

KING'S OAK ACADEMY
Academy Council Meeting
Tuesday 19 March 2024– 4.30pm

AC Members	Role	Attended/Apologies
Diane Owen (DOn)	Sponsor 1 (Chair)	✓
Gary Pine (GPe)	Sponsor 2	✓
Sonia Tibbatts (STs)	Sponsor 3	✓ Online
Liz Gregory (LGy)	Sponsor 4	✓ Online part
Vacancy	Student Advocate	
Sonny Richards (SR)	LA Representative	Not present
Katherine Ogden (KOn)	Principal	✓
Shelley Ball (SBI)	Sponsor 5	✓ online part
Deda Odutola (DOa)	Parent Councillor	✓ Online
Sabrina Marie-Anais (SMa)	Staff Councillor	✓
Lucy Jacobson (LJn)	Staff Councillor	✓ online
Jon Jones (JJ)	Senior Executive Principal	✓
Tamasyn Russell (Tru)	Observer, new Councillor	✓
Expected additional attendees		
Wendy Hellin (WHn)	Clerk	✓
Emma Watts (EWs)	Head of Middle School	✓
Maria Cerepanova (MCa)	Head of Lower School	✓
Susie Weaver (SWr)	Executive Principal	✓
Becki Thielen (BTh)	AP, Head of Inclusion	✓
Phil Spring		✓
Hannah Briden (HBr)	AAP, Inclusion	✓
Laura Phillips		✓ online
James Cornick		✓
Simon white		✓

ACTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD

Date and No	Relates to item	Action	Owner
28.06.23/2	5.5.1	Participation rates of different groups of children (including by gender and PP) will be provided when JCo returns to the AC next year to update on the extra-curricular offer. Ongoing- this will be a future agenda item.	JCo KOn
01.11.23/1	5.6.4	DOn advised that transitions, particularly for middle school, will be added to a future agenda. Ongoing – this will be a future agenda item.	DOn WHn
01.11.23/4	10.2.1	KOn to consider how student reflection is reflected in the policy in terms of directed and self-directed reflection. Ongoing	KOn
01.11.23/5	10.6.1	PP case studies to be brought to a future AC meeting. Ongoing	KOn
31.01.24 /1	10.1	KOn to share staff survey results at the next AC meeting. Ongoing	KOn
31.01.24 /2	15.1	DOn confirmed she will talk to KOn ahead of 19 March, about the next set of visits and what the focus might be. Complete/closed.	DOn

1	Introduction, Administration & Apologies	Action
1.1	DOn welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies are recorded above. DOn advised that the planned committee meetings will replace the next full AC meeting, to allow this meeting to focus on feedback from KOn around the findings from the recent inspection and next steps.	
2	Declarations of Interest	

