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Chair's Shares

This month I just want to say thank you.

An early 20th century novelist once wrote that silent gratitude isn't very much to anyone, and how true that still is today. Even with all the 21st century means of communication we literally have at our fingertips, thanking people so often does not happen.

So as Chair of Nexus MAT I would like to thank everyone who undertakes a governance role in our organisation as your personal input is central to the provision of effective teaching and learning in our schools. I do know the input required to read, digest, analyse, discuss and make informed decisions, which is why this is a personal thank you as capacity (and time) are two precious commodities.

With the end of term just round the corner, I sincerely wish you all a peaceful summer break from governance work – mine will not be too peaceful as we will be looking after three young grandchildren, though thankfully not all at once!

Andy



Chief in Brief

I'm delighted to welcome two new Directors to our Trust Board.

Colin Bradley and Tina Havenhand, who joined us on 1 June 2023.

At the same time, Rosey Andrassy has been appointed to the Board as an advisor, bringing a wealth of education leadership experience with her.

Big welcome to all three!



Governance Underpinnings

Academy Trust Handbook Scheme of Delegation Annual Accounts and Governance Statement

For more information on the above visit www.nexusmat.org

North Ridge Community School academised during the height of the pandemic; prior to which the school had been subject to support from the Local Authority. At this time the LA's Intervention Board was replaced by Nexus MAT's local governance arrangements, in the form of an interim transition board. Nexus MAT appointed a number of professionals and educationalists to the board, they were joined by staff and parent representation – all committed to supporting the school's journey of 'rapid-improvement'. It was initially chaired by the late John Coleman.

One of the board's first tasks was to work with Senior Leaders to establish the school's vision and values. Governors brought the right amount of challenge and support to all meetings, thus appropriately contributing to the school's future direction. Similarly, school also utilised the expertise of governors – enlisting their support, between meetings, to undertake learning walks and lesson visits.

More recently, North Ridge opted to switch its governance arrangements to that of an Academy Council. Meetings are still held on a termly basis with governors continuing to visit school between meetings – in the form of focussed visits and 'getting to know you sessions!' This proactive approach ensures governors remain fully informed about all aspects of school life.

Testament to the support of Nexus MAT's Transition Board/Academy Council and consistent leadership - North Ridge Community School is in the privileged position of being able to grade many aspects of its current Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) as outstanding.

In the next Issue — Hilltop School in Maltby

Pupil Parliament at North Ridge — Written by Jake B

We have been very busy this year doing lots of things that help other people. We did a survey to find out what pupils wanted to play with on the school playground. We invited Esther to one of our meetings. Esther talked to us about money and how much we had to spend. We then voted and chose a giant four in a row and some swing balls.



Danni tells everyone in assembly what we have done in our meetings and answers any questions.

For Red Nose Day we voted for the whole school to have a non-uniform day and a wet sponge throwing game to raise money. Four staff volunteered to get wet and we raised £121.70.



We visited Doncaster Mansion House to look at where the council people used to vote and make decisions for Doncaster.

This is also where King Charles made Doncaster into a City. I

got to stand in the same place as King Charles did on the stairs. I am going to send an email to them to see if Nexus can hold a meeting there.



Focus on... Governor Vacancies

We have a number of vacancies for Governors in our schools and we have an advert on the Nexus website. If you know someone who may be interested please pass on this information.

Bader Academy, Doncaster - Community Governors

Beech Academy, Mansfield - 1 Parent Governor

Becton Academy, Sheffield - Parent and Community Governors

Discovery Academy, Sheffield - 2 Staff, and Community Governors

Kenwood Academy, Sheffield Campus - Staff Governor

Kenwood Academy, West Riding Campus, Barnsley— 2 Parent Governors, 2 Staff Governors and Community Governors

Kelford Academy, Rotherham— 1 Staff Governor

North Ridge Community School, Doncaster— 1 Parent Governor

Check out the Nexus Website for Governor Vacancies and an Expression of Interest Form
[Nexusmat.org/careers](https://nexusmat.org/careers)

Corporate Governance & Policy Team

We are here to support you and answer your governance queries

Contact us at: clerkingservices@nexusmat.org



Julie Westwood

Corporate
Governance & Policy
Manager



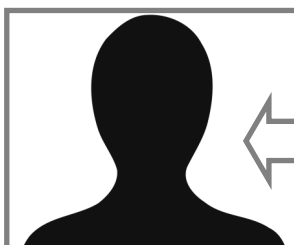
Maria Simpson

Governance & HR
Officer



Welcome to:
Rebecca Horne

Governance Clerk



Renata Robins

Governance Clerk—
joining us in
September



Vicky Hawksley

Governance Clerk
Bank Arrangement



Victoria Cooling

Governance & Policy
Apprentice



Governor Learning Events

Learning Together

To Be The Best We Can Be



We had a really good response to our annual Skills Audit from our local governors and 92% of people who responded scored 4 or 5, which demonstrates strong knowledge and awareness about governance issues.

The main areas that people highlighted as learning and development needs were:

- More familiarity with the Scheme of Delegation
- Not enough opportunity to form strong collaborative relationships

As our Academy Councils only meet three times a year and the meetings are business focussed, we want to invite all governors to our learning and development events in September and October 2023.

This will give everyone an opportunity to participate and meet other governors, share good practice and ideas and to learn more about the framework of governance we operate within.

The events will take place on the dates and times opposite.

Please let us know which of the sessions you would like to attend , no later than 21st July. Contact us at

clerkingservices@nexusmat.org

Or telephone 01709 257277 ext 204

28th September at

Heatherwood School

Doncaster

10am to 12 noon

28th September at

Heatherwood School

Doncaster

4pm to 6pm

4th October at

Crags Community School

Maltby

10am to 12 noon

4th October at

Crags Community School

Maltby

4pm to 6pm