

**MINUTES**  
**of the meeting of the Local Governing Body of**  
**Teignmouth Community School, Exeter Road**  
**held on 26 November 2025 at 5.30 pm, Sixth Form**

<b>Present:</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Simon Shadbolt	Co-opted Governor, Chair of Governors and Ivy Education Trust Link	SSh
Michael Wigmore from 18.18	Parent Governor, Vice Chair, Leadership and Management Delivery Link	MW
Laura Parfitt from 17.55	Co-opted Governor, Behaviour, Safeguarding and Attendance Link	LP
Jim Prior	Co-opted Governor, Enrichment and Careers Link	JP
Jane Russell	Co-opted Governor, Curriculum and Delivery Link	JR
Samantha Horne left 18.39	Co-opted Governor, Inclusion (Disadvantaged and SEND) Link	SH
Rachel Wickham	Headteacher, Ex-Officio	RW
Jessica Phillips	Co-opted Governor, Behaviour, Safeguarding and Attendance Link	JP
<b>Apologies</b>		
Dr Karl Devincenzi	Co-opted Governor, Curriculum and Delivery Link	KD
<b>Absent without Apols.</b>		
Catherine Merrick	Parent Governor, Parent Forum Link	CM
<b>In Attendance:</b>		
Rachel Hill	Local Governance Officer	LGO

**Key to acronyms**

BTEC	Business & Technology Education Council	IET	Ivy Education Trust
GIP	Governance Improvement Plan	SIP	School Improvement Plan
SLA	Service Level Agreement	LGB	Local Governing Body
GH	GovernorHub	SLT	Senior Leadership Team
HOD	Head of Department	RISE	Regional Improvement for Standards of Excellence
SEF	Whole School Self Evaluation	GDC	Governors' Discipline Committee

	<b>Housekeeping:</b>	<b>Action</b>
25/2/1.1	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies:</b>  The Chair welcomed all present. Apologies KD. Absent without apologies CM.</p> <p>It was agreed that due to the car crash on the M5 delaying the arrival of MW and LP and rendering the meeting inquorate, item 5.1, the HT's report, would be presented first. Decision making items would take place after the arrival of MW and LP and the meeting reaching quoracy.</p>	
25/2/1.2	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b>  There were none.</p>	
25/2/1.3	<p><b>Appointment of Chair:</b>  It had been agreed at the 17.09.25 LGB (and ratified by Trust Board at their meeting of 14.10.25) that Simon Shadbolt would be appointed Chair of TCS until the November 2025 LGB meeting, at which time the Chair would pass to Michael Wigmore.</p> <p>The position of Chair will be elected again at the September 2026 LGB following receipt of nominations.</p>	<b>Action LGO</b>
25/2/1.4	<p><b>Appointment of Vice-Chair:</b>  Nominations will be invited for the position of Vice-Chair. Appointment to be made at 04 February 2026 meeting.</p>	<b>Action LGO</b>
25/2/1.5	<p><b>Governor Appointments and Resignations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simon Shadbolt resigned from TCS LGB in order to become a Trustee.</li> <li>• Cath Merrick resigned from the LGB due to work and home commitments.</li> <li>• Nominations for the vacant position of parent governor will take place after Christmas.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MW and JR to consider whether they wish to renew their term of office which finishes on 16.05.26.</li> </ul> <p>All appointments/resignations to be approved at the Trust Board meeting of 16.12.25</p>	
25/2/1.6	<p><b>Governance Improvement Plan:</b> MW has updated the GIP and two documents were placed in GH prior to the meeting for governors' approval. Document (1) is a RAG rated version of last year's GIP using autumn data. Document (2) is a 25-26 version of the GIP linked to the SIP. <b>ACTION RW</b> to pass data to MW.</p>	<b>Action RW</b>
	<b>Standing Items:</b>	
25/2/2.1	<p><b>Matters Arising from meeting held on 17.09.25:</b></p> <p>(a) School Inspection Toolkit: Self Evaluation Form relating to the new Ofsted framework. Minute 25/1/5.1.</p> <p><b>AGREED</b> SLT will present on Inclusion, Curriculum and Teaching at the February LGB. <b>AGREED</b> SLT will present on Attendance, Behaviour and Personal Development at the May LGB <b>AGREED</b> a post 16 discussion for will take place at the June LGB</p> <p>(b) Training for Exclusions. Minute 25/1/1.12. LP has undertaken suspensions and exclusions training and can now be a member of the GDC pool.</p> <p>All other matters arising have been actioned or are included within this agenda as items for discussion.</p>	<b>Agenda Item February</b> <b>Agenda item May</b> <b>Agenda item June</b>
25/2/2.2	<p><b>Accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record:</b> Unanimously <b>ACCEPTED</b>.</p>	
	<b>Strategic Items:</b>	
25/2/3.1 and 4.1	<p><b>Feedback from IET and verbal update from the Chair:</b> JP, JR and LP attended the IET event on 17.11.2025. A verbal report was received. Trust Board to LGBs Communication dated 14.10.225 had been uploaded to GH prior to the meeting. <i>Q: Are trust-wide staff training days held?</i> We have had one a year but I think this will increase in future.</p>	
25/2/5.1	<p><b>Headteacher's Report:</b> The following documents had been posted in GH prior to the meeting for the attention of governors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ivy School Health Check – Autumn 2025</li> <li>PowerPoint presentation detailing TCS positives, areas for improvement and key priority areas</li> <li>L2 Headlines DS 3-year trend</li> <li>L2 Headlines SEND 3-year trend</li> <li>L2 Headlines whole cohort 3-year trend</li> <li>L3 Subject Performance</li> <li>IET SEF Template 25-26</li> <li>SEF new framework</li> <li>SIP 25-26</li> </ul> <p>The HT explained that the Ivy School Health Check takes place at the beginning of the academic year. It is measured against the key performance matrix. Targets for the HT are set at this time. An external consultant visits at two points throughout the year to advise whether the school is meeting targets.</p> <p>The school does not have Progress 8 this year due to being closed in KS2. It is positive to see the progress with the A8 cohort. This has increased from 39.17 to 42.19. Although there was no KS2 data the school undertook baseline testing. TCSER had the highest A8 of the 3 secondary schools within IET.</p> <p>Disadvantaged student outcomes were worse than last year. There was a smaller number of Disadvantaged students than the year before. A significant number of students had been removed by previous members of staff. They sat fewer subjects. Looking at forecast grades for current Y1s and disadvantaged students we are seeing positive outcomes. SEND students attained the same as last year. Baseline data looks as if they made more progress.</p>	

