



The Learning Partnership

Crewe UTC LGB

Crewe UTC

Part 1 Minutes



Crewe Engineering & Design UTC

Date: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 4.30pm – in person at Crewe UTC

**Present:**

Mark Marsh (MM) – Chair  
Helen Tattersall (HT) – Vice Chair  
Chris Geddes (CG)

**Apologies:**

Clare Greenhalgh (CG)  
Harry Wain (HW)  
Dr Allan Howells – TLP Dir. of Quality

**Absent:**

Georgina Harris (GH)

**In attendance:**

Will Chitty (WC) – Principal  
Charlotte Casewell (CC) – Assistant Principal  
Steve Fergusson (SF) – Assistant Principal  
Sarah Hatton-Tonge (SHT) – Assistant Principal (Quality of Education)  
Neil Travis (NT) – Prospective new governor

**Clerk:** Sharon Dutton (SD) – TLP Governance Clerk

The following documentation was shared with the Governors on GovernorHub prior to the meeting:

- LGB Draft Minutes 01.07.2025
- Principal’s Report Sept 2025
- PAN Consultation letter
- Quality of Education report
- Industry Ready report
- SEND report
- Pastoral report
- ROV Autumn 1 2025

**Governance and Administration**

**1. Welcome, Quoracy, Apologies and Declarations**

The meeting started at 4:38 pm. Before formal proceedings began, WC took the governors to the expanded workshop area to show them the newly installed machinery. Governors were extremely impressed with the new facilities at the college. WC confirmed that an opening ceremony would be arranged before the end of the term and a celebrity invited to “cut the ribbon”. The meeting resumed at 4:46 pm and the Clerk confirmed the meeting quorate. MM welcomed everyone including NT, a prospective new governor from Amazon who gave a brief description of his work experience and affiliations to the area. Apologies were accepted from CG and HW and GH was recorded as absent. No additional declarations of interest for items on this agenda were offered.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the Crewe UTC LGB meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 were approved without amendment. There were no matters arising.

**3. Membership Update**

MM confirmed that David Jones had resigned from the LGB with immediate effect due to pressure of work. A thank you letter had been sent to him from the Governance team. SD confirmed there are currently three governor vacancies. WC to issue a recruitment message to parents. Utilising employer networks was considered and SD suggested reaching out to past pupils.

**4. Declarations and Confirmations**

SD confirmed that declarations were outstanding for MM and HW.

**5. Confirmation of Governor Link Roles and Monitoring Schedule**

MM confirmed there were no changes to the governor link roles.

- Safeguarding – HT
- SEND – CG
- Careers – HW
- School Improvement Priorities - to be considered by all link governors during visits.

## Strategic Direction and Progress Against Priorities

### 6. School Improvement Plan (SIP) and self-Evaluation (SEF).

Principal's Report September 2025

#### a) Summary of 2024-2025 progress

- T-Level pass rate was 100%, exceeding national average of 91%.
- 25% of T-Level cohort are going on to degree apprenticeships.
- BTEC and 3D Design outcomes have improved significantly from 2024.
- GCSE results showed a clear three-year upward trend in core subjects (Maths, English, Science)
- Resit pass rates for English and Maths were significantly above national averages.
- Governors noted the significant improvement in 4+ and 5+ results. WC observed that in many areas reaching the national average with 4+ is now attainable.

#### **Governor question:**

*Whilst this shows a massive improvement, are there any areas where special attention or focus is required?*

#### **WC response:**

*Design Tech is an area of focus as this is now a whole cohort subject (no longer optional) with a new lead. It is hoped that Systems and Control gain better results. This has been moved to the Engineering faculty under Chris Rudd with an improved structure. Level 1 pass rate has improved but there is still more work to be done at Level 2.*

#### b) Approval of priorities for 2025-2026

- Attendance and punctuality – continued procedural improvements
- Integrated curriculum – embedding employer-set projects across subjects
- Numeracy development - cross-curricular numeracy mapping
- Teaching and learning - focus on formative assessment and literacy.

#### c) PAN Consultation

WC gave an overview of why the PAN consultation was considered an important development for the college. He explained that in the past the PAN had been up to 800 which was impractical both for the locality and space available. A discussion took place around the financial situation of the college in terms of lag funding, budgeting, expectations and debt repayment. He assured governors that a financial safety mechanism was in place.

- Proposal to reduce Key Stage 4 PAN from 125 to 100 due to consistent intake trends and financial planning.
- Sixth Form PAN to remain flexible to accommodate growing demand.

Governors supported the consultation and agreed to submit feedback via the returns form provided.

#### **Governor question:**

*Please expand on the key priorities for 2025/2026?*

#### **WC response:**

*As outlined in the SIP these are:*

- *Ensure all students graduate Industry Ready by continuing to embed the engineering and design specialisms in all other subjects, pastoral work, and personal development programmes*
- *Further develop formative assessment practice so that both are used to inform adaptive teaching and secure the best outcomes for students, especially SEND and PP*
- *Continually champion excellent numeracy and mathematical thinking. Curriculum planning and delivery maintained to ensure opportunities for excellence in all forms of numeracy.*
- *Ensure Attendance & Punctuality is at least consistently good.*

## Quality of Education

### 7. Report on Exam Results

- T-Level results : 100% pass rate with 10% distinctions and 25% merits.
- GCSE results : Significant improvements in 4+ and 5+ grades across core subjects.
- Engineering and Design Technology outcomes stabilized and improved.
- Systems and Control subjects moved under Engineering faculty for better outcomes.

Governors noted the low rate of national resits and a discussion took place around the college's success rate in this area. WC is keen to offer the opportunity to students in other schools within the Trust to resit thus improving employment prospects.

