



Brockenhurst College
Corporation Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the two hundred and second meeting of the Corporation, held on
30 September 2025 at 5.00pm at Brockenhurst College.

			Attendance
Present	Shaun Williams	Vice Chair (Meeting Chair)	(1 out of 1)
	Helen Odhams	Principal	(1 out of 1)
	Kate Ryan	Vice Chair	(1 out of 1)
	James Hiley-Jones		(1 out of 1)
	Robert Dunford		(1 out of 1)
	Vicky Essex		(1 out of 1)
	Magdalena Baugh		(1 out of 1)
	Lisa Bell		(1 out of 1)
	Jerry Ede		(1 out of 1)
	Gary Cooper		(1 out of 1)
	Matt Johnson		(1 out of 1)
	Alistair Lambon		(1 out of 1)
	Milo Bond		(1 out of 1)
	Oliver Canning		(1 out of 1)
In attendance	Amie Morris	Director of Governance	
	Judith Munro	Deputy Principal (DP-JM)	
	Steve Jenkin	Assistant Principal, Vocational (APV)	
	Charlie Woodsford	Assistant Principal, Partnership & Skills (AP-CW)	
	Amy Bletcher	Assistant Principal, Curriculum, Quality & Development (AP-AB)	

Meeting commenced at 5pm

Item		Action
202:1	<p>Welcome And Apologies</p> <p>The Vice Chair, Mr Williams, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Bob Hogg, Jenny Jenkin, Vicky Essex and Gary Cooper.</p>	
201.1.1	<p>Any Conflict of Interest</p> <p>Mr Bond and Mr Canning declared a conflict of interest with agenda item 1.2 relating to their ratification and noted they would leave the meeting for this item of business.</p> <p>No other member declared any conflict of interest with the agenda.</p> <p><i>Mr Bond and Mr Canning left the meeting.</i></p>	
201.1.2	<p>Ratification of Student Governors</p> <p>The Director of Governance advised members that Mr Bond and Mr Canning were presented for ratification as Student Governors with a one-year term of office in their roles as Chair and Vice Chair of the Student's Union, respectively.</p> <p>Members unanimously approved the ratification of the Student Governors, Mr Bond and Mr Canning.</p> <p><i>Mr Bond and Mr Canning rejoined the meeting.</i></p> <p>The Vice Chair congratulated the Student Governors on their new roles and recognised the importance of student voice representation on the Board.</p>	
201.1.3	<p>2024-25 Results</p> <p>The Deputy Principal (DP-JM) gave members a comprehensive presentation on college results for the 2024-25 academic year outlining the headline results for the 2024-25 academic year.</p>	



Overall achievement was noted as being 86.3%, which was 0.9% higher than last year and 0.8% higher than national average. 16-18 achievement was 85.9%, which was 2.8% than last year and 3.1% above national average. Adult achievement had dipped to 97.4% but remained largely in line with national average with some achievement still to be added.

Members received the breakdown of 16-18 achievement by level and noted the inclusion of Level 1 achievement in the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for 2025-26.

The DP-JM confirmed A Level achievement was 83.8%, which was a 5.2% increase on last year and 3.3% above benchmark. The A Level pass rate was 97%, in line with the JCQ rate of 97.1% and higher than the 94.7% pass rate of the previous year. Members were also pleased to note the subjects that had achieved a 100% pass rate.

BTEC headline results were noted with a combined pass rate of 98.4% and 55.7% high grades. Overall, BTEC achievement remains good however high-grade pass rates have been added to the QIP for 2025-26.

GCSE English & maths pass rates at grades 4-9 were confirmed as being 55.8% and 39.8% respectively, which showed a significant increase against last year.

The DP-JM presented the 19+ headline results with the overall achievement rate of 87.4%. Members noted the slight dip in Level 1 and Level 2 achievement, with Level 2 achievement being a particular focus moving forward. Level 3 adult achievement was extremely positive at 11.3% above last year and 6.5% above national average.

Apprenticeship achievement showed an improvement of 3.7% to 58.2% overall for the Colleges 55 Apprentices. Whilst this is below the provider group average, it is above the DfE target of 55%. Members were advised that achievement had been affected following the withdrawal of Boatbuilding apprentices.

