

**Minutes of the Walton Academy Committee meeting  
Held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7:30am  
In the Conference Room**

| <b>Governor name</b>                         | <b>Initials</b> | <b>Governor category</b> | A = absence |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Miss T Boot                                  | TBO             | Staff                    |             |
| Mrs S Cooper                                 | SCO             | Parent                   |             |
| Mrs H Ind                                    | HIN             | Appointed                |             |
| Mr N Parry                                   | NPA             | Appointed                | A           |
| Mr N Smith<br><b>Vice Chair of Governors</b> | NSM             | Appointed                |             |
| Mr M Sumner                                  | MSU             | Appointed                | A           |
| Mrs R Webb<br><b>Chair of Governors</b>      | RL              | Appointed                |             |

In attendance: [staff or other invited persons]

| <b>Staff name</b> | <b>Initials</b> | <b>Role</b>       |  |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Mr W Teece        | WTE             | Principal         |  |
| Ms C Saxelby      | CSA             | Senior Principal  |  |
| Ms J Leonard      | JLE             | Vice Principal    |  |
| Mrs J Stock       | JKS             | Clerk and Advisor |  |

| <b>Item No</b>     | <b>Item</b>   | <b>Action/<br/>by<br/>who/when</b> |
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| <b>AC/01/19-20</b> | <b>Apologies for absence</b><br>Apologies for absence were received and agreed from Mr Sumner. Mr Parry was absent from the meeting.  |                                    |
| <b>AC/02/19-20</b> | <b>Declaration of interest</b><br>There were no declarations of interest, either direct or indirect, for any items of business on the agenda.<br>The chair asked if anyone had any declarations to update. Ms Cooper updated her interests. All other governors present confirmed that the declarations given at the beginning of the academic year were correct. |                                    |
| <b>AC/03/19-20</b> | <b>Safeguarding, and GDPR</b><br>Ms Leonard informed governors that the Safeguarding pack has been updated. Ms Boot is now part of the safeguarding team as SENCO. All staff received a safeguarding update on their return to work last week. There have been some changes to KCSIE part 1   |                                    |

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|                           | <p>and staff are required to read, sign and return the document to Mr Teece.</p> <p>7:35am Ms Boot joins the meeting.</p> <p>Educare training is planned for all staff. All staff have access to the key document from share drive. There is a new Ofsted framework on safeguarding.</p> <p>Key points are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online safety</li> <li>• Sexting and up-skirting</li> <li>• Serious crime and key behaviours</li> <li>• Online safety</li> </ul> <p>Governors were informed that this is already delivered across the academy and further improvements will be made during the year.</p> <p>Ofsted key areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health and wellbeing</li> <li>• SEND</li> <li>• Forced marriage and FGM</li> <li>• Contextual safeguarding</li> <li>• Attendance, exclusions and off-rolling students</li> </ul> <p><b>Governors asked</b> how the academy communicates with parents. Ms Leonard informed them that the academy sends four newsletters per year out to all parents by email and the newsletter is also available online. Students also receive this to their school email along with online safety guidance as part of their tutor programme. Stay safer is delivered to students and will be communication will be expanded to parents. The academy is looking at ways to improve face to face communication with parents <b>Governors asked</b> if there is a parent steering group. They were informed that there is and the academy will be moving towards focus groups as this will target parents strengths. <b>Governors asked</b> if there was an IT acceptable policy. Ms Leonard confirmed there was and this will be circulated. <b>The Chair of Governors</b> praised the safeguarding at the academy and Mr Teece added that there was exceptional leadership in this area from Ms Leonard. <b>Governors were reminded</b> that the link governor for Safeguarding will be required to visit the academy at least once per term and provide a report.</p> |                           |
| <p><b>AC/04/19-20</b></p> | <p><b>Minutes of the LAB meeting dated Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b><br/> <b>Minutes of the F&amp;R meeting dated Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b><br/> <b>Minutes of the S&amp;O meeting dated Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019</b><br/>           Having previously been received were agreed and signed by the chair.</p>   |                           |
| <p><b>AC/05/19-20</b></p> | <p><b>Matters Arising:</b><br/> <b>LAB:LAB/057/1819 – Safeguarding:</b><br/>           The safeguarding governor will arrange to visit the academy on a termly basis and provide a report to governors.<br/> <b>LAB/067/1819 – New Buildings:</b><br/>           Mr Teece informed governors that the changing rooms and toilets are not yet ready for students. In the interim, there are currently</p>  |                           |

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|                           | <p>mobile rooms for students. The completion of work is still expected to be December 2019.<br/> <b>F&amp;R:</b> None<br/> <b>S&amp;O: S&amp;O/087/1819</b> – New Building:<br/>           Mr Teece is in contact with the trust. There have been concerns raised about timescales. This is in hand.</p>  |                           |
| <p><b>AC/06/19-20</b></p> | <p><b>2021/22 Admission Policy</b></p> <p>Confidential Item</p>   |                           |
| <p><b>AC/07/19-20</b></p> | <p><b>Exam Results Presentation</b></p> <p>Governors received these documents via SharePoint prior to the meeting.<br/>           Mt Teece gave an overview of the results from GCSE and A level. He advised governors that the results for Walton were strong even against good schools.</p> <p><b>GCSE:</b><br/> <u>Key point to note are:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walton was number one in Grantham and possibly the whole of Lincolnshire</li> <li>• Progress 8 was well above average and may rise further</li> <li>• EBAC and Attainment above average</li> <li>• Combined science performed particularly well with a big increase on 7+ and deserved a special mention</li> <li>• 4+ and 5+ grades increased on last year</li> <li>• 36 grade 9's achieved this year an increase from last year</li> <li>• On average students were half a grade above national average</li> </ul> <p>Mr Teece told governors that support is ongoing for G&amp;T (gifted and talented) students. The national data check should be available mid-November with the ISDR (Inspection Data Summary Report) will follow after that.</p> <p>Drama now has a specialist leader. PE was impacted by a change in qualifications, but the subject is moving in the right direction. For some students alternative pathways are right for them. Alternative provision is very costly however the academy is looking at alternatives for some students including ECDL and hospitality.</p> <p><b>Governors and staff</b> engaged in a discussion around resits and re marking of papers. This can be costly and this was shared with parents before the exams. In some cases the academy will pay for remarking in others, after discussion with parents, the parents may pick up the cost. If exam boards stay within tolerance they won't change the grade.</p> <p><b>A Level:</b><br/>           Governors were reminded that group sizes at A Level are small. A three year trend in data shows that Attainment and Average grades have both increased. However the academy strives to be better. High APS (Average Points Score) in KS4 (Key Stage 4) makes it very hard to add value in KS5. The Trust are producing a KS5</p> |                           |

