



Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 @ 10.00am. Meeting to be conducted virtually.

These minutes reflect the order of the agenda, not necessarily the order of discussion



(Trustee) -  
(Trustee) *joined meeting at 10.44am*  
(Trustee)  
(Trustee)

(EMAT: CEO)  
(EMAT: COO) *left at 12.08pm*  
(EMAT: Finance Manager Accountant) *left at 12.08pm*  
(EMAT: Head of School Services) *left at 12.08pm*



*Finance papers had been distributed with the agenda for the meeting.*

ND ran through the highlights of the Management Accounts condensed report. Schools were performing well with a combined surplus of £165K and the trust still showing a strong position. The following was noted:

PWS: Had handled staff absence insurance very well and managed to recoup most of the monies.

Shepherdswell: Showing below deficit due to a long-term sick absence.

Castle: Leadership structure to change with new Assistant Head joining from April.

ND informed trustees that the change of personal at the local authority might disrupt the cash flow for the following term.

PW praised ND hard work and informed trustees that the finance team had gone from three members to one, with ND currently doing most of the work until the vacancies were filled.

PW explained that all current deals have been locked until July 2023. Procurement was already looking to negotiate any future deals and more information would be ready around September. The current cost of living increase had been costed in the budget; however, the support staff pay increase agreed with the unions had not been covered completely. Some current contracts might increase due to general inflation, the team was monitoring these to avoid any surprises.

PW responded that, as most of the stock was purchased in bulk and in advance this had not been noticeable yet.

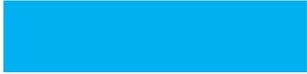
PW explained that the trust was locked in a contract with the current providers until July 2023. They were keen to continue working with EMAT so procurement would look at renegotiating a new deal fair for both parties during the 2022 summer. PW had requested a long-term plan before entering into any new agreement, in order to accurately build the cost in future budgets.

ND briefly presented the SEND allocation across schools and any extra income generated by schools.

ND explained that a marketing campaign was ongoing to attract more pupils to the new Hardingsstone nursery, which currently had seven pupils. Castle and Shepherdswell nurseries were both since the beginning of March. NIA and SAA wrap around care had had very positive reception and was already generating some income. Orchard had had some interest from the local community to use the fields.










*The following policy was presented for ratification*