The Link Academy Trust

Newton & Teign Local Board
Minutes: Wednesday 16th December 2020
Informal online discussion

Invited:

Lynda Cooper (Chair) Vic Pooler Olivia Gentile Dan Turner Kelly Yeo Jo Carter Ewa Ziubryniewicz Becky Ames (Clerk)

Apologies: None

Supporting Documents: Reports from both Academy Heads, Standards & Curriculum Meeting Minutes, Local Board Feedback from Trustees,

Lynda Cooper (LC) As our usual N&T LGB meeting is being replaced by the Moorland Hub meeting on Wednesday (which has a focus on introductions to staff and governors), I wondered if we could cover off some of our standing items by email instead. It would be good to have a record for the files, and the chance to follow up with anything that looks urgent.

Declaration of Business Interests - There were no declarations of Business Interests.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of 14.10.2020 – the minutes were approved.

LC requested the minutes were reviewed and approved.

The minutes were approved.

Mr Dan Turner & Miss Vic Pooler: Provided reports on the following for both Hennock and Bearnes.

- Safeguarding
- o SEND
- o Pupil Premium
- H&S/risk assessments
- o Personnel
- o Parents/PTA

LC reported the following:

- Frances has formally stepped down as Community Governor for Hennock; we now have vacancies for this role at both schools. We need three people, or one third of the membership (whichever is greater) to be present at meetings to be quorate.
- Sports Premium: we had clarification from the CEO at the S&C meeting that the sports
 policy/sports grant paperwork should be handled by the specialist sports team. She is
 following this up. On sports funding from the 2020 summer term, we had the following
 response from the Trustees:

Matt and Nicky are working with the specialist sports staff to examine how the funds will be spent. DfE are considering allowing the fund to be carried over into next year as COVID has delayed the spend. Specialist sports team will assist in evidencing the impact of the fund on pupils. This grant may well be shut down in future given national COVID spending. The PE specialist team, delivering CPD, specialist sports, competitive team sports and after school clubs takes £9K of the £16K pot per school. Money that should have been spent in the summer term when we were in lockdown is still available to spend and all E/AH are being given support to spend very wisely - particularly on equipment (e.g. iPads) to allow impact to be assessed.

- Focused visits (last term): both schools have had safeguarding focused visits. In addition to the points taken for the school action plans I've noted:
 - LC to check whether the 'seven golden rules' are included in the Governor's induction pack
 - o LC to check whether she can do safer recruitment/Prevent training
 - LC to flag that there's uncertainty around who handles safeguarding training for central services staff (DONE: passed to ATSIL)
- Focused visits (next term): these will look at SEN and I'll be in touch in the new year to set up meetings.
- Update from S&C and Chairs' Working Group:
 - S&C minutes attached.
 - We've had feedback from the Trustees to some other issues raised at the S&C meeting. This is a positive development. Full notes attached, but I'd draw your attention to point 3 (suggestions for helping with Governor recruitment; I'll follow up on both the video idea and with Alice) and points 5 and 6 (on sports premium/sports funding as noted above).

Date of next meeting 10.02.2021