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|             | <p>performance paper. APS is up, average grades are up and Key headlines are up. <b>Governors requested</b> a results diagnosis for the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Key points to note are:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A roll out of enrichment activity to increase VA (Value Added) for this cohort</li> <li>• The achievements of students taught by Mr Thomas-Wright were exceptional and he was praised by all at the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Governors asked</b> what results to students have to achieve to take A levels at the academy. They were informed that the guidance given to students and parents is they should have a minimum of a level 5 at GCSE to study A level. These conversations were held with all students on results day. In addition, qualifications and pathways will be looked at and this is all done on an individual basis. There is now a new deputy at Post 16.</p> <p>Mr Teece concluded that the data produced by FFT (Fisher Family Trust) is not likely to change significantly. The academy is performing well across all areas and this is testament to all staff at Walton. The academy is in the top 5% across schools nationally. The academy are currently carrying out an exam review. All areas are looking at what will inhibit success and what staff will do about this. Ms Leonard is leading on this. Middle leaders in the academy show strength.</p> <p><b>Governors raised the following concerns:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High ability students moving to KG (Kesteven and Grantham Girls' Grammar School). Mr Teece informed governors that this is two way traffic with some students coming to Walton for A Level provision</li> <li>• The Post 16 offer of subjects with more BTEC than traditional A Level. Governors were informed that this discussion had been held at Senior Leadership meetings. The balance is to grow Post 16 provision and this results in decisions about academic versus vocational subjects.</li> </ul> <p>Destination data does show that students are lost to KG for Hair &amp; Beauty and Languages. Walton has a strong cohort of students for languages. <b>Governors asked</b> if students were finding alternative provision for A Level because of the options available to them at Walton. Assemblies are now held celebrating the education available to students from Y7 to Yr14. Parental engagement in this is paramount.</p> <p><b>Governors thanked</b> Mr Teece and his team at Walton for the fantastic results achieved. A letter of thanks has been sent to all staff from the Governors.</p> | <p>Action WT by Nov meeting</p> |
| AC/08/19-20 | <p><b>Determination of confidentiality of business Equality Act consideration Nolan Principles</b></p> <p>Governors considered whether anything discussed during the meeting should be deemed as confidential. It was Resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That no agenda item AC/06/19-20 should remain confidential to those present at the meeting</li> </ul>  |                                 |

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|                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There had been no Equality Act implications</li> <li>- Attendees were content that all decisions made adhere to the seven Nolan principles.</li> </ul> |                           |
| <b>AC/09/19-20</b> | <p><b>Date and time of next meeting</b><br/>Wednesday 6th November 2019 at 7:30am diary invites have been sent.</p>   |                           |
|                    | <p>The meeting closed at 8:46pm</p> <p>Signed..... (chair) Date.....</p> <p>Print.....</p>  |                           |

**Confidential**  
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| LAB/06/19-20 | <p><b>2021/22 Admission Policy</b></p> <p>Governors were advised that the net capacity for students is 180 PAN (pupil admission number). If the policy is kept at this number then the academy would be at capacity in three years. This would mean either reducing the PAN or the Trust investing money to extend the academy further. To date LCC (Lincolnshire County Council) do not have any net capacity data. Mr Teece has spoken with Andrew Wilson and Alison Elway regarding a PAN reduction and it has been decided that the admissions criteria will remain at 180 and any change will be made to this at a later date. Some of the challenges the academy would face if the PAN remained at 180 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dining hall capacity</li> <li>• Social areas</li> <li>• Changing Room facilities</li> <li>• Provision for exams (rooms)</li> </ul> <p>The increase in numbers can already be felt across the academy. Ms Saxelby reminded governors that the academy prides it's self on being a small high performing school and already has 900 students including Post16 provision. It would be more advantageous to keep the number of students at 150 PAN.</p> <p><b>Governors asked</b> where the figure of increasing the capacity to 180 came from. Mr Teece told them that there is a need in Grantham for places. Currently many students leave the area to go to good quality schools outside the area and as a result LCC wanted Walton to increase its PAN. <b>All present</b> then engaged in a discussion around admissions. It was confirmed that any reduction in PAN would not be until the 21/22 admissions. An independent report is being compiled. Governors were informed that it is not unusual for schools to reduce their PAN. <b>Governors requested</b> that they were regularly updated about admissions, in particular regarding H&amp;S and Social implications.</p> |                           |
|              | <p>Signed..... (chair) Date.....</p> <p>Print.....</p>   |                           |