The DP-JM concluded her presentation with an overview of achievements from the previous 2 years and by outlining the whole College focus for 2025-26. The key aspects of this were noted as being improved attendance and retention, high grades and the attainment and progress of disadvantaged and SEND learners.

Members thanked the DP-JM for her comprehensive presentation and questions were invited.

Mr Dunford reference the impact of the boatbuilder apprentice withdrawals on a relatively small cohort and asked what the effect on apprentice numbers for this year was. The Principal advised that the DfE understood the College's position and were happy to set an individual target through the annual strategic conversation. However, the Principal noted she remains mindful of the required investment needed to develop the College's apprenticeship numbers.

Mrs Ryan acknowledged the usefulness of seeing the collective improvement and ambitious targets reflected by the good momentum and results. In addition, the areas to be monitored more closely via the QIP will ensure a forward trajectory is maintained.

Mr Lambon enquired as to the A Level targets. The Principal advised that these will be in the 2025-26 QIP to be presented at the next meeting.

AP-AB

Members asked whether the threshold for the National Student Survey (NSS) was reached. The AP-AB confirmed that the College did not reach the threshold, but some good and positive feedback from the survey had been received. The NSS completion rate would be confirmed at the next meeting.

Members thanked the DP-JM for her presentation and extended their congratulations to students for their achievements, and thanks to colleagues for their rigour and effort in helping deliver these student achievements.

Members noted the report.



201:2

CORPORATION BUSINESS

201:2.1 Minutes of meeting held on 8 July 2025

The Minutes of the previous meet inheld on 8 July 2025, having been previously circulated to members, were agreed as a true record and would be signed by the Chair.
All Members were agreed.

201:2.2 Matters arising from the meeting on 8 July 2025

Members noted that the matters arising from the previous meeting had been actioned.

201:2.3 Application of the College Seal

The Director of Governance advised members that the Corporation Seal had not been applied since its last application in December 2023. There were no further requests pending approval at this time.
Members noted the report.

201:3

CONTEXT SETTING AND UPDATE REPORTS

201:3.1 Principal's Report

The Principal CEO presented her report. Members were pleased to note some exceptional achievements with GCSE English and maths resits with 56% of students having passed on resit and a 10% increase in A Level achievement over the past 2 years. The Principal confirmed there is still some work to do in relation to BTEC and 19+ outcomes, but that good forward momentum being seen with clear areas for development identified. The Principal extended her thanks to the curriculum teams for making these achievements possible.

Enrolments for 2025-26 were noted as being strong at 3,107 being 265 above last year. The Principal advised this was largely as a result of a successful programme of school liaison work and improvements to admissions and enrolment processes.

The Principal updated members on the recent Ofsted inspection of the nursery, confirming that it had been judged as 'Good' in all areas. The report has been published with positive statements throughout to reinforce the judgement.

Members were advised that the funding audit currently underway was progressing well with the outcomes on track to be finalised by mid-October.

The Principal noted the current political landscape and the movement of adult skills to the Department for Work and Pensions, with 16-18 skills to remain under the DfE. The Principal noted that a more detailed update on this will be brought to a future meeting.

The Principal outlined the key changes in the recently published updated Ofsted inspection framework as being a move to 16 judgment areas with 5 grading points and the removal of 'deep dives'. It was noted there will also be a stronger focus on achievement rates and inclusion. The Principal confirmed that there will be a training session arranged to cover the Governor role in inspection.

Members received feedback following the first open day of the academic year with attendance in line with that seen in previous years. The Principal noted that feedback received has been positive and highlighted the new style of the event, which saw attendance from several Universities, was well received.

The Vice Chair thanked the Principal for her report and invited questions from members.

Mr Dunford asked whether any positive impact had been seen on the number and quality of vacancy applications following the staff pay decisions. The Principal advised that there had not been a notable impact to date and there was still some work to do around sector alignment on resignation timescales and some areas of the teacher pay scale. It was noted that the pay award feedback from current staff was positive.

Members noted the report.

Principal



201:3.2

Admissions 2025 Summary

The AP-CW presented her interim summary report outlining current 2025 admissions noting the encouraging progress made in comparison to last year.

The AP-CW confirmed that total enrolments were currently 3,140 against a target of 3,113 with total new starts being 1,696 against a target of 1,668.

