

# Board Minutes

06 June 2024

Legally privileged and confidential and subject to litigation privilege

## Time and venue

3pm, Coram Campus

## Date

06 June 2024

## Attendees

### Board/committee member

Ian Bauckham CBE	IB	Chair
Hardip Begol	HB	
Cassie Buchanan	CB	
Henry de Zoete	HdZ	
Annie Gardner	AG	
Sean Harford	SH	
Conor Ryan	CR	
Matt Hood	MH	Chief Executive
Emma Beatty	EB	Operations Director

### Oak National Academy

Jonathan Dando	JD	School Support and External Relations Director
Tom Rose	TR	Education Director
John Roberts	JR	Product and Engineering Director
Rachel Strom	RS	Head of School Support
Ewan Wakeman	EW	Senior Data Analyst
Ellie Ball	EIB	Board Secretary

### Observers

Stuart Miller	SM	Department for Education
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**1. Welcome, apologies and declarations**

- 1.1. Attendees were welcomed to the meeting by the Board Chair
- 1.2. There were no declarations of interest to declare beyond those already recorded in the register.

**2. Minutes, matters arising and electronic decisions taken between meetings**

- 2.1. Minutes from the previous Board meeting held on 29 February 2024 were reviewed with agreement from the Board to approve.

**DECISION:** Minutes from the Board meeting on 29/02/24 were approved.

- 2.2. Electronic decisions taken between 22nd February 2024 and 6th June 2024 were reviewed and it was agreed that these decisions were to be ratified.

**DECISION:** Electronic decisions taken between meetings were ratified.

**3. CEO update**

- 3.1. MH introduced the paper confirming Oak has made good progress on all objectives and key results for the period ending in mid-June.
- 3.2. The Board noted Oak's new AI lesson planning assistant Aila is now live to a closed beta group and will be ready to launch post-election.
- 3.3. The Board discussed restrictions on paid advertising in the pre-election period, noting that this is likely to impact the growth metrics at the start of the next OKR period.
- 3.4. The Board noted a slight decline in the 'product market fit' health metric. MH explained that we still have a pandemic product market fit for half of our product - until we have the remaining lessons out of the door we are unlikely to hit this. He confirmed this is being closely monitored. The Board suggested refining the research to assess if the product market fit is higher with users whose subjects are already released.
- 3.5. The Board discussed the OfficeVibe metrics, noting that there is very little movement in the categories at each update. MH explained that a small shift in numbers represents a significant change in the organisation. Oak to consider presentation at the next meeting.

**ACTION:** See if there's a difference in product market fit between users with new lesson resources and those accessing pandemic resources

**ACTION:** Consider presentation of OfficeVibe data at RemCo and next Board meeting

**4. Geo-restriction and judicial review - Legally privileged and confidential and subject to litigation privilege**

*This minute is legally privileged and confidential and is subject to litigation privilege. It reflects discussions which were undertaken for the dominant purpose of obtaining information and providing advice in connection with the conduct of the judicial review claim brought by BESA and others which is proceeding in the high court (claim no AC-2022-LON-003401) (the "Judicial Review"). The paper provided to the Board prior to the meeting contained an initial update on very recent changes to the Judicial Review and contained legally privileged advice. This paper, Board discussions and this minute are not to be shared or discussed outside of this Board.*

## **5. Signposting - Legally privileged and confidential and subject to litigation privilege**

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## **6. 2025+ Scenario planning**

- 6.1. MH introduced the paper, outlining the proposed approach to the next strategic period. The Board noted that the upcoming election would affect these plans, and that the current assumption is that Oak will be working on a one-year rollover period ahead of a full three-year spending review
- 6.2. The Board requested that the continuous improvement work mentioned in the paper is called out and documented and not just assumed. For example product development, ongoing stakeholder relations, high-performing and lean back office and a secure data platform.
- 6.3. The Board discussed the experiments, suggesting that the MAT scenario could include LAs in addition to MATs
- 6.4. The Board discussed the 'engaging with infrastructure experiment' noting that whilst Oak should be careful of not overstepping their remit re CPD, it is good to join up with other areas of the DfE to ensure efficiency

**DECISION:** The Board gave approval to proceed with further planning of the 2025+ scenario planning

## **7. FARC report**

- 7.1. EB introduced the paper, highlighting recent success with audits, budget management and risk management
- 7.2. The Board noted the decision to support Oak's recommendation to position Oak's Annual Report & Accounts document as a compliance-focused piece and leave impact to the annual evaluation report.

## **8. Curriculum report**

- 8.1. TR introduced the paper, highlight recent successes including cycle 1 & cycle 2 progress
- 8.2. The Board noted that governance of curricula sign-off is much more robust for Cycle 2
- 8.3. The Board noted delays in MFL and P.E. development, recognising the complexity of these subjects
- 8.4. The Board noted the success of the recent showcases, celebrating the expertise of the Subject Leads

*RS and EW entered the meeting at 16.39*

**9. Product report**

- 9.1. HdZ explained the new growth metric proposal presented at the Product Committee, confirming that subject to some clarifications the committee are content it is an accurate measure. The Board discussed how to avoid inconsistencies over time and ensure accurate data.
- 9.2. MH confirmed that the metric is deliberately conservative and will be externally validated

**10. RemCo report**

- 10.1. EB introduced the paper, highlighting the policies signed off at the last Committee meeting

*[The meeting ended at 17.05]*