



**Beech Academy Council**  
**Friday 4 July 2025 at 10:30am**  
**Beech Academy, Fairholme Site, Fairholme Drive, Mansfield NG19 6AH**

<b>Those Present:</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Neil Davies	Executive Headteacher, Beech Academy	ND
Charlotte Edwards	Parent Governor	CE
Sue Elliott	Community Governor	SE
Tracey Geeson	Staff Governor – Non-Teaching	TG
Lucy Hawke	Parent Governor	LH
Kathryn Johnson	Staff Governor - Teaching	KJ
Paula Williams	Executive Regional Director	PW
Katie Sudlow	Parent Governor	KS
Sacha Schofield	Chair	SS
<b>Also Present:</b>		
Rebecca Horne	Governance Clerk	RH
Katie Craig	Head of School	KC
<b>Apologies: None</b>		

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Actions
1.1. To receive apologies for absence  None.	
1.2. To accept apologies for absence  None.	
2. BEST WE CAN BE AWARDS	
2.1 Best We Can Be Awards  Four members of staff AR, JFR, LW and MB were presented with their Best We can Be Awards. ND and KC read out the nominations and all nominees were celebrated and congratulated accordingly.  ND presented the award for JFR in her absence.	
3. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
3.1. Chair to determine any items of urgent business to be considered Chair to determine any items of urgent business  None.  3.2 Confirmation of new Vice Chair – Charlotte Edwards  The academy council unanimously approved the confirmation of new Vice Chair, CE.	
4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
4.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda  There were no declarations received.	
5. BEECH ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE MINUTES	
5.1 Approval of the Academy Council meeting held on 21 March 2025.  The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
5.2 Review of Action Tracker  The outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.	
5.3 Matters arising from the Minutes  None raised.	
6. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	

## 6.1 Headteacher Report

ND provided an overview of the report.

ND reported that it has been a really positive academic year at the school. Pupil numbers are currently at 114 and continue to rise; by September 2025, the roll is expected to reach approximately 115–116 pupils across both the Fairholme and Westfield sites, reflecting significant growth.

To support this increase in pupil numbers, the school has added additional staff capacity, further enhancing the offer for pupils.

ND explained that some colleagues have left the school this academic year, more than in previous years.

However, ND emphasised that the school remains strong in promoting and maintaining its culture, ethos, vision, and values. In-depth discussions took place regarding the school's culture and the expectations for professional behaviour from colleagues, particularly led by the Leadership Team.

ND reported that the quality assurance framework across the school is now well embedded and yielding very positive results.

Parent Governors noted their pen portraits were not available on the school website.  
**Action – Clerking Services to liaise with the Governance Team regarding the publication of the pen portraits on the school website.**

**Action:  
Clerking  
Services  
07/07/25**

### Quality of Education

KC updated on the quality of education part of the report.

PW enquired about the end of the spring term. Following the termly Celebrations of Learning, Curriculum Leaders reviewed the termly progress data and used this to inform planning for the summer terms. All pupils will undertake additional Celebrations of Learning at the end of the summer term.

### **PW asked, what is the termly progress data telling you about how the children are doing?**

KC responded that, as it currently stands, progression overviews outline the intended learning outcomes for each term, mapped from Year 7 through to post-16. During the Celebrations of Learning, the school identifies where each child is positioned within these progression overviews. In recent weeks, discussions have taken place with Rebecca Allard from Nexus MAT regarding the next steps for developing this process further. Data entry is scheduled to take place next week and will be reviewed again at the end of the autumn term.

KC explained that the Data Team at Nexus have developed a framework called 'Next Steps' for English (Reading and Writing), Maths, and Science. Previously, schools were submitting data to Nexus in a variety of formats, which made it difficult to standardise.

Colleagues at Nexus have since worked on creating clear, consistent descriptors. The school is now in the process of transitioning to this new method of data collection.

It was highlighted that leaders have continued to develop Progression Overviews. These are well developed now in the majority of curriculum areas with additional work next academic year focused on PE and PSHE. Curriculum leaders are currently revising and refining Progression Overviews for the Westfield site. The Progression Overviews for PSHE are being developed in relation to the area of improvement which was highlighted recently. Alongside this, leaders have written into progression planning the knowledge required to address the school's equality objectives which are listed in the report.

