

Alumnis Multi Academy Trust

Local Schools Committee Minutes

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Date:	17.09.2025	Venue:	Online
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Minute Taker:	Sukkeena King	Chair	
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Start:	19.11	End:	20.01
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Members Present	Initials	Category	Agenda
Lindsey Hopper	LH	Parent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Reflections Welcome and Apologies Confidentiality Reminder Declaration of Business/Pecuniary Business Interests Elect a Chair and Vice Chair Annual Paperwork and Housekeeping Consider and Approve minutes Matters arising from previous minutes Planning 2025/26 Items to go to the Board Items to go to the LSC Agree LSC monitoring cycle and arrangement for visits Record of Training and feedback Identify committee members training needs Committee member recruitment and succession plan Items brought forward Date and time of next meeting
Martin Warren	MW	Community	
Anton Devereaux	AD	Acting Head (Clinton / Dolton)	
Sally Akam	SA	Foundation	
Rebecca Northcott	RN	Headteacher (St Helens)	
Gail Morris	GM	Foundation	
Also Present			
Sukkeena King	SK	Clerk	
Mark Blackman	MB	Trust Lead	
Jo Evans	JE	Advisor	

Item	Minutes
1	Opening Reflections From Rev Martin



	<p>Character Virtues one which we do is we listen and be still, reflected on a bible version from the Psalms 'be still and know that I am god' take time to stop. With the children we had the opportunity to stop and listen, listening to external sound and then listening within ourselves and within ourselves and looking at the deeper meanings within us. Not just the older ones but younger ones as well. It was a good experience. Make me think that when we can go to this meeting we need the ability to listen to ourselves and beyond agendas and beyond agendas that are pushed upon us. Wisdom we need to tap into and lead our children within our schools.</p> <p>A moment of stillness.</p>
2	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Welcome to Catherine who is joining Martin as a guest.</p> <p>Apologies Sarah Walton - medical Cheryl Cottle Hunkin - another commitment Julie Harris - resignation Leanne Anstey - Unwell</p> <div style="background-color: #0000FF; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p>Decision The Committee unanimously accepted the apologies.</p> </div>
3	<p>Confidentiality Reminder</p> <p>Committee Members are reminded that any information provided and/or discussions undertaken/advice given in the course of the meeting under Part II conditions must remain strictly confidential.</p> <p>They are also advised that an audio recording of the meeting may be taken, this recording will be used to verify the accuracy of the minutes and will be deleted once they have been approved. The clerk confirmed that the meeting would not be recorded on this occasion.</p>
4	<p>Declaration of Business / Pecuniary Business Interests</p> <p>Members were reminded that they should declare any conflict of interest which becomes apparent during the meeting.</p> <p>Lindsey Hopper - Parent Clawton</p>
5	<p>Elect a Chair and vice chair</p>



	No nominations - hold over to the next meeting.
6	<p>Annual Paperwork and Housekeeping</p> <p>25 26 Declaration of Business Interests form Please complete the Governor Code of Conduct google form.</p> <p>Governor Code of Conduct 25-26</p> <p>The committee was reminded to do the paperwork.</p>
7	<p>Consider and approve the minutes from the meeting dated 30/04/2025</p> <p>Draft Minutes Tritons 30.04.25</p> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Action:</p> <p>We did not have enough Triton members to approve the minutes, placed on the next meeting agenda.</p> </div>
8	<p>Matters arising from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clawton Carpark update? ● Neil Buckner Recruitment - SK emailed and did not receive a reply. ● Staff Governor Clawton. <p>Update from Mark.</p> <p>I have been asked by the Trustees to look after the Trust, RS has moved on to a different Trust. The Trust has contracted to a small team. Head Teachers have stepped up and a thank you to Bex and Anton for the work they have put in. As the Trust goes forward all the changes have led to reflection within the Trustees so I thought it appropriate to bring you up to date so far. You will aware that LAP has been supporting the schools, we have taken a decision within the Trust Board that the right thing to do at this time and all the things that have been going on in the Trust over the months the Trust will be approaching the DFE to request to transfer the schools to a different Trusts we will be writing to the schools on Monday and this will go to the DFE advisory board at the end of this month. We have had some financial challenges and staff challenges in the last 12 months on reflection as the Trust had to think how we would do this to make it work. Conversations with the Diocese. The proposal which will go to the parents is that LAP will pick up the schools from the earliest point they are able to do that. They are already supporting the heads and are able to do that on a day to day basis going forward.</p> <p>Introduced Jo Evans who will be supporting the schools. We do not know exactly when the schools transfer to the new Trust that will be determined in time and this can take 3, 6 or 12 months. I want to reassure you by doing the work supplying the DFE.</p>



Jo Evans - My role for Mark and the board is to be the inbetween. I have drafted three letters and myself and Tracey will be meeting parents at Clinton and will say sorry for the situation so far and to make sure on the ground we are getting a far deal from LAP. I will pick up with parents and be the connection and join everything up and for the staff be an extra problem solver as Mark has other things to do as well.

A letter will go out about Clawton's head teacher on Monday.

The governance has changed and we have brought St Helens into this group as the other schools are travelling to another trust. It is important that the message you hear is the support is there for the schools. Jo's focus is the educational front face and I will be dealing with the other background stuff.

