



Education Trust

**Inspiring the individuals of today, for a better society tomorrow,
“Aspire, Belong, Collaborate”**

Minutes of the Board of Trustees FGB meeting on Friday 17th July 2026

Present: Stewart Biddles (CEO), Jamie Parffrey (C), Matt Redwood (VC), Paul Garside, Pippa Bennett, Alice Bessell

In attendance: Faye Steele (Clerk), Lee Vallance (CFO), Chris Briggs

Apologies: None

OPS – Oldway Primary School
RPS – Roselands Primary School
SLA – Shiphay Learning Academy

Summer 02 01	Welcome - New trustee required for Standards Committee for next academic year. ACTION. - Welcome to new Trustee Chris Briggs awaiting official processes and appointment.	A1 CBriggs to sit on Standards Committee
Summer 02 02	To receive and sanction any apologies for absence None received.	No apols
Summer 02 03	To declare and discuss any business interests that may be applicable in accordance with the Governance Handbook	No declarations

Summer 02 04	<i>'conflicts of interests do not just relate to financial benefits but can arise where an individual's personal or family interests and/or loyalties conflict with those of the governing body'</i>	A2
Summer 02 05	*****Part II Confidential Minutes ***** 2025/26 Data EYFS - National Average (Nat Av)72%, OPS 86%, SLA 77%, RS 67%. - RPS slightly below Nat Av figure. Staff in support plan for a large part of the year had an impact. MR questioned if these figures were expected. Sb agreed they were. - PG questioned if Eve can support across the Trust? Sb agreed she can. There is a termly EY Trust meeting and Eve will have dedicated time for supporting the other teachers. - PP – OPS 56%, SLA 50%, RPS 20%. - PP is a Trust wide key focus next year. Attendance issues at OPS were discussed along with the PP in RPS that didn't achieve expected, were all in the special provision. Phonics - Nat av 82%, OPS 9%, SLA 86%, RPS 88%. - Both OPS and RPS have had a positive impact. SLA will be targeted 90% next year and this could have been better. - PP – SLA 83%, OPS 67%, RPS 57% - The cohort size and impact, and the back stories were discussed. Multiplication Check - RPS 71%, SLA 69%, OPS 34%. - SLA and RPS have an upward trend over the last 3 years. OPS is very low this year. - SB explained the discussions that are taking place around mastering number in year 3 and 4. Reviews will continue re the impact in year 5 and 6. - PP – RPS 78%, SLA 60%, OPS 26%. KS2 RWM exp - Nat av 63%, OPS 73%, RPS 63%, SLA 53%. - OPS is on an upward trajectory. - RPS in 23/24 had an unusually low SEN cohort (strong cohort). There was a big dip last year but working hard to get to national. - SLA is showing a declining trend over the past few years, reasonable mobility with 20% SEND and 86% homegrown pupils. SB discussed immediate plans in place for improvement to include robust monitoring and challenge. - AB questioned the cohort of 40 at RPS? SB explained the lower PAN and children move. - SB explained the detail at the Pupil Progress meetings. - PP expt – OPS 58%, RPS 42%, SLA 38%. - JP shared his disappointment that whenever results are good, it seems to be lost in the next or subsequent years. CB agreed that small Trusts do get a cycle of performance and many things can be true at once with pockets of over and under performance. Phonic and EY is strong across the Trust. There are some questions to be raised at SLA but looking at how to move year 3/4/5 though to achieve, with summative testing in year 5.	Question Question Question Challenge Question

Summer 02 06	- JP challenged the results with two maths specialists in the trust schools? CB questioned the mastery teachers in maths, is their focus on research and expertise, but are they focussing on the now.? SB highlighted the results from the ESW review, which was incredibly positive and highlighted the improvements so far and this will be built on. - AB questioned if, after considering the staff costs, the Trust has the best teachers it could have? - SB agreed the results need to be better, SB is spending time in the classrooms next year and will have a well structured plan for September. PG questioned the surprises at SLA. SB is working with Leadership as the results should not be a surprise. - MR agreed there were some disappointments but generally the results are good across the 3 schools. - PB questioned the Writing Leads in each school. SB explained they are creating a foundation knowledge in English poster, this starts in EY. The same will be created for maths. Approve Budget - Balanced budget was taken to Finance, Audit & Risk Committee in June. - Budget forecasts a small surplus in year 2/3. - Changes in Government were discussed and potential impact on education. 3.5% teacher pay award. - LV discussed funding and pensions, with a contribution reduction and clawback funding. - LV summarised a £30K positive change. - MR explained how SB and LV met with Head and broadly allocated funding on what had been agreed, with slight changes. It has been a very collaborative process. The first draft was too expensive, so changes were made to produce the final balanced budget. - SB highlighted the New academy Handbook requirement for all Trustees to have finance management training, we have strong expertise in Finance, Audit and Risk Committee already.	Question
Summer 02 07	All Trustees agreed the budget.	Budget agreed
Summer 02 08	Summary of Policies for Approval: Mobile Phone – discussion followed. School Uniform - discussion followed on wearable tech. Heatwave & extreme Temperatures Expenses Capitalisation of Assets and Depreciation Anti Fraud Competitive Tendering & Procurement Finance All Trustees agreed	Policies agreed Meeting dates & SOD agreed
Summer 02 09	Draft 26/27 Governance meeting dates for approval RET Scheme of Delegation All Trustees Agreed. Term dates approval	Term dates agreed

	All Trustees Agreed. SB explained that the Trust uses Torbay Local Authority dates and adds the Trust non pupil days in, this is to aligned as much as possible with schools in the area. Any other business <i>Thank you to Trustees for flexibility, attending meetings at short notice and consistent and valued support and going above and beyond for Riviera Education Trust!</i> Date of next meeting: TBC	
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Chair Signature:

Date: 2nd October 2026