



**Kenwood Academy Council – Sheffield Committee**  
**Thursday 17 July 2025 at 15:30**  
**Coleman Suite - Nexus MAT Headquarters, Enterprise Works,**  
**300 Meadowhall Way, Sheffield S9 1EA**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Role:</b>	<b>Initials:</b>
Richard Webster	Strategic Transition Lead/Chair	Chair
Ella Dixon	Community Governor	ED
Martin Grinold	Parent Governor	MG
Richard Hadfield	Executive Headteacher	RH
Kizzy Jaycock (via MS Teams)	Staff Governor	KJ
Sorrel Morris	Parent Governor	SM
<b>Also Present:</b>		
Sarah Compai	Deputy Headteacher (Sheffield)	SC
Mark Connaughton (for item 3.3)	Deputy Headteacher/Broadfield SENDCO	MC
Matthew Hallam	Head of School (Sheffield)	MH
Renata Robins	Governance Clerk	Clerk
Sacha Schofield	Executive Regional Director	SS
Nina Sneddon (for item 3.3)	Deputy Headteacher/Nether Edge SENDCO	NS
<b>Apologies:</b>		
Kathy Esberger	Governor/Vice Chair	KE
Bridget Parrott	Staff Governor	BP

<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1.1. To receive apologies for absence  Apologies were received from KE and BP.	
1.2. To accept apologies for absence  Apologies were accepted from KE and BP.	
<b>2. BEST WE CAN BE – SUCCESS STORIES</b>	
2.1. Best we can be awards (Sharing success stories) <b>ALL</b> to contribute  Many examples of success stories were shared and a few are noted below:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair had attended 'The Kaftas' led by students and the second 'My Futures' event attended by parents, students and providers. Both events were very well received.</li> <li>KJ referenced the two upcoming Art exhibitions to be held week commencing 21 July (at Enterprise Works and Moncrieffe sites) to celebrate students' GCSE and A Level work; visits to Art colleges/universities; volunteering in Mockfest giving valuable work experiences in the creative industries.</li> <li>RH informed the meeting that a parent from West Riding had nominated the school for the 'Barnsley Chronicle School of the Year Award'.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair asked for the academy council's deep gratitude to be extended to the Creative Arts Department for the wonderful opportunities afforded to students.</p>	
<b>3. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</b>	
<p>3.1. Chair to determine any terms of urgent business to be considered</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>3.2. Confirmation of Resignation – Parent Governor – Nathan Wood-Hague</p> <p>The Chair announced that N W-H had resigned from the committee effective 01.04.2025. <b>Action:</b> Clerking Services to facilitate necessary amendments on GIAS and internal records following N W-H's resignation.</p>	<b>Action:</b> Clerking Services <i>Completed</i>
<p>3.3. SENDCo Team – Overview, Impact and Review</p> <p>MC and NS represented the entire SENDCo team at the meeting, delivering a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation that outlined the SEND journey and celebrated key achievements from the 2024–25 academic year. They also shared strategic plans to expand the SENDCo team in response to the growing pupil population and thoughtfully addressed questions from academy committee members.</p> <p>The academy committee expressed their gratitude to MC and NS for their insightful and impactful presentation.</p> <p>MC and NS left the meeting at 16:13.</p>	
<b>4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>	
<p>4.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>None.</p>	
<b>5. KENWOOD CENTRE ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE MINUTES</b>	
<p>5.1. To approve the minutes of the following meeting:</p> <p>Kenwood Academy – Sheffield Committee meeting held on 20 March 2025.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
<p>5.2. Review Action Trackers:</p>	