SA - We have been working under the Trust system which was introduced a couple of years ago, I suppose we have to wait to see if LAP puts St Helens in a cluster or stands on its own.

MB - It could change in time and it will be looked into with LAP.

MW - I can appreciate why we are clustered together like this my comment on that it would have been nice to have come to us in some shape or form before the meeting, we had a consultation a year ago and we mostly we were not happy with it for all the reasons which have been said and suddenly we discover we are landed into a group with no consultation and it feels like we have not been listened too. and over ridden and I fully understand why this has happened now and I can accept as we move forward with LAP.

MB - I will give your feedback to the board, you will find in this process things will happen quickly due to the situation we are in and we took the decision to enable us to get where we are going. We had to move fast, this time we had to do something quick and it will resolve over time. I have done many of these transfers and it is not easy and I guarantee when you talk to parents they will have different views. As governors we are trying to help you through the process.

MW - Jo, are you working for Alumnis or LAP I am not sure.

JE - I am working on Alumnis behalf to ensure that LAP is delivering on the service level agreement.

MW - Can you fill me in on Clawton.

JE - Headteacher from Jacobstow will support Clawton 2 days a week as interim headteacher and she has to announce to her school. They will not be set days and it may be more to start with as her school is ok to be left so there will be flexibility, additionally she will be supported by the senior leaders of the trust. With SEND because the head teacher was in that role there will be a SENCo a week. Michelle is looking forward to settling the community and she was in last week and will be in this week and she will start to be visible.

MB - We know MS is currently off sick and she has chosen to resign and that is something that we will be having to communicate carefully.

LH - I don't think all the staff know yet. Will the letters go out the same day?

MB - Yes



9	<p>Receive and approve SEND Information Report for 2025/26</p> <p>Clinton and Dolton SEND Information Report</p> <p>St Helens SEND Information Report</p> <p>Receive Admissions Nursery and School</p> <p>Clinton Admissions Data</p> <p>Dolton Admissions Data</p> <p>Clawton Intake figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool: 3 • Reception: 8 <p>Receive and approve School SEF</p> <p>Clinton SEF</p> <p>Dolton SEF</p> <p>St Helens SEF</p> <p>Approve School SIP</p> <p>Clinton and Dolton SIP</p> <p>St Helens SIP</p> <p>Receive PP</p> <p>Clawton - 2025/26 PP (including PP+): £325,302</p> <p>Clinton PP</p> <p>Dolton PP</p> <p>St Helens PP</p> <p>Receive PE</p> <p>Clawton - 2025/26 PE Sport: £16,490</p> <p>Clinton PE and Sports</p> <p>Dolton PE and Sports</p> <p>St Helens PE and Sports</p> <p>AD - SEF for Clinton will be changed to do with School improvement.</p> <p>RN - We write the SEF and SIP before the holidays and it will be changed as working with LAP, we now have 2 priorities. Vision will remain the same but priorities are slimmed down.</p>
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	<p>MW - Will the SEF and SIP be changed due to the ofsted report. Have you had any negative feedback from the ofsted report.</p> <p>AD - I have been at the school gate and the parents are all supportive, especially for the staff. Only one parent has come forward and requested a meeting.</p> <p>RN - PE we report on what we have spent and the reports you have are what we spent last year, I have £15,000 most of which has gone on staffing.</p> <p>SA - Is it still for a member of staff PE Lead.</p> <p>RN - Not all for the PE Lead some has gone on Forest School Practitioner and speech and language, we have some wriggle room and are relying on donations from the Lomas Trust. It is tight.</p> <div style="background-color: #e0f0ff; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid black;"> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Approved SEND Information reports.</p> <p>SEF and SIP changing so not approved. RN will share the new ones. AD will also share his when it is done.</p> </div>
10	<p>Agree LSC Monitoring Cycle and arrangements for visits</p> <p>Visit Note St Helens GM</p> <p>GM - It is out of date now, every visit last year I was struck by how hard the staff were working and there were not enough of them. All good practice was put in place and they were struggling to deliver. Hopefully this year it will be better. It was evident by the end of term the staff were feeling the strain.</p>
11	<p>Items to go to the Board</p> <p>None</p>
12	<p>Items to go to the LSC</p> <p>None</p>
13	<p>Record of any training undertaken and feedback from training</p> <p>No training taken.</p>
14	<p>Identify Committee Member training needs</p> <p>Training Matrix</p>



	<p>You can register via your Alumnis email on the following sites for up to date information, training opportunities and support with your role.</p> <p>Register / DES (Devon Education Services)</p> <p>Governance / DES</p> <p>https://cstuk.org.uk/register</p> <p>Register with DAG - Devon Association of Governance</p> <p>Register - Governors for Schools</p>
15	<p>Committee Member Recruitment and Succession Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community member and Staff recruitment for Clawton - SK emailed an advert to MS. • Julie Harris has tendered her resignation. • Possible new parent for Clinton.
16	<p>Items brought forward at the discretion of the Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking of a name for the committee - possibly Torridge? agreed
27	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>21/01/2026 online 7pm</p>



Summary of Decisions taken by the Local Schools Committee

Item	Decision	Action Points

Recommendations to be considered by the Board of Directors

Item	Recommendation	Response from Board

Minutes shared with xxxxx on xxxxxxxx

