnel file.

Mr Parkinson advised that a copy of the Managing Allegations document will be circulated to Trustees for comment; noting that it has been reviewed by key local groups (including legal), and as such the legal position will also be shared with Trustees.

Q: In terms of the '#everyonesinvited' initiative, what proactive measures have been taken by the Trust/schools?

A: At the start of this initiative, Mr Donnelly spoke with Principals about this and key issues were discussed; Mr Donnelly also reviewed the website to confirm that none of our schools were mentioned. All of our schools follow Ofsted's guidance in that the assumption is that "it is happening at our schools" and therefore a proactive rather than a reactive approach is taken; discussions have taken place with our schools with regards how issues are recorded, and all schools are now recording all incidents under a specific heading.

Q: How are we using pupil/parent view, ie do we know whether our children feel safe at school?

A: A substantial amount of work has been undertaken; the next pupil survey is due to take place when we return after October half term; it won't be specifically focused on

	<p><i>Safeguarding, however there will be questions within the survey which will link back to it (this is best practice, as children will quite often answer more openly when the questions are not direct.) Mr Donnelly added that discussions are currently taking place with Principals around whether these survey should be anonymous or named.</i></p> <p>Discussion followed around anonymous / named surveys, and Mr Donnelly suggested as a first step it may be best for an anonymous survey, as children will be more likely to complete the survey if they feel they cannot be identified; this way Principals may be able to find out how big the issue is at their schools. The next stage would then be to ensure there are systems in place that make children feel comfortable/safe to report their concerns freely.</p> <p>Mr Smith spoke about his working recently with the company 20/20 Dreams; they are a company that are focused around equality/diversity; they are facilitating sexual harassment sessions/workshops for students; this can be really effective, especially when some staff are uncomfortable when dealing with these areas. Mr Donnelly thanked Mr Smith and confirmed that he would be interested in looking into this further</p> <p>Mr Donnelly then went on to explain that there were a number of items within the report graded as amber; noting that this is because of where the trust/schools are within the current annual cycle. Mr Donnelly added that he had asked the Trust's Safeguarding Lead to take a 'hard line' when grading the items; and as such the amber items reflect the work currently in progress.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson also noted that a copy of the Safeguarding/Safer Recruitment Training Calendar 2021-22 has been circulated to Trustees, Governors, Clerks, Principals, DSLs and the trust central team.</p>	Contact details for 20/20 Dreams (equality/diversity company) to be shared with CEO	K Smith	ASAP	
<p>10. Litherland Project Update</p>	<p>Trustees received an electronic of the document entitled Litherland Project – Phase 2 Update 14.10.21 prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson reported that Phase 1 project works had been successfully completed; in that LHS now in the main can be situated on the 1st floor of the building. The phase 1 works came in on time and slightly under budget. Snagging processes have been taking place, and due to the phased approach, it has allowed for an incremental move; however, all LHS' staff/students will have moved onto the 2nd floor by the time the school returns after October half term.</p>				

	<p>Mr Parkinson then went on to provide a brief explanation of the summary of account and projections, Timeline and Sign Off dates for Phase 2 works; noting that next steps will be for Exec Officers to work with the Trust’s Project Board and once figures have been validated an updated Board report will be brought back to Trustees for approval. At this point Trustees will need to decide if they wish to approve the works remotely via email, or via a one-item agenda meeting.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson also noted that BF&A have requested to see some ‘before and after’ photos so that they could see the works that had been undertaken; the Matterport scan of the building prior to the works, and photos from after will be circulated to all Trustees.</p> <p>Q: <i>Would it be possible for Trustees to have a site visit?</i> A: <i>Yes, we would be more than happy to arrange.</i></p>				
<p>11. Trust Committee Update</p>	<p>Education & Standards Committee Update - Trustees received an electronic copy of the E&S Committee board report dated 09.09.21 prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Smith provided a brief overview of the report; noting that a good, robust discussion had taken place around KS4 attainment/summer results. Discussion / challenge also took place around possible inflation of results. Trustees also received updates in respect of Appeals, GCSE Resits and School Improvement Priorities 2021-22. E&S have also asked for updates re Planning for Teachers (progress) and Pupil Destinations. Mr Smith also confirmed that the board report was a true reflection of the meeting, and that he was looking forward to the discussions due to take place on 11.11.21.</p> <p>There being no questions, Trustees thanked Mr Smith for his summary.</p>				
<p>10. Trust Committee Update (cont’d)</p>	<p>Business, Finance & Audit Committee Update</p> <p>Mr Vitalis provided a brief verbal summary of the BF&A meeting that had taken place on 07.10.21; noting that internal audit provided a presentation re their Visit 3 Key Financial Controls July 2021 report and Internal Planning 2021-22 document. Mr Vitalis reported that the committee were pleased to receive appropriate assurances from internal audit.</p>				