<p><u>Student Council Meeting – Standing Item</u> JH to invite KE to attend the next student council meeting. <b>Action:</b> KE to feedback to the Academy Council at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Governor Mental Health Link – Standing Item</u> Due to Kenwood’s multi-site structure, MG and SM had agreed to jointly take on the mental health link role. They updated the academy council on their initial meeting with JH, during which they discussed role expectations, planned training, and the school’s mental health and stakeholder provision. The discussion highlighted the importance of supporting mental health across students, staff, and the wider community. A follow-up meeting with JH was scheduled for November. <b>Action:</b> MG and SM to provide an update following their meeting in November with JH.</p> <p>MH and RH reported that Kenwood had been nominated for the Silver Award for Mental Health and was working towards the Gold Award.</p> <p>All other outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> JH/KE 11/12/25</p> <p><b>Action:</b> MG/SM 11/12/25</p>
<p>5.3. Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b>6. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED</b></p>	
<p>6.1. Executive Headteacher Report</p> <p>RH provided an overview of the Summer report and invited questions.</p> <p><u>1. Context – Key School Profile Data</u> <b>SS enquired how accurate RH’s forecast was in 1.4?</b> RH stated that he felt this was an accurate forecast of the numbers expected in September and explained his rationale behind this. Sheffield LA had not placed as many Year 12 students as in the last three years due to systems difficulties. If this was resolved he felt his forecast was accurate.</p> <p>Discussions ensued around numbers at the different sites and possibility of expansion/renting other premises.</p> <p><u>2. Leadership &amp; Management</u> The Department for Education had indicated that the de-amalgamation of the West Riding campus would proceed in the 2025–2026 academic year, leading to the establishment of West Riding Academy. In preparation, a Deputy Headteacher had been appointed as Head of School for the Barnsley provision from September 2025.</p> <p>Members of the academy committee joined the Chair in congratulating SC on her appointment as Head of School at West Riding from September 2025.</p> <p>RH drew academy members attention to 2.2 as the Academy Leadership Team structure from September 2025 had been updated since the last report.</p> <p><u>2.3 Ofsted</u></p>	

RH stated that it was highly unlikely Kenwood would be inspected under the current Ofsted framework, but anticipated an inspection under the new arrangements expected to take effect from November.

#### 2.6 Recruitment

**ED asked if any of the two teachers who were training last year had been taken on as NQTs for September?**

RH confirmed that one of the two individuals had been recruited to Kenwood. Chair also mentioned that they were hoping to recruit an Admin Apprentice

**ED enquired if this was an Apprentice TA?**

RH clarified this would be the first Admin Apprentice member of staff who would have been a previous student.

#### 2.9 School Day Amendments

**ED asked what the take up was like for the extra-curricular clubs?**

RH reported that while exact figures for the current year were not yet available, he estimated that approximately 70 out of 250 students—mainly from West Riding—had participated in after-school clubs. This was largely influenced by transport arrangements, but with some students opting to be collected before clubs begin from September, he would have to monitor the situation. RH committed to improving tracking going forward, including auditing lunchtime structured activities, which also contribute to overall engagement.

Chair also commented that there would be more openings on site at Enterprise Works from September too. MG felt that it was important to promote the extra-curricular clubs to students and parents.

**The Chair asked if the pupil parliament linked into what clubs are offered?**

RH responded that they were involved.

**ED asked if the local community contributed to the after-school clubs?**

MH confirmed that this did happen. MH gave the example of students visiting Whirlow Hall Farm during the day, climbing clubs, DofE residentials which include an overnight stay, etc and indicated that Kenwood was building sustainable links with the communities/external providers.

MH noted the importance of balancing enrichment opportunities with individual student needs, acknowledging that some students benefit from going home earlier. He highlighted that enrichment was embedded throughout the school day at Kenwood, ensuring all students had access to meaningful activities as part of their daily experience.

**SM asked why had the day changed?**

MH highlighted the importance of ensuring students arrived at school well-prepared and left feeling rested. RH noted that some students had been scheduled for lessons until 3:30 pm., including multiple sessions of the same subject, which had proven ineffective. Adjustments were being made to introduce greater flexibility in the timetable. Lessons averaged 90 minutes, and changes included removing teachers from the welcome session while involving them in the farewell session. RH also noted the need to align these changes with teachers' contracted hours, including the 2.5 hours per week allocated for training and planning.

