MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION OF MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

TUESDAY 7 JULY 2026 AT 2:00PM

VELOCITY BOARDROOM

Clerk: Ms S Gardiner

In attendance	C Johns, (Chair), R Kay (Principal), G Bristow, I Cass, M Botwe P Hunter, R Charlton, R Milkins, H Taylor (Staff), J Lewis (Staff)
Apologies	M Wright, D Rutley
Non-governor attendance	A Farrar (Director of Finance) N Tomlinson (Rockborn) (for Item 3 only) Nathan Lucas (Eversheds) (for Item 3 only)

MINUTES

Item Title

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. Apologies were received M Botwe and J Lewis.

2. Declaration of Members' Interest

There were no declarations of Members' interest.

Papers received had been uploaded to Decisions and were available to Governors one week prior to the meeting.

3. Merger

The Resolutions were passed by the Corporation to proceed with the merger with Cheshire College South & West on 1 August 2026.

4. OfS Reportable Event

The Director of Governance advised the Board that we have a legal requirement to report the passing of the merger resolutions to the Office for Students. The Director of Governance confirmed that this will be submitted following the meeting.

The Board noted the requirement.

5. Minutes and Matters Arising

The Board reviewed the minutes from the meetings held on 19 May 2026 and 10 June and approved them as an accurate record.

There were no matters arising.

6. Chairs Update

The Chair of the Corporation advised that there were matters that required Chair Action since the last meeting of the Board and provided an update on these.

The Board noted the updates.

7. Strategic Transition Plan

The Principal advised that this was a DfE requirement for all Colleges as part of the forward planning for the new T Levels and V Levels provisions and to ensure the curriculum is mapped to the LSIP priorities.

8. KPI Document

An updated KPI document was presented to the Board, providing an overview of the College's performance to date. Key Performance Indicators were discussed, including attendance, retention and financial data. The Board were advised that application numbers have exceeded this time last year, ensuring the College is in a strong position moving into the merger.

9. Business

To receive the Management Accounts for period ending 31 May 2026.

The Director of Finance presented the Management Accounts for the period ending 31 May 2026 and noted the following points:

- The College is forecast a Good financial health at the end of the financial year.
- 16-19 income is the most positive due to a stronger funding position against the original budget.
- Student transport contributions are performing strongly, which has partially offset the cost pressure with non-pay expenditure.
- Apprenticeship income remains on budget.
- Agency pay costs have been an additional financial pressure, however there are no longer any agency staff on the payroll.
- The cash position continues to be closely monitored.

The Director of Finance confirmed that the financial outlook remains positive, supported by favourable income performance and strong non-pay cost control.

10. Audit Committee

To receive the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting on 16 June 2026 and note any actions from the meeting.

The Audit Committee minutes from the meeting held on 16 June 2026 were received. The Board were advised that Wylie & Bissett presented the External Auditors Report, which sets out the external audit approach of the College's financial statements for year ended 31 July 2026.

The Board for approved the External Audit Plan and Financial Statements on the recommendation of the Audit Committee.

An update on the internal audits were provided as follows:

- Payroll and Expenses – draft report completed, good audit, awaiting final comments from MC.
- Risk Management – audit underway, awaiting management responses.
- Financial Controls – draft report issued, awaiting management responses.
- Cyber Security – draft report issued, awaiting management responses.
- Student Records – audit ongoing.
- Health & Safety Management – audit complete, report currently in QA.
- Follow Up 25/26 – awaiting management responses.

The Committee were assured that all audits will be completed by the end of the academic year.

Risks continue to be managed robustly, with additional risks included in the register regarding the merger.

The internal audit action plan will be shared with the two board members who are transitioning to the Cheshire College South and West Board.

11. AOB

The Chair of the Corporation wished to say a special thank you to the Principal Rachel Kay, noting her unwavering commitment to the College, strategic vision and guidance and support through the merger process and over the past 11 years. The College would not be in the position it is today without Rachel's dedication and insight and it had been a privilege working with her. The Board wished Rachel all the very best for the future.