	<p><b>Q: With reference to Level 2 attainment. Were they put into the wrong tiers in maths?</b> It's something we will look at forensically going forward.</p> <p><b>Q: Does the pupil have options?</b> If you are on the cusp, then yes. There are risks around it. The main thing is that papers start off easy and get harder.</p> <p><b>Q: Are they looking at different exam boards for Maths and English?</b> No, GCSEs are going to change.</p> <p>We are really pleased with KS5 outcomes. There has been definite progress and movement in the right direction. The overall average point score per pupil has increased to 92.56. We have maintained BTEC performance. We have seen growth in academic outcomes. Current Y11's are set to make positive progress.</p> <p><b>Q: Compared to a few years ago to now, what is the one or two biggest achievements, or what is noticed most in terms of outcomes?</b> Science has been a major turnaround. We were being taught by non-science cover teachers. We now have a fully staffed group of science specialists. The new HOD has rewritten the curriculum. The KS4 curriculum will be covered at the latest by Easter. We have significantly shifted science outcomes.</p> <p><b>Q: Do you have subject specific teachers at A levels?</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Q: Is forecasting better?</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Q: Do you get many students choosing sciences for A levels?</b> We have very small class sizes because of the pull of Exeter College. We do have for the first time Maths, Physics and Chemistry this year. There is a small uptake but the subjects are available. There are increasingly fewer 11-19 schools left. The key message is that we are small but inclusive. As our year groups are shrinking, we are retaining a higher percentage.</p> <p><b>Attendance.</b> Last year this remained low and our school was persistently absent. If children don't attend school it impacts on them. Curriculum builds on sequence. We have tried really hard this year and we currently have the best attendance figures by 0.4 of the secondary schools within our AB group. We are compared with 20 similar schools with a similar data set and we are set targets within that group. Year to date our attendance is up by a whole percentage point. We know it declines throughout the year. It is an emotive issue. Last year it remained stuck. This year we feel as if we have some traction.</p> <p><b>Q: Is there any underlying reason for absence?</b> There are many reasons. It's about connection and understanding. Sometimes we can put things in place that will help overnight.</p> <p><b>Q: Is it a lack of parental engagement?</b> Not always. In some cases, it will be that.</p> <p><b>Q: Are severely absent pupils still between 8-10?</b> We have changed the whole way we look at attendance. We have 188 children who are persistently absent. We could look at the attendance strategy at a future meeting.</p> <p><b>Q: Attendance of the staff; How are those stats looking?</b> Our staff absence is lower than the national average, so it's good. When we offer trips and visits the students back at school are being taught by a supply teacher.</p>
25/2/5.2	<p><b>Update on the RISE (Regional Improvement for Standards of Excellence) visit and next steps:</b></p> <p>RISE is about school improvement. One of the criteria for becoming a RISE school is if you are a stuck school. TCSER is a stuck school and therefore eligible for Rise support. Moving forward they are extending it to any school below the national average. We are in the second cohort of schools to go through RISE. The support starts in January 2026 but we have already started the background work. In theory we qualify for £100,000 a year for 2 years of additional funding because we are a stuck school. The criteria for spending it has parameters.</p> <p><b>Q: Can you give me an example of what you can spend the funding on?</b> We can spend it on attendance. For example, we could purchase software called Attend, but we already have it. Most of what you can buy we have already bought. You can backfill time. We are extending a contract on a short-term basis so I can be released to do more quality assurance in the classroom. You can spend it on coaching. But we have been doing that for 2 years</p> <p><b>Q: Have you considered using AI for coaching?</b> We do use AI for lesson planning. We have all of our broadband cabling expense covered by the funding.</p> <p><b>Q: Is there any CPD that you could buy?</b> Yes, we have spent it on that. We will be on the programme for 2 years. Our supporting organisation is the Windsor Academy Trust.</p>