2.1	No new declarations were made.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
3.1	The minutes from the previous meeting (31.01.24) were confirmed as a true record.	
4	Matters Arising	
4.1	The actions table (above) has been updated.	
5	Feedback from Ofsted inspection and next steps	
5.1	Introduction	
5.1.1	DOn noted that everyone understands how stressful an Ofsted inspection can be and said that during the inspection there was a sense of professionalism felt throughout the academy from the whole staff body. KOn thanked the Academy Council for their work over the last 5 years in holding the school to account in a positive and supportive way. KOn noted how well the Academy Councillors know the school and the areas for improvement. KOn confirmed that all Councillors understood the process and potential outcomes of an ungraded inspection.	
5.2	Inspection feedback - KOn	
5.2.1	The final judgement is that the academy remains good, however, if reinspected, some elements might be deemed to be requiring improvement. There were things that influenced the outcome that the academy cannot change, largely linked to historical outcomes; provision in the classrooms was strong. JJ provided some information around the process that the inspection team followed and some of the discussions that took place at the end of the first day and during the wash up meeting. JJ advised that the trust had to make a decision around whether to challenge the inspection, but ultimately chose not to.	
5.2.2	<p>KOn provided the following feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EYFS stood out as secure; the notion of a graded inspection in 12-18 months' time means that the EY provision has to opportunity to be recognised as outstanding. • Safeguarding was deemed effective (it can only be effective, or not effective). • SEND – there were some concerns around capacity and resources, however, those concerns were not reflected in the classroom practice that inspectors saw. • Personal development was strong. It was noted that the PD element of the framework is carefully planned and enacted across the all-through. • PE – the team were able to speak exceptionally well about their provision and this was mirrored in the extra-curriculum offer. In the survey 89% of those responding said their child participated in an enrichment activity in school. • Pupil voice was strong – children are very good at articulating what they think about the school; they have a unique skill of being able to form relationships quickly and voice their opinions and this was reinforced during the inspection. • Children, staff and parents had high expectations for their children at the academy. • Students voiced that they felt safe in school. • It was noted that behaviour deteriorates where there is supply, however, behaviour was secure across the academy and low-level disruption is rare. • It was noted that behaviour has also been a theme at Academy Council meetings, where truancy, exclusion and suspension has been discussed, recognising there is still work to be done, but that improvements have been made. Inspectors noted that there was a legacy negative view of bullying at KOA that did not triangulate with the evidence seen in the academy during the inspection. • Attendance - data around persistent absence (PA) remains stubborn; however, inspectors could see leaders at all levels working well to ensure children are in school every day. Reduced timetables are used appropriately and are monitored to ensure they are effective. • Parent voice – inspectors looked at the parent satisfaction feedback; 62% of parents and carers would recommend the school. There was wider feedback about the children feeling safe, having high expectations and a broad and balanced curriculum; all of these scored highly. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was seen that children at KOA feel okay to be different and to know your self-worth; there is a strong culture of inclusion. KOA will continue to grow and develop as the community school of choice. 	
5.3	Next Steps	
5.3.1	<p>KOn highlighted identified next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careers – the academy is meeting statutory requirements however; the inspection highlighted the need to be making the most of additional opportunities in the local and wider community. Teachers – the majority felt positive about the support from leaders. There is something to reflect on around workload in some areas, for a small number of staff, and for regular assessments. It is recognised there can be pinch points in the year, especially where rapidly improving outcomes are required. There is further work to do around staff wellbeing. Local context and community – the local community and context in Kingswood is unique and provides a wide range of challenges. The inspection noted that leaders at all levels are working for the children at KOA and the community. There is further work to do to continue to support the local community and build relationships. <p>KOn stressed that there was a huge amount of positivity in the feedback. There is a lot of good work happening at the academy with some areas starting to move towards outstanding. If outcomes improve this year, there is no reason why the academy cannot have some outstanding areas at the next inspection.</p>	
5.3.2	<p>DOn noted that she and GPe had attended the feedback session and invited GPe to share his views. GPe reported that there were so many positive things that came out of the inspection and he noted that he does not think he had ever heard anyone talk about King’s Oak Academy in the positive way that the inspectors did. There is some disappointment felt across the academy about the result, however, staff and leaders are already preparing to showcase the academy at next inspection to secure a strong outcome.</p>	
5.4	Questions from the Academy Council	
5.5	When the parent questionnaire is sent, it would be helpful to ask what year group the child was in. It was not specified and one mum with a child in each phase had difficulty in giving appropriate feedback.	
5.5.1	Thank you for the feedback. We have a further internal survey going out in term 4 or 5 and will make a change to allow parents to give all relevant feedback.	
5.6	How are we communicating the outcome to parents?	
5.6.1	We will be sending parents a letter once we have the published report. We will carefully consider the wording around the overall judgement and will work closely with the trust’s Communications Team.	
5.7	How much parental involvement is there? Did we have a large enough proportion of responses to the survey?	
5.7.1	We had 102 responses. We do have a more disadvantaged community and this response is not out of kilter. There were 87 responses from the term 2 internal questionnaire. The most we have ever had is 204. We continue to promote surveys every way we can, including having a QR code for people to scan to link to the survey and targeting parents through phone calls to encourage them to fill it in.	
5.8	There doesn’t seem to be much feedback around what is going on in the classroom, and quality of provision. Were there discussions around that?	
5.8.1	There were some interesting curriculum-based questions but nothing around maths, and nothing around quality of provision. They seemed content with what they saw in books and in classrooms, but ultimately put a lot of weight on those historic outcomes.	
5.9	End of Questions	
5.10	The full report will be shared with Academy Councillors once published.	
5.11	KOn thanked the senior team, and noted the hard work of all leaders at KOA that had secured significant improvements to the school and said it was a privilege to work with them	

	all. DOn echoed that and said it was a privilege to see the team working together and to see how much everyone cares about the school and the students in it.	
6	Governance	
6.1	KOn noted that staff are now starting to focus on the Year 11 exams as well as assessments across the full five key stages and asked Academy Councillors to make contact with their link member of staff to book in a visit for term 5 or the start of term 6. KOn reminded Academy Councillors to be mindful of the exams, assessments and mocks going on and to ensure the visit is supportive and developmental for the staff member.	
6.2	DOn asked that all Academy Councillors complete a visit before the full AC meeting of 6 July, ideally by 3 July at the latest.	
6.3	ACTION: Academy Councillors to book in their next link visit ahead of 3 July 2024.	ALL
6.4	DOn reminded staff and Academy Councillors of the link roles in place: Partnerships – GPe Safeguarding – LGy SEND - STs PP and disadvantaged – SBI EDI – SRi Literacy – TRI Careers and STEM – DOa Lower key stage – SMA Middle key stage - LJn	
6.5	ACTION: DOn and KOn will agree the focus for the next full AC meeting at their next one to one meeting.	DOn KOn
7	Items for Board / COAC	
7.1	Nothing was raised for the attention of the Board or COAC.	
8	AOB	
8.1	No further business was recorded. The meeting closed at 5.45pm.	
Next Meetings	Co Meetings - 24 April 2024 4.30 – 5.45pm AC6 (term 6) - 3 July 2024 4.30 – 6.30pm	

ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD:

Date and No	Relates to item	Action	Owner
28.06.23/2	5.5.1	Participation rates of different groups of children (including by gender and PP) will be provided when JCo returns to the AC next year to update on the extra-curricular offer. Ongoing- this will be a future agenda item.	JCo KOn
01.11.23/1	5.6.4	DOn advised that transitions, particularly for middle school, will be added to a future agenda. Ongoing – this will be a future agenda item.	DOn WHn
01.11.23/4	10.2.1	KOn to consider how student reflection is reflected in the policy in terms of directed and self-directed reflection. Ongoing	KOn
01.11.23/5	10.6.1	PP case studies to be brought to a future AC meeting. Ongoing	KOn
31.01.24 /1	10.1	KOn to share staff survey results at the next AC meeting. Ongoing	KOn
19.03.24 /1	6.3	Academy Councillors to book in their next link visit ahead of 3 July 2024.	ALL
19.03.24 /2	6.5	DOn and KOn will agree the focus for the next full AC meeting at their next one to one meeting.	KOn DOn