MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHANCERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD AT THE BERKELEY ACADEMY ON 4TH MARCH 2026 at 17.45

Name	Designated Role	Attendance
Ann Kowalska	Chair of Trustees	Present
Maria Stelmach	Vice Chair of Trustees	Apologies
Louise Gohr	Trustee & CEO	Present
Chris Bell	Trustee	Present
Ros Caulfield	Trustee	Apologies
Karen Fuller	Trustee	Apologies
Louise Gibson	Trustee	Missed
Amanda Mellor	Trustee	Apologies
Paul Tomkow	Trustee	Apologies
Simon Varo	Trustee	Present
Adrian Veale	Trustee	Present
Katy Jodrell	CFO	Present
Jenny Whiston	Governance & Compliance Lead	Present
Julie Richardson	SBM Lead	Present

PART ONE – NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

	Item
1.	**Presentation on Basford East New School** The CEO welcomed the trustees and a number of community stakeholders to the meeting. An outline of the proposed new school at Basford East was presented. *Stakeholders left at 18.30, the meeting moved into Part 2 and then Part 1 reconvened at 19.15.*
2.	**Welcome and Apologies** The Chair welcomed CMAT Trustees to the meeting which was quorate. Apologies received from Amanda Mellor, Karen Fuller, Maria Stelmach and Ros Caulfield were accepted. Louise Gibson was not present. Paul Tomkow had tendered his resignation, with immediate effect, which was accepted.
3.	**Conflicts of Interest** Trustee declarations were up to date on GVO, and no other interests or conflicts with the business of the meeting were declared.

4.	**<u>CEO Report - Part One</u>** There have been no significant changes to the trust context this term. The MAT Development Plan Update will be deferred to Summer 2.
5.	**Finance and Audit committee report** The minutes of the meeting on 25.02.26 will be shared with all trustees by the clerk. Questions can be brought to the next meeting.
6.	**Finance Matters** The CFO confirmed the following deadlines had been met: - Submission of audited financial statements and auditors' management letter to the DFE by 31/12. - Publication of the above by 31/01 - Submission of Accounts Return by 31/01
7.	**Cheshire East Director of Children's Services Report** The report had been circulated on GVO on 29.01.2026. There were very few items to bring to the attention of the trustees.
8.	**Minutes of the previous meetings / matters arising and task review** The meeting **confirmed** that the Part One minutes of the meeting on 28th January 2026 on GVO were an accurate account. Clarification was sought from trustees about their requests for more in-depth information on the CEO reports. Trends could be presented but it is for LGBs to be scrutinising school-level data, which is also flagged up to them in CEO reports. The CEO uses a system of Assure / Advise / Alert / in her Board reports, and any "Alerts" can be picked up in subsequent meetings. Further to discussions at the previous meeting about the demographics of the governors and trustees, an additional Equality Objective had been added into the policy relating to this. An interim Chair had now been appointed at Pikemere with a permanent successor lined up for September. Trustees were reminded of the date for the Governor Forum and requested to attend if work commitments allow: Friday 12th June. The minutes of the AGM had been circulated on GVO for information, and trustees had no questions.
9.	**AOB** Parents of one school had received notification about a change in holiday fines for separated parents. The CEO confirmed that this guidance had been

	received from Cheshire East, who issue the fines. The central team will ensure all schools have communicated this change to parents.
10.	**Date of Next meeting** The date of the next meeting of the Chancery Trustees was confirmed as **20th May** 2026 on Teams at 17.30. The Governance Forum had been confirmed at Friday **12th June** 2026. The Chancery Finance and Audit Committee meeting would take place on **1st July** on Teams at 17.30. The Summer Trustees meting was **8th July** 2026 at 5.30 on Teams.

The meeting closed at 19.28.