



Plymouth CAST

Multi Academy Trust

Full Cast Board Meeting – Thursday 17th July 2025 in OLSP Staffroom @ 18:00

Attendance:

Mrs C Blatchford	Headteacher	CB
Mrs L Coulter	Chair of Governors	LC
Father A Lawes	Foundation Governor	AL
Mrs M Nock	Staff Governor	MN
Mrs C Carlin	Co-Opted Governor	CC
Sarah Jackson	Clerk to Governors	SJ

No.	Description	Decisions/Actions
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| 1. | Welcome and Opening Prayer:
Meeting begins at 18.03 with a welcome from LC. Opening prayer from AL | |
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| 2. | Apologies and Confirmation of Quorum:
Apologies from JG, GD and DS. MN joining via link as unable to attend in person | Quorum confirmed. |
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| 3. | Governance Procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declarations of Interest - none• Approve minutes of last meeting (14th May 2025) - done• Summary of o/s actions - no actions• Chair's business - LC would just like to say that the Year 6 play was brilliant• Clerk's business - none• Self-evaluation and review of LCB - LC says that these are the forms that come out every year and she asks AL if he has had a chance to look at them - AL replies that he hasn't as can't keep up with having emails go into two different addresses. LC asks for a copy of everyone's self evaluation form so she can identify any training needs and also a copy must go to Leah too. | Minutes on HUB |
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| 4. | School Leadership:
CC says her main focus was on greater depth achievers. CB replies that <i>maths is on track, so now looking at getting greater depth across all three as we were below national average though 2 errors have been found on the marking of one pupil's SAT paper and if this is accepted then they will be at 100% so will reflect better on the overall scores. There was also a child that came in in year 5 from another country, so hopefully he can come off the data. CB also says that we need to look</i> | |
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at targeting children across the school as the key barrier is consistency. Staff confidence in planning also needs to be worked on - we have attended 3 moderation sessions this year so looked at writing across those schools and Pathways is going into the second year and this has already had a big impact.

CC asks about a decline in maths in KS1? CB replies that there are 19 children and 4 have an EHCP (that's 21% of the class) and 2 of those are on part-time timetables. There are an additional 21% on the SEN register so the class has very complex needs - it is absolutely not about the teacher as she is fantastic. CC says that this also explains the writing decline too and explains the progress questions she was going to ask.

CC goes on to congratulate everyone on the maths result and also the year 4 multiplication results which were really good. CB replies that they had a real focus on maths and prepping them from year 3.

LC remarks that the agenda asks for the Inclusion governor to lead on PP, but as JG is not here asks CB if there is anything to note? CB replies that the PP data will look lower as one child has learning difficulties so did not get ARE.

LC asks CC if she has anything regarding monitoring school improvement plan against priorities? CC - attendance! CB replies that she thinks the school is ok with that! CC - there was one persistent? CB replies that there have been a few difficulties with that one and another child in year 4 has been diagnosed autistic and has taken a step backwards and now having trouble getting them in. The one with the low attendance (33%) needs to go to a special school and in fact Orchard Manor is coming in to see them but it will mean losing the funding.

CC asks about CPD and how it is going? CB replies that there has been phonics and maths training with one teacher and that has really helped, the other teacher that had more experience but not in early years has come on strength to strength. The September cohort is potentially 20 now so the 2 teachers will now be entirely reception based.

CC - know more and remember more, reflective booklets - how has that all worked? CB - we will build on it, tighten up the curriculum for next year. The curriculum is better now that it is just written for OLSP, it is a progressive curriculum now and the Trust have also introduced a new leadership toolkit, which will allow the teacher to discuss more with the pupils.

CC asks if there are any other areas to focus on? CB replies that with the foundation subjects it sometimes feels like the staff are recording for the sake of recording, but it's about a deeper understanding so the pupil conferencing will help with that. CB also mentions that spellings are a major area of focus next year as that is what brought down the marks this year.

5.

