

MINUTES OF MEETING

School: Ravenshead C of E Voluntary Controlled
Meeting title: Strategic Development Committee Meeting
Date and time: Tuesday 3 March 2026 at 6:00pm
Location: Virtual meeting

Membership

'A' denotes absence

Mrs S Cope
Mrs N Thomas
Mrs S Henson
Mrs S Page
Mrs E Johnson
Mr N Brown
Mrs J Castle
A Mrs S Keightley
Miss A Sutcliffe

In attendance Mr D Silcock (clerk)

SDC/13/26	Apologies for absence	Action
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There were no absences.

SDC/14/26	Declaration of interest
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There were no declarations for items on the agenda.

SDC/15/26	Minutes of the last meeting
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The minutes of the SDC meeting held on 20 January 2026 having been previously circulated were confirmed and signed by Mrs Thomas.

Matters arising

Completed.

SDC/16/26	Feedback from NCC QAR adviser visit 9/10 February 2026
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The review was completed in the week before half term to assess school for Ofsted preparedness. Learning walks across Early Years, Maths, and English were included. Conversations were held with pupils and subject leaders. For the 4 Ofsted related SIP targets, it was found that all leaders were well prepared and engaged with the process and children were also keen to engage.

Comment: Inclusive practice is great.

Question: Does "disadvantaged" refer to Pupil Premium (PP)? Yes, and "vulnerable" includes SEND, LAC etc.

The report noted school is truly inclusive, SEND leadership being a strength. Leadership is an overall strength, the SLT having high expectations and an understanding of every child's needs.

Actions: To improve the quality and consistency of phonics.

Clarify F1 leadership.

Ensure provision for greater depth children.

Ensure work presentation meets expectations.

The overall findings were good and a boost to our confidence.

SDC/17/26	SEND Update
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The LA SEND adviser P Higgins visits next week to examine our evidence.

High Quality Teaching: Graduated responses from Early Years onwards run through school, including for interventions and parent discussions. Learning walks have increased in response to the new Ofsted framework. SEND CPD has increased, with all the SLT receiving trauma training

Challenge: Will Miss Sutcliffe's absence make a difference? We will lose skills, but the team are strong, particularly in F1 who are brilliant on picking up early signs that support will be required.

Identifying and meeting needs:
Early identification is via observations and meetings, supported by strong parent collaboration and the SEND drop-in clinic.

SEND provision & leadership: We have an experienced SENCO and ensure a graduated approach is embedded. Regular monitoring suited to SEND needs includes Insight, B-squared, and assessment tools.

Challenge: Can parents see progress? Yes, B-squared provides evidence of small improvements and is used to assess ARE on entry.

Curriculum and teaching adaptation: The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) supports cross curriculum informed approaches and adaptations for long term fixes.

Attendance, Behaviour & Wellbeing: We have targeted interventions for attendance, behaviour, and SEMH issues plus multi-agency work, all underpinned by restorative practice.

Challenge: Was trauma training helpful? The training validated what we were already doing.

SDC/18/26 EAL Overview

We have 8 children (2%), most of whom are at or above expected levels. Each child has an individual support plan but only 1 child had interventions. This child has moved into the next year and are now at ARE.

Comment: The overview document is excellent, giving full visibility of all children and areas for improvement.

SDC/19/26 PP Overview

We have 32 (9%) PP children, receiving about £40k toward their support. Challenges are mostly around the progress gap, which is closing. Issues affecting progress include attendance, SEMH, access to clubs and extra-curricular options, and attainment.

From PP funds, we try and address most issues.

£3k is for CPD, to apply Adaptive Teaching.

£38.8k is for TA targeted academic support in small group sessions.

Wider strategies are support for nurture, unstructured time (play), music, clubs, and transition.

Total allocations are £44k.

Challenge: We only receive £40k. Yes, but we go a bit further and spend at least £44k.

All PP children have a support plan that runs from January-January. Our recent inset looked at vulnerable children to create their plans. The more able children can be appointed "Leader in Learning".

Question: What if children have more than 1 vulnerability? They receive a vulnerable learner support plan if the PP plan is not meeting their needs.

SDC/20/26 Governance link visits

Mrs Page visited for SEND and filed a report on Ghub. Governors are invited to attend SLT meetings.

SDC/21/26 Governor action plan

Governors will meet on 25 March 2026 at 13:30hrs to update the action plan.

Mitre update: The meeting with Mr Parris was positive. Mrs Cope was in attendance. Mrs Bodill is in contact with Mitre finance team to clarify our position.

Mrs Cope added that we do not have enough money to join a MAT as under their accounting rules we would have a £35k deficit.

Challenge: What are our options? We could go with 3 split year 5/6 classes for 2026/27 but would struggle for space with 35 children in one class. A reduction to 3 classes in 27/28 is feasible.

Challenge: Joining a MAT would cost £90k; what would that bring us?

Improved facilities and site improvements; we would probably receive more than we paid in.

Comment: We are better to wait until the Ofsted cycle is complete rather than pushing for split Y5/6 classes.

SDC/22/26 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 6:00pm

SDC/12/26 Determination of confidentiality of business

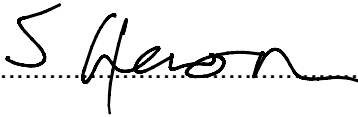
It was

Resolved

Membership lists and HT reports and items where noted are confidential.

The meeting closed at 8:25pm.

Signed



.....(chair)

Date

