



**Nexus Board of Directors
Wednesday 26th June 2019 5 - 7.30pm
Kimberworth Children's Centre**

Attendees:		
Andrew Child	Director / Member & Chair of Trust Board of Directors	AC
John Coleman	Director / Vice Chair of Trust Board of Directors	JC
Steve Booth	Director	SB
Nick Hodge	Director	NH
Sue Shelley	Director	SS
Peter Castleton	Director	PC
Ray Palmer	Director	RP
Also Present:		
Warren Carratt	CEO	CEO
David McNaught	DCEO	DMc
Emma Sheedy	Nexus Clerk	ES
Cath Sands	Nexus Finance	CS
Apologies:		
Rachel Potts	Director	REP

1. Welcome & Apologies For Absence	
1.1 To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from REP.	
1.2 To accept apologies for absence Apologies were accepted from REP.	
2. Items of AOB	
2.1 Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered. 2.1.1. Andrew Fern 2.1.2. Board Development 2.1.3. Finance Report 2.1.4. Leadership Summit The Chair welcomed Emma Sheedy, Nexus Clerk, and introductions were made around the table.	
3. Declarations Of Interest	
3.1 Individual Directors to declare any personal, business/governance interests on any item on the agenda The Chair advised of his visits to Heatherwood & Coppice Schools on 25 th June. No further interests were declared.	
4. Trust Board of Directors Minutes	
4.1. To approve the minutes of the following Board meeting: RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 nd May 2019, be amended as follows: Page 46 Agenda Item 2.1 Delete "A&F not being quorate." and replace with "A&F potentially not being quorate." ACTION: Clerk to amend the minutes. Ray Palmer commented about the confusing use of his initials, RP, in previous minutes/action trackers when the action was on Rachel Potts, REP, not himself. ACTION: Clerk to amend any relevant documents accordingly.	Clerk 24/07/19 Clerk 24/07/19
4.2. Review of Action Tracker The outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.	

<p>5. Strategic Business Plan</p>	
<p>The Strategic Business Plan 2018-19 had been shared with the Board in advance of the meeting. CEO provided an overview and challenge was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Director (SS) queried if Crags Community School was on target to convert on 1st August 2019 and CEO advised DfE required all legal paperwork by 3rd July, so this would be confirmed week ending 5th July. • A Director (SB) enquired if the research school initiative would continue to be an active part of the strategic plan and DMc advised it was. • A Director (NH) asked for further clarity on section 3 – Developing new partnerships with regards to enhancing pathways into Initial Teaching Training at SHU and DMc explained discussions were taking place with David Owen & Greg Burke, around exploring new pathways for Teaching Assistants to attain QTS via a more flexible route. DMc advised there were two cohorts: September and January. • A Director (NH) asked for further information on section 6 – Establishing residential provision for our most complex pupils and there was a discussion regarding Fountaindale School and working in partnership remains a possibility. • A Director (PC) asked for an overview on section 5 – Enhancing pathways for 19+ provision and there was a discussion, which due to confidentiality <u>was recorded separately in Confidential Appendix 1.</u> • The Chair asked when the Trust would hear about opportunities for a further free school and CEO advised between now and Spring. 	
<p>6. Policy Review</p>	
<p>6.1. Risk Management</p> <p>The Risk Management Policy Update was tabled at the meeting and CEO summarised the need for update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Director (RP) asked where the policy could be found and CEO advised on the Nexus website. <p>ACTION: CEO to provide RP with a copy of the Risk Management Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Director (PC) asked where safeguarding fits into the policy and CEO believed it was 4.2.1.1. Accountability. <p>and it was RESOLVED that the Risk Management Policy be adopted.</p>	<p>CEO 24/07/19</p>
<p>7. Heatherwood & Coppice Due Diligence Approval</p>	
<p>7.1.1. Heatherwood School Due Diligence Assessment</p> <p>The Due Diligence Assessment for Heatherwood School had been shared with the Board in advance of the meeting and was challenged page by page, which due to confidentiality <u>was recorded separately in Confidential Appendix 2.</u></p> <p>In summary although Directors significantly challenged the DD, it was viewed positively that CEO had been held accountable and it was</p>	