	<p>Mr Vitalis went on to advise that finances remain track and the Trust is looking to be in a good position; Year-End audit is currently underway and the final position will be reported to BF&A at their December meeting.</p> <p>School Recovery Plans have been produced by the Exec Team, and the efficiencies identified by the SRMA report have been included where possible; BF&A recognised the amount of work that had been undertaken by the team in order to produce these documents, and going forwards further links to other strands within the strategy will be incorporated as well. The format of the documents will also be slightly altered so that they a layman will be able to understand the figures, and they will also include update on progress. Mr Vitalis also noted that some savings identified within the SRMA report have already been realised.</p> <p>Other items discussed included the Litherland Project, Operations Update and Policy update (Charging & Remissions Policy and Whistleblowing Policy were approved; at the request of Exec Officers, the Lettings Policy was deferred to next BF&A).</p>				
<p>11. Risk/Reporting Update</p>	<p>Mr Donnelly reported that the Risk & Reporting group were close to releasing the new Risk Reporting document to Trustees.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson then put the Trust’s Risk Register on screen and the Trustees reviewed those items allocated to full MAT Board.</p> <p>Exec Officers also advised that there was an outstanding action in respect of the risk related to appeals (Covid Catch Up element), and that this will be picked up in time for the next E&S meeting.</p> <p>Mr Smith also spoke about an additional risk in terms of exam preparation for students, ie at this point exams are due to take place but this could change if Covid cases begin to pick up; as such schools need to have contingency plans ready to cover both scenarios, ie face-to-face exams and teacher assessed grade procedures. All agreed that this risk should be added to the Risk Register/Reporting Document; discussion also followed as to whether this risk should sit with E&S or whether it should sit with Full Trust Board. Trustees agreed that with it being such a high risk area it should be assigned to Full Trust Board for review.</p>	<p>Risk Register / Reporting Document to be updated to include risk linked to Preparation for Summer Term 2022 - ie plans for Exams and Teacher Assessed Grades and brought to Full Trust Board for further discussion.</p>	<p>CEO / COO / DoTL</p>	<p>For next Trust Board meeting (09.12.21)</p>	

<p>12. Trust Board Self Evaluation</p>	<p>Mr Stanton advised that following the recent Self Evaluation Working Party meeting (insert date), a draft copy of the Governance Review terms of reference document had been circulated to Trustees for approval; and all responses received have agreed with the content therein. Mr Stanton added that the next step would be therefore to agree the facilitator for the external review of governance itself.</p> <p>Mr Donnelly suggested that this is a two stage process; in that the 1st stage is for Trustees to agree their Trust Board Self-Evaluation document; this would then allow for it to move to the 2nd stage where it is taken out for external review. Following discussion Trustees:</p> <p>RESOLVED: to agree the Trust Board Self-Evaluation document 2020-21</p> <p>Discussion then followed regarding possible facilitators for the Governance review, as well as how the Governance review fits in with the work on Trust Strategy. Trustees agreed that the Governance review will look at the Impact of Governance and Governance arrangements across the Trust; which will assure Trustees in terms of where governance is effective and which areas need to be improved – it was also noted that this will then link into the next Trust Strategy document. With regards facilitators, Trustees agreed that it would be good to secure someone from outside the education sector, ie health/housing. Mr Vitalis spoke about his experiences in this area and agreed to give some thought to this and come back to Exec Officers with possible suggestions.</p> <p>Mr Stanton also asked if Trustees were happy to approve the Governance Review Terms of Reference document. Following discussion, Trustees</p> <p>RESOLVED: to approve the Governance Review Terms of Reference (Sep 2021) document</p>				
<p>13. Governance Update (incl Trustee Recruitment)</p>	<p>Trustees received an electronic copy of the Governance Update Report October 2021 and associated attachments prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Trustees accepted the Governance Update Report, and</p> <p>RESOLVED: to approve the Trust Scheme of Delegation 2021 and High Level Division of Responsibility document</p>				

<p>14. Policy Update</p>	<p>Trustees received electronic copies of the Pay Policy Review Summary Decision Paper, the Teachers Pay Policy 2021-22, and the Central Staff Pay Policy 2021-22 prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Parkinson provide a brief verbal update in relation to: the Support Staff Pay offer</p> <p>Support Staff Pay Policy: the support staff pay policy has not yet been updated as Exec Officers are awaiting the outcome re the 2021 pay award; at this point the pay offer has been rejected, and as such there is potential for industrial action; however, a ballot will need to take place before it reaches this position. Mr Parkinson also advised that once the Support Staff pay award has been agreed, the policy will be updated and brought to Trustees for approval.</p> <p>Impact of STPCD: the STPCD is as per the original budget process and therefore was as planned for; as a result, there is no impact on the budget in adopting this recommendation.</p> <p>Teachers Pay Policy 2021 and Central Staff Pay Policy 2021: both policies have been updated to reflect the review against STPCD 2021; the Teachers Pay Policy 2021 has also been further amended so that it provides for progression along the relevant pay scale as an expectation were a staff member has not been subject to formal/informal support plans and/or capability in the year.</p> <p>There being no questions, Trustees</p> <p>RESOLVED: to approve Teachers Pay Policy 2021 and Central Staff Pay Policy 2021</p>	<p>Pay Policies to be circulated to JCNC colleagues for final feedback.</p> <p>Publication to the website and circulation to schools to follow JCNC feedback.</p>	<p>COO</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	
<p>15. AoB</p>	<p>Trustee Meetings</p> <p>Q: When are we as Trustees looking to move back to face-to-face meetings?</p> <p>Discussion followed regarding what other sectors are doing, ie health; and it was noted that in these settings they are still following the approach of ‘where you can meet remotely you should continue to do so’. Trustees therefore agreed to carry on with the same approach up until Christmas, with a view to move to face-to face meetings in January 2022 (with a caveat that as long as government guidance allows this to happen).</p>				
<p>16. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>The date of the next MAT Board meeting is Thursday 9th December 2021</p>				

	<p>Ms Stevenson closed the meeting by giving formal thanks to the Exec Officers and their teams for their continued efforts.</p> <p>Trustees also noted that they were looking forward to visiting schools, and meeting with their respective Principals.</p>				
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Meeting closed at 9.47 am

These minutes are approved as a true record of the meeting

Signed:

[H Stevenson – Chair]

Date: 9th December 2021