### 8. Student Destinations – KS5 Destinations

- 25% of T-Level cohort progressed to degree apprenticeships.
- 57% taking up apprenticeship training. The college would like to see more SME's offering apprenticeships.
- 29% into skilled employment with training.
- Decline in traditional university routes from 29% to 11% due to attractive apprenticeship offers.
- Destination outcomes significantly above national average.

WC reported that City and Guilds had invited himself and SF to the recently held Labour Conference where two Crewe UTC students delivered a very well received presentation.

SHT highlighted to governors the "tartan rug" of results on Poage 5 of the Principal's report which showed a significant shift towards green in most areas, and confirming how the college's focus on assessment and feedback and literacy had improved results between the Spring and Autumn terms of 2025. She explained that scheme building is the next focus for improvement and a focus for staff CPD with the aim being that all areas will achieve an average of 3. Literacy continues to be an area of focus and formal lesson observations will take place in the Spring term.

Excellent numeracy and mathematical thinking continue to be championed with a shared approach on numeracy and reading intervention. Reading intervention in particular has proved to be very successful as historically students joining the college with a low reading deficit have struggled to attain acceptable standards across the curriculum. This progress has been halted due to staff maternity leave for 6 months. Governors were concerned that this would interfere with progress made but were informed that budget constraints meant that no cover could be sought. However, the enhanced cross-curricular intervention will continue to assist.

#### **Governor question:**

*Can you quantify the success of this intervention?*

#### **WC response:**

*Reading intervention is measured in reading years and the results due to this are laid out on Page 2 of the Principal's report. The table at the top of Page 6 of the Principal's report highlights the improvements made in Years 10 and 11.*

#### **Governor question:**

*Would governors be able to leverage the Trust for assistance?*

#### **WC response:**

*It is unlikely. There is no additional financial assistance available in the college or Trust budget particularly as this staff member is categorised as support staff.*

#### **Governor question:**

*Is there baseline testing for Year 10?*

#### **WC response:**

*Yes, this is currently in progress and results will be shared at the next LGB meeting.*

## 9. Admissions and Pupil Numbers

- Year 10 intake: 96 students (targeted 100)
- Year 12 intake: 58 students (on budget).
- Late applications and students on managed moves continue to be received.
- Unexpected drop-off in post-16 enrolment due to students accepting multiple offers.
- Strong early applications for next year and WC has already started attending recruitment assemblies and careers events.

## 10. SEND Report

- Reading intervention: Highly effective with 2.6 years average progress per student.
- Numeracy intervention paused due to staff illness; no current capacity to continue. Governors expressed concern and agreed to escalate issue to the Trust
- Cross-curricular numeracy: new whole college approach launched to mitigate impact

## Personal Development and Welfare

### 11. Attendance: summary report 2024-2025

The college continues to ensure that attendance and punctuality are at least consistently good. Students (and their families) joining the college with a history of poor attendance or punctuality are supported to make rapid and sustained improvements. Concerning emerging patterns or trends are identified and actioned using a systemic and transparent approach which includes all stakeholders. The college continues to capture mean and median figures due to extreme outliers influencing numbers.

- Attendance has shown improvement year on year with persistent absenteeism reduced from 64% to 35%.
- UTC attendance likely to exceed national averages for Key Stage 4.
- Trust-wide attendance procedures have been implemented including staged letters and meetings with families.
- Punctuality also improving.

CC reported that the college had undergone an attendance review with the Trust who were satisfied with attendance figures particularly with pupils with SEND an/or PP.

### 12. Rewards and Behaviour: summary report 2024-2025 (covered in Pastoral report)

- No major concerns raised
- Conduct curriculum embedded in tutor time to reinforce expectations.

### 13. Safeguarding

- The Safeguarding caseload was reviewed.
- Procedures were confirmed as robust.

### 14. Welfare and Wellbeing – students

- Tutor time including assemblies, reading, and conduct curriculum is taking place..
- Student attendance and punctuality continue to be tracked weekly.
- Governors suggested employer examples used to reinforce conduct expectations.

### 15. Welfare and wellbeing – staff

- The Staff survey results are positive. SHT explained how the survey was designed.
- Analysis will be done on those areas scoring less highly
- High scores were received for well-being support and resource availability
- Staff felt equipped to deliver tutor time. The concept of tutor time was explained to the governors.
- SLT commitment to staff well-being recognised.

## Local Matters and Stakeholder Engagement

### 16. Policies

To approve/review the following statutory policy:

- Admissions and Child Protection & Safeguarding policies reviewed and approved.

Governors to review:

- Careers Guidance
- Charging and Remissions
- Exclusions
- Supporting Students with Medical Conditions

**17. Governor Training update – School Performance Data**

- Training on school performance data to be delivered this term. Format (Teams or in-person) to be confirmed.
- Governors reminded to complete statutory safeguarding and prevent training.

**18. Governor Biographies Update**

- Biographies are now live on the TLP website.
- Governors encouraged to submit biographies to support recruitment and visibility.

**19. Stakeholder Engagement**

a) Parents/Carers

Nothing to report

b) Wider Community

WC reported that social media is packed with events which the college is part of.

**20. Communication to the Trust**

a) Feedback to ESP Committee on educational matters

- Governors expressed concern over lack of support for numeracy intervention due to staff illness. Request to escalate issue to ESP Committee.

b) Feedback to Trust on other matters

- Suggestion for more face-to-face governor training and networking opportunities.

**21. Communication from the Trust**

The 2026 Governors' Conference was confirmed as taking place with a date to be announced shortly. The venue was confirmed as Crewe UTC.

**22. AOB**

Governors were encouraged to complete visit reports and arrange school visits.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 4:30pm**

**Meeting Closed at 6:10pm**

**Minutes Prepared by: Copilot in collaboration with the Clerk.**

Minutes approved: .....

Date:.....