RE and Catholic Life:

LC asks AL if he can provide an overview of the year and asks if he has been in? AL replies that he has been in to see KW but doesn't know what is required of him for this section. LC & CC reply that he can give an overview of any major events he has attended with the pupils. AL says that he has been to a school mass at the beginning of the year and every class has been to mass at least twice through the year. He has been in to speak to KW about the new curriculum which is still being implemented. The collective worship (St Peter & Paul) was very good even though it was hot and the microphones were playing up. Year 3 & 4 did a good job, singing some hymns better than others. Engagement was a little so-so - partly due to the heat, but feels that as an act of collective worship the staff should be there - it should be for the whole school, not just the pupils. CB does explain not all of the teaching staff can always be there but as many as possible try to attend.

AL asks about the commitment to activities? CB replies that every class has a personal development book. CC mentions that the school does the Civic Awards, CAFOD walks amongst many others. CB says that recently pupils have been making and selling items, one pupil did a cycle ride all towards helping the community and another has raised money for the RNLI.

AL came in for a chat with the GIFT team and talked about what it means to be a chaplain. The pupils like to go out into the community and they would like to hold another fair trade tuck shop, but they struggled with what exactly they have to do as chaplains - they do as they are told, but not sure why they are doing it..lack of leadership in that regard? AL also went into the classes to do a prayer/worship but again they didn't really know what they were doing and struggled to relate it to faith. They are doing charity work, but that is not linked to faith. They would like to do a project with prayer cards - they had this idea for the year 5s going up. CB agrees that the understanding of faith wasn't really there when they were interviewed.

AL met with KW, who likes the RED curriculum - there have been teething problems, but there is more consistency and it is more enjoyable, this in turn has helped outcomes and better understanding. AL says the next step will be growing understanding and greater depth for the teachers. The diocese provides all of this, but maybe smaller sessions on particular topics might be better for getting greater depth - RE is not like the other subjects...you need to be able to explain what it means. KW wants everyone to understand the stories, not just to teach them.

AL asks about the recent survey that went out and mentions that it wasn't very specific about Catholic Life

6. **Safeguarding and Child Protection:**

LC and GD did a learning walk and also LC looked at the SCR. The only thing that came up was the fact that there are individual pupil photos and notes on the staff room wall, but ROS is looking into that. LC asks CB if there are any child protection cases? CB replies there are 2 and one has now gone onto child in need and now another one too. LC confirms that all Safeguarding forms have been sent.

7. **Health, Safety & GDPR:**

MN confirms that there was just one OSHENS report, where a toy was thrown at a staff member, but all was fine.

No GDPR reports/incidents

MN reports that one child had escaped from the grounds via a fence that needs something to close the gaps, but a risk assessment has been done.

Overhanging branches - Hi-Line to come in?

The hole in the EYFS area is still there, but really needs to be done if we are taking younger children in.

MN confirms that all doors now have finger guards fitted

8. **Whole LCB Responsibility:**

LC asks about the progress against the DSEF - can we sit down (CB & AL) and go through it for the next year?

LC asks AL if he has had the CPD from the diocese and hopefully an invite to the RE Conference will come soon.

LC mentions in regards to marketing strategy that nobody knew who we were on the pilgrims walk - we should have had a banner to advertise.

CB notes that the banner is no longer on the church? LC says that yes, it was looking very sad. CB mentions that the Trust buys into a service for advertising so she will be using them to help with the flyers for 2 year olds and also a story will go into the newspaper. LC asks for anyone to

share any ideas that they might come up with. CB says that the best thing is to get out into the community and get articles into the newspaper.

9. **Cast Policies (for information):**

None

10. **School Level Policies:**

CB is writing one for the nursery, but is waiting for a couple of staff to look over it before circulating.

Date of next LGB: 24th September or 1st October - keep as Wednesday evenings. AL cannot do 1st Oct. SJ will send a poll out before LC confirms the date

Signed by Chair.....

Dated24/9/25.....