

Appendix 4: Penn Hall School – Summary of Meeting (Penn Hall School’s Governing Board)

<u>Consultation – Governors Meeting Summary</u>	
Nature of Consultation:	Proposed Changes to Penn Hall School
Date:	14 May 2018
Time:	17:15
Location:	Penn Hall School
Officers in Attendance:	Adrian Leach, Head of SEND (AL) Tom Knott, SEND Commissioning Officer (TK)
Number of Governors in attendance:	10

Summary of Meeting

- AL introduced the proposals, outlined the current pressures on the City’s specialist education estate and emphasised the importance of working in partnership to meet students’ needs.
- TK circulated and presented a briefing paper providing the background to the proposal, the current school position, an outline of the proposals, details of the consultation and decision-making process and details of the proposed capital scheme.
- AL and TK welcomed comments and queries from the Governors.
- Governors were advised that that they could either raise comments during this meeting, reply to the survey online or complete consultation response forms.

The following questions and comments were raised by Governors:

- A Governor outlined the existing challenging financial position and advised that wide ranging support would be required to ensure the success of the proposals.
- Governors emphasised the importance of revenue funding being received in a timely manner.
- A Governor explained that their focus was the continuation of the provision of a happy and safe environment for existing students, whilst also supporting new cohorts and meeting students' needs.
- Governors discussed the future organisation of the school and identified the need to establish one additional class to facilitate the proposals.
- Governors highlighted the need to consider both access and support spaces as part of any proposed capital scheme.
- Governors requested open dialogue between the City of Wolverhampton Council and the school to determine and review financial support for any additional students.
- A governor emphasised the importance of the existing designation and specialism of Penn Hall School and their reticence to lose this designation. The Governor advised that any further, future proposal to create a 'generic' special school was unlikely to be supported.
- Governors queried what would happen to children if the proposal was ultimately rejected.
- Governors queried the consequence of capital funding from the Department for Education not being received.