**SS asked, have you selected those particular objectives in response to the issues you are currently seeing with the young people?**

KC responded, yes. Last academic year, we worked with a representative from the Local Authority to explore this further. A significant amount of staff training took place, and we closely reviewed our young people, CPOMS data, and considered which aspects of equality are most important to our pupils. This work was reflected in the feedback on page 9 of the Headteacher's Report.

KC added that this year, the school has been able to more fully embed these priorities within the PSHE curriculum.

SS explained that she would be very interested in seeing this work once KC has completed it and asked if it could be shared when finished. **Action – KC to share work that has been embedded within the PSHE curriculum.**

**Action  
KC  
05/12/25**

ND asked KC to provide an overview of the work colleagues have undertaken this academic year through the Action Learning Set CPD.

KC explained that, as part of the action research, colleagues had worked in groups throughout the academic year on areas that were both important to the school and of personal interest. She reported that there was a really positive balance between curriculum-focused learning sets and more pastoral topics. KC added that it was particularly valuable to see colleagues collaborating with people they wouldn't normally work with. A twilight training session was held, followed by a review meeting where colleagues came together to share their work. KC noted that an example of this work has been included in the appendices of the Headteacher's Report.

Behaviour and Attitudes

ND reported that behaviour incidents continue to decrease each term and that behaviour across the school remains consistently strong. ND believes this is largely due to the quality of the offer provided to pupils, which contributes to their overall happiness and engagement at school.

ND explained that there has been a slight decline in attendance compared to last academic year; however, overall attendance remains strong.

PW highlighted that it would be useful for Governors to have an understanding of the attendance codes. ND confirmed that this can be provided. **Action – ND to provide attendance codes for Governors.**

**Action:  
ND  
05/12/25**

<p><u>Personal Development</u></p> <p>ND emphasised that children at Beech receive a very strong and well-rounded offer. A comprehensive mapping exercise of the Personal Development (PD) offer for pupils has been completed and is considered an excellent piece of work.</p> <p><b>SS asked, in terms of internship, how many children went on this?</b> ND responded; I would have to check as unsure.</p> <p><u>Community Voice Report</u></p> <p>The Ofsted Parent Voice survey was recently completed by families, with 43 responses received. SS queried the 78% positive response rate to the question, "Bullying is dealt with quickly and effectively." It was suggested that this question might need revising, as some children may not have experienced bullying and therefore cannot accurately judge how it was handled. ND explained that the survey will be redone before the Academy Council meets in December. He added that he is very confident that, as a leadership team and wider staff group, the school intervenes quickly and appropriately in such matters and agreed that revising the question may be the best approach moving forward. <b>Action – ND to look at revising the question on the questionnaire.</b></p> <p>6.1.1 Appendix 1 – Updated SIP</p> <p>This was sent for information only.</p> <p>6.1.2 Appendix 2 – Updated SEF</p> <p>This was sent for information only.</p> <p>Information relating to the SIP/SEF Meeting will be sent out for members of the Academy Council. <b>Action -Clerking Services to send out a date and time for the SIP/SEF Meeting for the autumn term.</b></p>	<p><b>Action: ND 05/12/25</b></p> <p><b>Action: Clerking Services 07/07/25</b></p>
<p>6.2 Draft School Dashboard Summary</p> <p>SS reported this was sent for information only.</p>	
<p>6.3 Budget Report</p> <p>SS reported this was sent for information only.</p>	
<p>6.4 Next Year's Budget and Staffing Structure</p> <p>This was included in the Headteacher Report.</p>	
<p>6.5 Cabinet Member &amp; MPs' Feedback from Pupil Parliament</p> <p>This is to be carried forward to the autumn Academy Council meeting.</p>	



**10. DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

Friday 5 December 2025	10:30-12:30	Beech Academy Council
Friday 20 March 2026	10:30-12:30	Beech Academy Council
Friday 03 July 2025	10:30-12:30	Beech Academy Council

**Minutes approved**

<b>CHAIR</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Sacha Schofield		