



**Nexus MAT Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday 30 April 2025**  
**5.00 pm – 7.30 pm – Nexus HQ**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Role:</b>	<b>Initials:</b>
Rachel Potts	Director/Member & Chair of Trust Board of Directors	RP
Sue Shelley	Director & Vice Chair of Trust Board of Directors	SS
Gillian Askew	Director	GA
Colin Bradley	Director	CB
Phil Bradley	Director	PB
Tina Havenhand	Director	TH
<b>Also Present:</b>		
Warren Carratt	Chief Executive Officer	CEO
Joel Hardwick	Assistant CEO – Corporate Affairs	JH
Renata Robins	Governance Clerk	Clerk
Karen Smith	Chief Finance Officer	CFO
Lana Stoyles	Executive Director - Business Transformation (Observing)	LS
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Naomi Cooper	Director	NC
Mark Greenwood	Director	MG
Victoria Morris	Director	VM
Ray Palmer	Director	RPa
Jacky Tattershall	Assistant CEO – Quality Assurance & Improvement	JT

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	ACTIONS
<p>1.1 Welcome &amp; receive apologies for absence</p> <p>Lana Stoyles (LS) was welcomed to the meeting in her new capacity as Executive Director – Business Transformation and observer of the meeting. Introductions were made.</p> <p>Apologies were received for NC, MG, VM, RP and JT.</p>	
<p>1.2 To accept apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were accepted for NC, MG, VM, RP and JT.</p>	
2. ITEMS FOR AOB	
<p>Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered</p> <p>2.1 Shared Services procurement. 2.2 Confidential Appendix 1. 2.3 Companies House.</p>	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS	
<p>3.1 Individual Directors to declare any personal, business/governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>None declared.</p>	
4. NEXUS MAT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES	
<p>4.1 To approve the minutes of the following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust Board Meeting held on Wednesday 26 March 2025.</li> </ul> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
<p>4.2 To approve the confidential items from the 26 March 2025 meeting:</p> <p>4.2a Confidential minutes (Appendix 1). 4.2b Confidential minutes (Appendix 2). 4.2c Confidential minutes (Appendix 3).</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
<p>4.3 Review of Action Tracker</p> <p>Action Tracker was reviewed and updated as appropriate.</p>	
<p>4.4 Matters arising from the Minutes</p>	

No matters were raised.	
<b>5. STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE REPORT</b>	
<p>The CEO provided an overview of the report, which was received and scrutinised by the Directors.</p> <p>The CEO reported that, following the production of the report, Nexus Multi Academy Trust had been approached by another trust to explore a potential merger, with a provisional timeline set for September 2027. In the interim, there may be opportunities for partnership working.</p> <p>Regarding Bents Green, the CEO noted that Sheffield City Council had yet to confirm an interim funding settlement. As a result, Nexus Multi Academy Trust may consider deferring the conversion date to 1 July.</p> <p>In Doncaster, the local authority had agreed to fund the installation of modular units at The Bridge, enabling North Ridge to offer an additional 14 places. They also committed to providing further funding, exploring lease extension options, and coordinating pupil transport to The Bridge.</p> <p>Additionally, RMBC had indicated a willingness to cover the full installation costs of the modular accommodation at Kelford.</p> <p>The Directors thanked the CEO for the very positive updates.</p>	
<b>6. CONSOLIDATED BUDGET MONITORING REPORT – PERIOD 6</b>	
<p>Report was received and scrutinised by Directors.</p> <p>CFO reported that Nexus Multi Academy Trust is now a VAT registered entity. CFO also reported that the revenue position was more or less in line with the budget with a healthy in-year surplus.</p> <p>CEO provided an update on leadership changes at Lotus Academy, which are, in part, intended to improve the budget position this year and next. Due to time delay in budget reports and the need for new leadership to have an impact, these changes will not feature for a couple of months.</p> <p>Directors thanked the CFO and her team for a very thorough report.</p>	
<b>7. DUE DILIGENCE REPORT – SEVEN HILLS</b>	
<p>Directors received the due diligence assessment undertaken for Seven Hills. The CEO provided an overview, noting that the due diligence process had been positive, with no significant risks identified for the Trust.</p> <p><b>TH noted that the pool had been decommissioned and asked what the plan was for that space?</b></p> <p>LS stated that the school had now recommissioned the pool.</p>	