<p>7.1.1. Heatherwood School Due Diligence Assessment (continued)</p> <p>RESOLVED that following a 7 nil vote it was unanimously agreed in favour of Heatherwood School to joining Nexus MAT.</p>	
<p>7.1.2. Coppice School Due Diligence Assessment</p> <p>The Due Diligence Assessment for Coppice School had been shared with the Board in advance of the meeting and was challenged page by page, which due to confidentiality was recorded separately in Confidential Appendix 3.</p> <p>In summary although Directors challenged the DD, it was viewed positively that CEO had been held accountable and it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that following a 7 nil vote it was unanimously agreed in favour of Coppice School to join the Nexus MAT.</p>	
<p>8. School Performance Dashboard</p>	
<p>The School Performance Dashboard Summary had been shared with the Board in advance of the meeting and a verbal overview was provided by DMc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennine View is graded requirement improvement. However, the school continues to make significant improvement and now had many Good features, including Leadership and Management and Pupil Behaviour. For the school to achieve a Good overall, a key factor will be 'evidence over time'. At present the progress data is strong – but the need to be evidenced over a longer period to further strengthen any judgement. • As Crags have not yet converted, they remain within the Ofsted window. • A Director (SB) asked of the Headteachers reaction to the dashboard process and DMc advised engagement was positive. • A Director (NH) had a query and there was a discussion, which due to confidentiality was recorded separately in Confidential Appendix 4. • A Director (PC) queried if the Ofsted outcomes were aligned with the Trust's self-assessment and DMc advised yes. • A Director (RP) asked for further clarity on 'over time' for Pennine View and DMc provided a detailed response. • The Chair advised DMc to change the header at section 6 to 'Actions' instead of 'Recommendations'. <p>ACTION: DMc to amend the header at section 6.</p>	<p>DMc 24/07/19</p>
<p>9. North Ridge Due Diligence</p>	
<p>The Pre-Due Diligence Proforma for North Ridge Community School had been shared with the Board in advance of the meeting and comments were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Director (NH) asked what Staff's views were and CEO advised staff supported a conversion. • A Director (RP) asked when conversion would best work and CEO anticipated early 2020, providing Directors are happy with the DD. • A Director (RP) suggested a growth timeline for the Trust and the Chair advised that would be on the July agenda. • A Director (JC) positive commented about Harmony House, which is an off-site independent living skills facility. 	

<p>9. North Ridge Due Diligence (continued)</p> <p>In summary, it was RESOLVED that following a 7 nil vote it was unanimous agreed the Trust should proceed with full DD for North Ridge Community School.</p>	
<p>10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>	
<p>10.1.1. The Chair advised there are three director vacancies, that the appointment of Helen Bellinger was currently going through due process and the remaining two vacancies had been advertised on Academy Ambassadors which is a national initiative. One application had been received but the advert was open until the end of July. Directors had not yet reviewed the received application and it was agreed to allow the closing date to lapse and review in September.</p> <p>A Director (PC) commented he felt the Board would benefit with a Director from a Nursing background.</p> <p>10.1.2. Board Development to be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>10.1.3. Finance Report has been shared with Director and CEO apologised this was not included as an agenda item.</p> <p>10.1.4. A Director (JC) wanted to note how positive and successful the Leadership Summit was. The Chair commented this was echoed by Coppice & Heatherwood Schools and the Summit amplified why they wanted to join the Trust. The presentations were very high quality and the agenda focused and helpful. A Director (JC) suggested exploring other avenue's other than research and continue to share across the Trust.</p> <p>A Director (NH) commented on the venue and on occasions found it difficult to hear the conversations. Following further growth within the Trust, it may prove worthwhile considering this when planning the next Summit. NOTE: CEO/Clerks to note.</p> <p>10.1.5. The Chair would like the new Organisation Structure from September (with names) to be provided for the next meeting. ACTION: CEO to provide.</p> <p>10.1.6. A Director (SS) advised she had recently attended Safeguarding Training, which was poor and would share details with Directors by e-mail.</p>	<p>CEO/CLERKS TO NOTE</p> <p>CEO 24/07/19</p>
<p>11. REVIEW OF RISK</p>	
<p>To consider any new risks identified during the meeting for referral to Audit & Finance Committee</p> <p>It was agreed items highlighted 'red' in the due diligence reports to be included.</p>	

12. CONFIDENTIALITY		
To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting.		
There were discussions at agenda items 5, 7.1.1. 7.1.2. and 8, which were agreed by Directors should be recorded separately in a Confidential Appendix' 1, 2, 3 and 4.		
The meeting closed at 19:37.		
13. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS		
RP offered his apologies for the next meeting.		
Wednesday 24 th July 2019	17:00 – 19:30	Nexus Headquarters

Minutes approved

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE
ANDREW CHILD		24/07/19