MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE

**MEETING OF THE CORPORATION OF MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE**

**TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 AT 9:30AM**

**VELOCITY BOARDROOM**

**Clerk:** Ms S Gardiner

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| In attendance | C Johns, (Chair), R Kay (Principal), M Wright, G Bristow, I Cass, P Hunter, D Rutley, R Charlton, R Milkins, H Taylor (Staff), B Oultram (Student) |
| Apologies | M Botwe, J Lewis (Staff) |
| Non-governor attendance | A Farrar (Director of Finance)<br>N Tomlinson (Rockborn) for item 4 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. Minutes from the meetings held on 28 April 2026.**

**To confirm and approve the Part 1 Minutes of the meetings held on 28 April 2026.**

The minutes of the Corporation meetings held on 28 April 2026 were approved as an accurate record.

**4. Merger Progress Update**

**i. Public Consultation**

Nic Tomlinson (NT) presented the outcome of the public consultation for the merger. The Board were advised that the responses were minimal and there were no issues raised. NT advised that the document will be published on the College website at the end of June 2026.

**CHALLEGE: A Member requested that the document be amended to state that there will be a commitment to construction at Macclesfield.** NT confirmed that 'investment' will be added into the 'Access to specialist facilities' paragraph on page 9 of the document.

**The Public Consultation document was approved, subject to the one amendment.**

**ii. Progress Report**

NT confirmed that the merger is progressing well. The TUPE consultation period launched on 14 May. Meetings with the trade unions have taken place, however no issues have been raised to date. Workstream meetings are continuing, with additional meetings now being held with MIS, Curriculum and Quality, Payroll and Student Services teams. The Legal and Funding due diligence exercises are ongoing. NT advised that the legal documentation being presented to the Board on 8 July 2026 will be made available ahead of that meeting, in order for all Board Members to review its contents.

The Board noted the content of the Progress Report and were assured that the merger remains on track.

NT confirmed that the Notice of Dissolution will be presented to the Board for approval on 10 June 2026 and the formal merger agreement will be presented and signed on 8 July 2026.

**NT left the meeting.**

**5. Ofsted Inspection**

The Principal (RK) provided a verbal update on the recent Ofsted inspection outcomes. RK advised that the draft report was not yet available and this would be shared with Members as soon as it was available.

In summary, RK advised that the inspection had gone well. Under the new framework, there was no overall grade, however the College had achieved expected standard over a number of areas, which is a great achievement.

The Board thanked the staff for their hard work and continued commitment to the College.

**6. Business**

**i. Management Accounts for period ending 30 April 2026**

Annika Farrar (AF), Vice Principal Finance and Estates presented the management accounts for period ending 30 April 2026 and noted the following points:

- The College is forecast to deliver an adjusted operating surplus marginally ahead of budget, to retain a Good financial health rating.
- Non-pay costs are currently behind budget, however this will be offset by additional pay costs for agency staff which are higher than planned.
- A clawback in the sum of £57k has been confirmed by the DfE for the T Level provision. AF advised that clawbacks are usually taken over a 12 month period, however due to the pending merger, the full amount will need to be paid prior to 1 August 2026.
- The FECCA payment of £640K will be received on 20 May 2026. These monies have been allocated for investment into the construction area, IT and curriculum area improvements.

AF advised that the DfE are yet to confirm the in-year growth payment amount, however payment should be received in July 2026.

## 7. Link Governor Updates

The Chair confirmed that she had attended a link meeting with AF and is fully appraised on the current financial position of the College.

The Chair also advised that she and Member P Hunter had attended Cheshire College South & West Crewe campus for a tour which had gone well. They noted that the College was busy and student behaviour was good. They have also been invited to future College events.

## 8. Policies

The following policy was reviewed and approved by the Board:

- Bursary Policy 26/27

## 9. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next Corporation Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th June at 11:00am via Teams.

## 10. Impact

The Board welcomed the overview of the recent Ofsted inspection and have a clear understanding of the new framework. From the feedback provided from the Principal, they were satisfied that the report will be positive. The Board also wished to recognise the Director of Commercial Services and Director of MIS for all their work during the funding audit processes. Their continued commitment has ensured the merger remains on track and the outcomes of the audits were positive.