<p><b>GA asked a supplementary question, if the levy could be used to support apprenticeships from suppliers, for example, rather than just the learning bit of the apprenticeship?</b></p> <p>LS replied that this was being reviewed with both HR and the Careers Team as there was a possibility that the levy could be shared across a different provider.</p> <p><b>Directors unanimously agreed to proceed with the conversion with no provisions made.</b></p>	
<p><b>8. BECTON SCHOOL – RENAMING REQUEST</b></p> <p>Directors received the previously circulated report.</p> <p><b>Directors unanimously approved the renaming of Becton School to Kingfisher Academy from 1 September 2025.</b></p>	
<p><b>9. PROPOSED 2025-26 MEETING DATES</b></p> <p>Document circulated previously.</p> <p><b>Directors unanimously agreed the proposed 2025-2026 meeting dates in principle.</b></p>	
<p><b>10. POLICY REVIEW REPORT</b></p> <p><b>The CEO referred Directors to the previously circulated report.</b></p> <p><b>SS enquired about the terminology under 1.1.1 Acceptable Use – acceptable use of what?</b></p> <p>The CEO confirmed that this related to the Acceptable Use of ICT and it was an industry standard term.</p> <p><b>GA asked, having the Trust Procurement Policy, would it be beneficial to have a local procurement policy that reflects what purchasing would happen locally under the auspices of the Trust wide policy?</b></p> <p>LS responded that the approach taken was that the policy is Trust level and the procedures which break it down into sections is what the schools use.</p> <p><b>Directors voted unanimously to accept the changes made to the Trust policies as outlined in Section 3 of the report.</b></p> <p><b>Action: JH to issue a policy briefing to inform the workforce on the policy updates.</b></p>	<p><b>Action:</b> JH 01.05.25</p>
<p>10.1 Academies Policy Review Board Action Log</p> <p>Received for information.</p>	
<p><b>11. RISK REGISTER</b></p> <p>Risk Register was received and scrutinised.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b></p>

<p><b>PB requested that on the Safeguarding practices on page 6, the inclusion of a termly Director meeting with DSLs be added as an assurance measure.</b> <b>Action:</b> CEO agreed to add this measure to the risk register.</p>	<p>CEO 30.04.25</p>
<p><b>12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b></p>	
<p><b>12.1 Shared Services procurement Item 2.1</b> GA reported that the CEO, Chair, and LS have recently discussed the potential for Go for Growth to procure two days per week of procurement and marketplace development support from Nexus.</p> <p>While not yet finalised, the proposal is at an advanced stage, with due diligence completed. As Go for Growth would be purchasing from the Trust—not the other way around—it does not meet the threshold for related party reporting (over £40,000). The CFO confirmed that no formal approval is required, though the arrangement would need to be disclosed to auditors for year-end accounts.</p> <p>Discussions have also explored the feasibility of offering marketplace-facing workshops through Nexus, covering topics such as bid writing, the Procurement Act, regulations, and social value, to enhance procurement outcomes within the Trust.</p> <p>GA has put together a commercial agreement which is now with LS for ratification.</p> <p>The CFO confirmed that whilst the transaction with Go for Growth would not require DfE approval (as it related to income rather than expenditure), it would still require reporting in our annual accounts. This would include disclosing the following information:</p> <p>In accordance with the SORP, disclosure of related party transactions must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the names of the related parties</li> <li>▪ a description of the relationship between the parties</li> <li>▪ a description of the transactions (for example service level agreements and contracts of employment)</li> <li>▪ the amounts involved</li> <li>▪ the amounts due to or from the related parties at the balance sheet date, and any provision for doubtful debts or amounts written off</li> <li>▪ details of any guarantees given/received</li> <li>▪ terms and conditions, including whether they are secured, and the nature of the consideration to be provided in settlement</li> <li>▪ other elements of the transactions which are necessary for the understanding of the accounts.</li> </ul> <p>It will also be important to ensure that the agreement between Nexus and Go for Growth is transparent and properly documented to evidence that we are charging for services in line with an established methodology that we use consistently.</p> <p>Directors noted the CFO’s advice.</p> <p><b>12.2 Confidential Appendix Item 2.2 – Minuted separately.</b></p>	

<p><b>12.3 Companies House Item 2.3</b></p> <p>JH informed the meeting that, starting from September 2025, it will become a legal requirement for all Directors to verify their identity with Companies House through an online process.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> While this remains voluntary until September, JH confirmed that Adam Cloney will distribute the relevant link and instructions closer to the implementation date.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> JH/AC July 2025</p>
<p><b>13. REVIEW OF RISK</b></p>	
<p>To consider any new risks identified during the meeting for referral to Trust Committees</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b>14. CONFIDENTIALITY</b></p>	
<p>Item 12.2 minuted separately as Confidential Appendix 1.</p>	
<p><b>15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p>	

Wednesday 21 May 2025	17:00-19:30	Teams
Wednesday 25 June 2025	17:00-19:30	Nexus HQ
Wednesday 23 July 2025	17:00-19:30	Nexus HQ

**Minutes approved.**

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE