



Registered address: Cheney School, Cheney Lane, Oxford, OX3 7

## Community Schools Alliance Trust – Meeting of the Trustees

Non-confidential minutes of Board of Trustees meeting  
on Monday 22nd March 2021, via video conference call

<b>In the Chair:</b>	Liz Tyler Bell
<b>Present:</b>	Bridget Durning, Pat O'Shea (Chair of the Education Performance and Achievement Committee), Ian Thompson
<b>In attendance:</b>	Maurice East (Chair of Bayards Hill LGB), Ben Hegedus (Head of HR & Compliance), Rob Pavey (Headteacher of Cheney School) (until item 6), Richard Stamper (Chair of Cheney LGB), Laura Waller (Head of Finance), Judith Geddes (Clerk)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Ann Childs, Linda Earnshaw, Mary Clarkson and Bryony McCraw

	Minutes
	This meeting was held by video conference call following government advice due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
1.	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received and accepted for Ann Childs, Linda Earnshaw, Mary Clarkson and Bryony McCraw. The meeting was quorate. <b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest received for any items on the agenda.
2.	<b>Non-confidential minutes of the meeting on 18th January 2021</b> Trustees reviewed and approved the non-confidential minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2021.
3.	<b>Vision for Cheney School</b> The Headteacher of Cheney School shared a copy of his Strategic Direction 2021/2022 document and highlighted the following key areas: <b>Academic</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- No evidence that the previous actions, which focused on Pupil Premium pupils, has led to the desired outcome. Instead, the school wants to look at raising standards across the board.</li><li>- Re-launch of Teaching and Learning handbook to promote consistency in certain areas, permit creativity and individuality in others, and promote best practice.</li><li>- Simplify data processes, with standardised format of tracking sheet; only 2 questions for teachers and Head of Faculties to answer:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Who is underperforming?</li><li>● What are you doing about it?</li></ul></li></ul> <b>Inclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Nurture group in Year 7 and Year 8 to address SEMH needs.</li><li>- Introduce Functional Skills and Entry Level qualifications alongside GCSE in core subjects.</li><li>- KS4 options to be reviewed to include COPE and a genuinely vocational offer (perhaps in partnership with RAW)</li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As much Alternative Provision as possible to be brought back in house: both cheaper and more effective.</li></ul> <p><b>Behaviour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Using the Pivotal / Paul Dix behaviour programme. A similar process has been introduced at Wheatley Park.</li><li>- Emphasis on building relationships and restorative practice to help improve behaviour and reduce the number of detentions and exclusions.</li><li>- Common focus to run through CPD for the whole year.</li></ul> <p><b>Culture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction of the house system has gone well.</li><li>- Clarification of rules and promotion of existing school motto.</li><li>- Continuation of anti-racism agenda and other work of the inclusion committee.</li></ul> <p><b>Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- School is not replacing all staff as they resign.</li><li>- Reduce teacher remissions so most experienced teachers are in the classroom for more of their time.</li><li>- Reduce spend on Alternative Provision and remain tight on discretionary spending.</li></ul> <p>The Trustees raised the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How is the process of consultation on the school's strategic direction to be mapped out? The Chair of Cheney LGB advised that he had discussed this with the Headteacher of Cheney School and that the next step would be to hold an informal meeting of the LGB, to which Trustees are welcome to attend, dedicated to discussing the school's strategy in more detail.</li></ul> <p><b>ACTION: CHAIR OF CHENEY LGB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How are we equipping teachers and leaders in school to deliver the changes? The Headteacher of Cheney School replied that two senior leaders will attend training on the Pivotal Behaviour programme. This will then be a focus on the inset day in September 2021 and will be a recurring focus of CPD throughout the next academic year.</li></ul> <p>There were no further questions.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Rob for his presentation</p>
4.	<p><b>Vision for Barton Park School</b></p> <p>As the Head of School of Barton Park was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next Board of Trustees meeting on 17th May 2021. The Clerk will add this to the agenda and notify the Head of School of Barton Park.</p> <p><b>ACTION: CLERK</b></p>
5.	<p><b>Update on reopening of schools and Covid-19 status</b></p> <p>A copy of the Headteachers' reports to LGBs relating to the reopening of schools had been circulated to Trustees prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Headteacher of Cheney School highlighted the following from his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reopening has gone well.</li><li>- Attendance is 93.3 % since reopening which is slightly down on where it was but is higher than the national average.</li><li>- Behaviour in general is excellent although there have been a couple of significant incidents involving violence. Some stresses have emerged but Year teams have put processes in place.</li><li>- Compliance with mask wearing in class is very good.</li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 4,099 lateral flow tests have been carried out in school between Monday 8th March and Tuesday 16th March with no positive cases.</li><li>- 55 Year 10 students are currently self-isolating because one student who should have been self isolating came into school.</li></ul> <p>The Chair thanked the Headteacher of Cheney School for all of his and his staff's hard work in the reopening of the school.</p> <p>There were no questions.</p> <p>The Chair of Bayards Hill LGB highlighted the following points in relation to the wider reopening of Bayards Hill School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reopening has gone well. All expected pupils returned on 8th March except for 3, of which 2 were unwell (non COVID related).</li><li>- Some families are isolating/quarantining - these pupils are being provided with remote education.</li></ul> <p>The Trustees raised some questions on the recent Ofsted monitoring inspection. This is minuted in the confidential minutes.</p> <p>The Headteacher of Cheney School left the meeting at 5.33pm.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Confidential items</b>  These are minuted separately.
<b>14.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>  Monday 17th May 2021, 5pm  The meeting ended at 6.22pm.

Signed ..... Date .....