

## **Minutes of Academy Council meeting held on Thursday 15 January 2026**

### **Attendees:**

Claire Willis (CW, Principal)  
Bill Holledge (BH, Chief Executive)  
Jo Brown (JB, Link Director)  
Laura Strutt (LS)  
Lauren Day (LS)  
Yuhanize Yaylagul (YY)  
Faye Gaffer (FG, Minutes)

CW introduced Bill and Jo to the meeting.

### **Cash Wash Update**

It was noted that the signs and water tanks had been removed. CW reported that there was currently no official update on this at present and that the application was still awaiting review by the Planning Office. The car wash has been paused until the application has been reviewed formally. Darren Bloom, Director of Estates is leading on this for Paradigm Trust. It was noted that the school has also requested designated parking spaces (32) as part of this review. CW will update in due course.

### **SEN Coffee mornings**

A discussion took place around the frequency of these meetings and it was requested that they were held more frequently. It was noted that the calendar of events for the school year has been really helpful for parent/carer planning. LS said that she would create a post on the parent social media page of what is upcoming at the beginning of each month. It was also noted that these types of meetings are useful to be online as well so that access can be broadened. BH explained that other Paradigm schools in Suffolk had guest speakers and workshops so it would be good to work together to enable parents to attend these as well.

FG will look into if it would be possible for reminders for upcoming events being posted as a banner on the website.

LD suggested that an outdoor notice board by the gate in the car park where Leappad children are dropped off and collected which can have reminders of what is coming up



and other useful information would be helpful. FG will look into an appropriate noticeboard for this.

### **Lunch Club**

CW explained that last year the school ran a daily lunch club for children who would benefit with support during social times and who perhaps struggled in the playground in an unstructured environment. The club was very organic due to the needs of the children at the time and this year those that had attended have now integrated back into the playground. CW asked if any parents/carers feel that their child needs support to discuss with the class teacher who will then be able to support the individual children. It was noted that a member of staff runs various activities in the lower key stage 2 playground at lunchtime for children to participate in.

It was confirmed that the best way to speak to the teacher is at pick up time as they are always out in the playground. Alternatively, if you contact the office and request a phone call this can be passed on.

### **Any other business.**

None raised.

### **Date of next meeting**

Thursday 26 February 9.15 - 10.15am - virtual.