	<p><b>Q: Why have we been allowed to have a supporting Trust which not in our region?</b> Our CEO made a strong case for it. We also made the point that we have SLAs with other trusts. We have been allowed a unique relationship. But it will be monitored every term for the next two years to check we are making progress in our key areas.</p> <p>RW gave a short slide presentation on RISE. RW continued. It is process heavy. We feel this will be the case all the way through the relationship.</p>	
25/2/6.1	<p><b>Safeguarding, Behaviour and Attendance:</b> LP verbally reported on Attendance. Attendance is one of top three action items for IET this year.</p>	
25/2/6.2	<p><b>Enrichment &amp; Careers:</b> Visit Forms (2) uploaded to GH prior to the meeting. JP verbally reported. This area is heading in the right direction. Percentages are going up of numbers attending.</p> <p><b>Q: One of the biggest pluses is that we are always encouraged to look through the lens of SEND. Are we also looking at higher achievers?</b> We continue to encourage top tier.</p>	
25/2/6.3	<p><b>Inclusion (Disadvantaged &amp; SEND):</b> No report received. MW verbally reported. SH and MW met after the last LGB. SH has met spoken with the SENDCo and the visit checklist has been agreed.</p>	
25/2/6.4	<p><b>Curriculum &amp; Delivery:</b> Visit Forms (2) uploaded to GH prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Q: With regards to parental engagement, what are we doing as governors? Ofsted asked this question at their last visit. Do we need something that connects governors to shareholders? As parents do you get curriculum updates?</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>What do you think of them as updates?</b> I feel informed of what is going on. My children do also talk to me.</p> <p><b>Q: Is there something we can do which is a little more formalised?</b> Governors could attend parents' evenings. They could ask 3 questions.</p> <p><b>Q: During my visit it was apparent that staff are feeling a little uncomfortable about the redundancies. Has it got any better?</b> The reality is that everyone is stretched. We need to be aware and empathetic.</p>	
25/2/6.5	<p><b>Leadership &amp; Management Delivery:</b> MW verbally reported. Notes from the Finance briefing uploaded to GH prior to the meeting.</p>	
25/2/6.6	<p><b>Parent Forum:</b> No report received.</p>	
	<p><b>Policies:</b></p>	
25/2/7.1	<p>SEND Policy. Uploaded to documents for approval prior to the meeting. The policy was <b>APPROVED</b></p>	
25/2/7.2	<p>SEND Information Report. Uploaded to documents for approval prior to the meeting. The Information Report was <b>APPROVED</b></p>	
25/2/7.3	<p>Pupil Premium Strategy Statement. Uploaded to documents for approval prior to the meeting. The PP Strategy Statement was <b>APPROVED</b></p>	
	<p><b>Governor Visits and Training</b></p>	
25/2/8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JR attended an Ofsted webinar with Sir Martyn Oliver</li> <li>• JR has attended de-escalation training with the police</li> </ul>	
25/2/9	<p>Changing the meeting start time to 5pm was discussed, however this is not possible due to governors' work commitments.</p>	
	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings:</b> Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026 Wednesday 08 July 2026</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 19.14</p>	