Members noted that vocational recruitment was higher than that for A Level, with over half of vocational enrolments being Entry to Level 2. At Level 3, A Level recruitment was higher than vocational.

Progressing learners were noted as being 62% of all enrolments overall, against the target of 70%.

The Vice Chair thanked AP-CW for her report and members were invited to ask questions.

Mr Johnson asked how the recruitment demographics at entry level were changing and whether the College needs to begin forward planning to ensure continued strength of enrolment numbers. The AP-CW advised that schools liaison work is extremely focused. The Principal advised that more activity is being undertaken with schools to showcase the College's offer and future plans will be included in future admissions reports.

It was suggested that it would be helpful to see the average GCSE grades for the past three years for context. The AP-CW confirmed she would include this data in her next report.

Mr Dunford enquired whether any comparative enrolment data was available from other schools and colleges. The Principal advised market share data will be available later in the year.

The Vice Chair asked whether the College has seen any increase in enrolment from private schools following the introduction of VAT to fees. The AP-CW confirmed this has not been seen in the data as yet.

Members noted the report.

Principal

AP-CW

201:3.3

Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) 2024-25

The Deputy Principal (DP-JM) presented her report outlining the summary of key achievements made throughout the year and noting the items partially achieved that were to be carried forward. DP-JM advised members that a key focus moving forward will be in relation to progress measures for vocational courses with reporting focusing on whole qualifications for vocational courses and the inclusion of additional progress checks for year 2 learners in October and December.

Mr Ede acknowledged the positive report and enquired about the development of an IT digital strategy. DP-JM advised that the first draft of an AI digital strategy is due to be completed by October half term and this is a key focus area for improvement. The Principal noted the need to ensure there is appropriate personnel in place to take the strategy forward, but that the College is following JCQ guidance on AI with more work to be done to develop further and build on previous years' progress.

The Vice Chair thanked DP-JM for her report and suggested it would be important for Governors to have full discussion about the Digital Strategy and familiarise themselves with the implications of AI for the College, and requested this be a future presentation item at a Corporation meeting or strategy event.

Members unanimously approved the Quality Improvement Plan 2024-25.

Principal /
DP-JM

201:3.4

Governor Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) 2024-25

The Director of Governance presented the 2024-25 Governor QIP, highlighting the areas that had been achieved in 2024-25 and updating against the items partially achieved to be carried forward into 2025-26.



Members were pleased to note progress made in relation to governance, strategic planning, and estate development and the notable achievements with regards to improved oversight of risk, the advancing recruitment and induction processes, and strengthened strategic planning links.

Members unanimously approved the Governor Quality Improvement Plan 2024-25.

201:3.5 **Committee & Corporation Meeting Dates**

The Director of Governance presented her report for discussion with regards to feedback received during Governor appraisals that recognised the need to improve overall meeting attendance and the added value of face-to-face meetings.

Mr Hiley-Jones joined the meeting.

Members discussed the format of meetings and provided feedback regarding in-person attendance for both Governors and external attendees and meeting timings. The possibility of hybrid meetings was discussed with members noting that facilitation and technology were key items for consideration to ensure meeting dialogue and interaction for all attendees. Governor celebrations were discussed with members expressing a preference for recognition of achievements of college as a collective whole, rather than standalone or individual recognition.

The Director of Governance thanked members for their feedback, which will be noted for forward planning and taken forward with the Chair.

Members unanimously approved the meeting date schedule to December 2027.

201:4 **Evaluation of Meeting**

Members agreed that all agenda items had been covered in sufficient detail with reports considered to be full enough to inform decision making. Papers had been despatched in good time for the meeting.

Members added value in discussions and questioning throughout the meeting, particularly in relation to 2025 admissions and the Principal's Report.

201:5 **AOB**

The Principal reminded members of the joint review process in place for departmental Self-Assessment Reports and Quality Improvement Plans. Members were reminded of the invitation to join these sessions to be involved in the process of holding managers to account in self-assessment and quality improvement. The Principal thanked those who had already agreed to attend a session and confirmed she would re-circulate the timetable of available meeting dates.

Principal

201:6 **Date of next meeting**

Members noted the date of the next meeting as being scheduled for Thursday, 11 December 2025 at 5.00pm.

The meeting concluded at 6.05pm