

**Ted Wragg Trust meeting**

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015

**Venue:** Boardroom, St James School, Summer Lane, Exeter EX4 8NN

**Time:** 16.30-18.15

**Attendees:** Debra Myhill (Chair)  
 Rob Bosworth  
 Lewis Banfield  
 Roger Fetherston  
 Simon Gregory  
 Steve Hayfield  
 Richard Jacobs  
 Saxon Spence  
 Tatiana Wilson  
 Ray Beale

Jo Davis  
 Moira Marder

**Minutes:** Steph Barnard

1.	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies, and declarations of Interest</b>          DM welcomed all to the meeting.          Apologies were noted from Sue Baker          No conflicts of interest were declared</p>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes of Previous meeting</b>          The minute of the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 were agreed as an accurate record.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website update – SCB confirmed that this was in hand and agreed that constant updating was needed as the Trust evolved.</li> <li>• Thrive room – MM is looking at this provision across the Trust, and has some ideas with regard to funding. MM will arrange to go and look at what is in place at Whipton Barton.</li> <li>• Children with no/little English – SS confirmed that an analysis had been carried out on the children with no English and at least 15 of them had parents working at the University. DM added that the University is opening a bigger family centre but is unsure if there is any specific help provided in this area. DM will find out how the Cultural Champions programme at the University can help.</li> <li>• MM &amp; JD look at data tracking and start a pilot. JD has received data from MM and will review this shortly.</li> <li>• Boundary fence issue – this has now been resolved and a Solicitors letter has been sent.</li> <li>• Skills audit for Governors at Whipton Barton – will be covered under Item 5.</li> </ul>	<p>DM</p> <p>JD</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governor pack – SCB has produced a pack which is awaiting approval. DM will approve the pack for SCB to distribute.</li> </ul>	DM
4.	<p><b>St James LGB update</b> MM highlighted the key areas as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MM tabled a copy of St James’ Ofsted report for information. MM confirmed that there were lots of positives in the report and the school received a ‘Good’ overall. The main issue raised was that there was too much in-school variation. The school has been working hard to improve Science and has made a good appointment at Head of Science in order to move the department forward. The school has also made excellent appointments in languages.</li> <li>MM confirmed that the summer results are looking good so far.</li> <li>MM highlighted one concern in that they don’t have Sparx for Year 11 this year, and the Head of Maths has just left – but they are hoping to still achieve good results.</li> <li>Pupil premium issue – MM explained that this will pose a challenge for the school going forward as there will be 15 statemented students next year.</li> <li>St James has made an application for academisation which should be confirmed around Christmas time.</li> <li>A new Ofsted framework will be launched in September which will be a 1 day inspection with 1 inspector. St James won’t be inspected now for 3 years. Ofsted are moving towards pass/fail rather than ‘Outstanding’ gradings going forward.</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions/comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DM added that we need to ensure that our LGB and Trust minutes reflect what we are doing as a Trust as these will be looked at by inspectors.</li> <li>RB noted that St James is so different now and the Trust can see how much it has changed and developed. There are limitations that PFI will have on Schools with buildings and one of the stumbling blocks going forward will be the facilities at St James.</li> <li>SS noted her concerns about the 15 statements and asked why this was so high, as all schools are required to take their fair share. SS asked if that was not happening in Exeter? MM explained that the recent behaviour figures show that St Lukes only have 2 whereas St James and Isca have over 10 each. MM will circulate the figures and DM will look at producing a Trust response to this matter. MM added that there seems to be an issue with some schools who have students with significant special needs/challenging behaviour who are told that they will either have to be excluded or have to go through admissions to apply for</li> </ul>	MM

	<p>another school. MM explained that St James are happy to take students on a managed move but the student needs to be statemented or have support from their existing school before they are moved. DM will get further information from MM and also gain evidence from Isca before responding on behalf of the Trust. TW added that she has a colleague who knows the code of practice inside out so will contact them and link up with DM to assist with preparing a letter.</p> <p>The Trust noted that it is very pleased with the Ofsted report to St James.</p>	DM/TW
5.	<p><b>Whipton Barton LGB update</b> JD highlighted the key areas as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Junior and Infants Schools have now federated to become one school. The Governing body have met once already. New federation contracts have been put in place for staff and a new logo will be produced for the school. The school will transfer to a single budget next year and the school is working towards ensuring economies of scale. Admin staff have been restructured.</li> <li>• JD explained the background around assessment and new curriculum in years 1, 3, 4 and 5. There are difficulties in tracking data at present.</li> <li>• The junior school will be receiving EFA funding for a refurbishment or new build.</li> <li>• JD offered an open invitation to the Trust to come out and visit. The Trust proposed and agreed to hold the next Trust meeting at Whipton Barton. SCB will liaise with JD to arrange.</li> <li>• JD will send some information on upcoming Ambassadors Tea Parties at the school to SCB to circulate to the Trust.</li> </ul>	SCB/JD  JD/SCB
6.	<p><b>Governance at Whipton Barton</b> JD explained that the Governing Body is still looking for 3 governors. They have not yet completed all of the skills audits but know that they have skills gaps in finance, HR and legal.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Use of University Campus for CPD and School visits</b> DM explained that the University provided a room for Whipton Barton staff for their Lead Learners event last year. DM confirmed that the University can offer facilities for Trust schools if they need a venue. JD will send DM the date and numbers for a future meeting to see if these can be arranged.</p>	JD/DM
	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><u>PFI</u> DM invited RBe to report back on this area. RBe explained that he has attended a meeting, together with Ali Moxey, to discuss next steps but that this has been superceded by an email today. PFI arrangements are due to start on 1<sup>st</sup></p>	

	<p>September. The concern, especially for Isca, are cost based. DCC have now got a local partnership in place and have more capable people working on this area. The benchmarking exercise has been carried out and they are asking us to provide an indication of our priorities on pricing. This is a difficult process which is made more difficult by timing as they are asking for a response by this Thursday!</p> <p>RBe went on to explain that DCC have done their best to try to ascertain whether benchmarking information is a true indicator of whether schools are paying a reasonable sum for the services received. Are the schools receiving the same standard of services? Are contracts still valid/in date? There is a whole raft of things to be looked at and there may be ways of tweaking some of the services going forward.</p> <p>One issues is about getting the schools who have PFI to work together on what they need – however different schools are looking for different levels of service. Another point is about evidencing the issues in the levels of services. The Trust also discussed whether the services received where a good use of public money – is value for money being achieved.</p> <p>RBe will look at the email and questionnaire in more detail and will speak to Ali Moxey at Isca about this tomorrow to take forward.</p> <p><u>School holiday provision</u> SS informed the Trust about attend a meeting on Wednesday to see if they can look at the provision for children, who normally receive school meals, who lose out in school holidays. Would the Trust schools be interested? MM &amp; JD agreed that they would be interested in discussing.</p> <p><u>Children's Society</u> TW explained that the Children's Society have released a publication about leaving poverty outside the school gates. There is a 5 min dvd for governors to look at and the publication can be downloaded from the website. The publication is produced by children giving their point of view. If anyone wants to borrow the dvd please let TW know.</p> <p><u>Navy speaker</u> RJ explained that he has a contact from the navy who is happy to come to talk to schools. RJ will circulate his email address for anyone interested in contacting him.</p>	<p>RBe</p> <p>Ali/TW</p> <p>All</p>
	<p><b>Date of next meeting: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015</b></p>	