<p><b>ED asked if this was directed time?</b> RH confirmed that teachers’ directed time was until 3.10pm every day and are not involved in after school clubs.</p> <p><u>3. Quality of Education</u> MH and SC provided an overview of the quality of education.</p> <p><u>4. Behaviour &amp; Attitudes</u> RH drew the academy council’s attention to Tables 4 and 5, noting a significant increase in suspensions compared to the previous year. RH attributed this rise to limited physical space, untreated trauma, and unmet needs not being effectively communicated. RH acknowledged that the current level was unsustainable and committed to working on reducing these figures over the coming year. This would be a priority for next year to bring this under control.</p> <p><b>Chair asked a question on behalf of KE: how do you pre-empt issues before they arise, and what sort of work is being done or could be done following any issues?</b> RH agreed that pre-empting behavioural issues was essential and provided three key examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First, he noted that Kenwood previously lacked a full understanding of some students’ needs and how best to support them. This had improved through more rigorous transition processes and earlier engagement with external agencies.</li> <li>• Second, the SENDCo team had increased capacity (as alluded to earlier) to liaise with services such as CAMHS and the police to better address individual needs.</li> <li>• Finally, RH confirmed that limited physical space remained a challenge, but expansion plans were actively being developed to address this.</li> </ul> <p>SS corroborated this by saying that the professionals around the children need to be able to do the work to make them resilient. Unfortunately, some students will always need serious support from professionals.</p> <p>A thorough discussion was held over this topic.</p> <p>MG asked if this section of the head teacher’s report could be provided in more detail with the reasons mentioned for suspensions? RH stated his report followed the Nexus template but he would enquire as Safeguarding is reported to Directors.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> RH to enquire about providing more information on Tables 4 and 5 (reasons, frequency, etc) in future Executive Headteacher Reports.</p> <p>6.1.1 Appendix 1 – Updated SIP Verbal update received.</p> <p>6.1.2 Appendix 2 – School SEF Verbal update received.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> RH 11/12/25</p>
<p>6.2. Draft School Dashboard Summary</p> <p>Report received.</p>	
<p>6.3. Budget Report</p>	

6.3.1 (Sheffield Kenwood) and 6.3.2 (West Riding) budget reports received.	
6.4. Next Year's Budget and Staffing Structure  Reported in 6.1 within the Executive Headteacher Report.	
6.5. Cabinet Member & MPs' Feedback from Pupil Parliament  The Chair reported that KE had attended a student council meeting and shared positive feedback, noting students valued the link between the student parliament and the academy council. KE committed to attending meetings across all sites and reporting back to ensure wider student representation and strengthen the student voice.	
6.6. Skills Audit Feedback  The document was circulated in advance and was self-explanatory. The Chair noted that it was created to facilitate shared learning through Governor Hub, including web links to relevant training. Governor Hub portal continued to expand its resources and training opportunities. Governors were encouraged to visit the portal and engage in self-directed learning to improve skills in areas identified during the audit.	
<b>7. TRUST MATTERS</b>	
7.1. Trust Verbal Update of Key Issues  SS informed the members that a Trust-wide letter was sent out regarding a consultation on a potential merger with Ebor Trust, proposed to take effect from September 2026. SS emphasised that there will be no changes to how the Trust currently operates. The merger is intended to enable greater collaboration and the ability to utilise expertise across both Trusts to benefit all schools involved.  In other updates, SS informed the meeting that four schools—Bents Green, Hallamshire, Seven Hills, and Nottinghamshire HOPE—had confirmed they would be joining Nexus MAT in the next academic year. SS also noted that discussions were ongoing with additional schools interested in joining Nexus MAT.	
7.2. Register of Interests – Annual Review  Guidance notes were circulated in advance of the meeting to help governors make their declarations of interest and other confirmations online via Governor Hub as soon as possible. The Clerk reminded governors how quick and easy it was to complete the process.	
<b>8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b>	
8.1. To consider any other urgent business  None.	
<b>9. CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
9.1 To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting  None.	
<b>10. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS</b>	

Thursday 11 December 2025	15:30 - 17:30	West Riding Campus, Barnsley
Thursday 19 March 2026	15:30 - 17:30	Nexus MAT Headquarters, Enterprise Works
Thursday 9 July 2026	15:30 - 17:30	Broadfield Site

**Minutes approved**

<b>CHAIR</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>