

Minutes of the meeting of the full governing body held on Monday 30th January 2023 at 4.30pm.

Present:

Mrs N Galloway (Chair)
Mrs H Benwell
Mr I Lindsay
Mrs A Preston
Mr C McConnachie
Mrs M Collins
Mr T Rimmer
Mr C Feeney
Mrs N Harwood
Mr A Walker
Mr I Siddall (Headteacher)

Also Present:

Mrs E Wallace (Clerk to Governors)
Mrs S Khan (Observer – Deputy Headteacher)
Miss F Bate (Observer – Deputy Headteacher)
Mr S Stott (Observer - Director of Resources)
Miss R Buckley (Observer – Assistant Headteacher KS4 Curriculum)
Miss J Morton (Observer – Assistant Headteacher Assessment & Data Systems)
Mr C McCann (Observer - Assistant Headteacher KS3 Curriculum)

Apologies:

Apologies received and accepted for Mr C McConnachie, Mrs J Vila and Miss J Harvey.

Please note the Department for Education ‘urges governing boards to be pragmatic in what they cover in meetings during this time, and to be proportionate in the decisions that they are planning to take’. They expect governors to focus on ‘urgent, time-bound decisions’ and understand boards will want to ‘defer non urgent decisions/agenda items until future meetings’.

In addition, the National Governance Association (NGA) has advised paperwork be scaled back and verbal updates be provided wherever possible during this time.

2a. Governing Body Matters

a) Declaration of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

b. Membership of the governing body

The term of office for Mrs Preston as a parent governor will end on 5th February. The governing board thanked Mrs Preston for her terms of office and all her contributions, they wished her well for the future.

After the half term the academy will advertise for a parent governor to join the board.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting and any matters arising

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 5th December 2022, having been circulated, be approved and signed by the Chair.

With the following amendment:

- Mr Feeney time of arrival to be added

Clerk

4. Matters Arising

- A revised budget to be distributed to governors – completed
- SRE policy to be reviewed by governors – Completed and ratified by governors.
- Admissions policy with amendments – Ratified by Governors

Mr Siddall explained the previous matter arising relating to pupil premium students and results may be an operational question.

Mrs Benwell to clarify question regarding results of pupil premium students

Mrs Benwell

Admissions Policy 2024/2025 ratified by governors

5. Chair's update and Chair's actions

The Chair's update to be discussed within the Headteacher's Operational Update.

6. Finance Update

The budget document and internal scrutiny reports were distributed to governors prior to the meeting.

Mr Stott invited questions.

A governor queried the SCITT income.

Mr Stott explained the SCITT will cease from next year and therefore income from them will also cease.

Mr Siddall explained

7. Curriculum structure from September 2023

Miss Buckley explained the upcoming change to the curriculum. Starting with the next academic year KS3 will revert to a three year KS3. In 2019 OFSTED altered their framework in relation to an ideal of a three year KS3. This approach will assist our disadvantaged students and address the difference in progress 8 scores. Hodgson have identified disadvantaged students have been affected most by the three year KS4. Financially, the difference between a two or three year KS4 is approximately £100,000 due to the resource increase. Miss Buckley explained this change was due to take place in 2019 however Covid stopped this.

Mr McCann explained this approach is not an overnight change and will require work and time.

Middle leaders have been asked to look further afield in relation to other available opportunities for students. There are multiple models being looked at, with the current approach being a two week timetable to provide breadth and depth of the curriculum for students. A full curriculum will be delivered and students will be driven to achieve the best they can. Hodgson's bespoke communication model will withstand. The model will need to be quality assured with multiple points of reflection.

Miss Buckley explained parents of Y8 students will be informed imminently.

Mrs Khan arrived into the meeting at 17:00

A governor questioned if this would increase non-specialist teaching across subjects

Mr McCann explained it may allow scope within departments but not radical changes.

A governor added the two week timetable will help with the distributions of teachers.

Mrs Khan explained CPD audit take place annually, with teaching staff identified and supported with areas weaker identified and addressed through CPD to support.

Mr Siddall added this provides opportunity to allow deeper and better quality knowledge.

A governor asked the impact on current Year 9 students.

Mr Siddall stated Year 9 are currently working their way through the current curriculum model. Hodgson will continue to focus on Year 9 growing their curriculum along their journey.

A governor asked for indication on how Hodgson could recognise whether this approach is working.

Mr Siddall explained there will be many points of reflection and comparison throughout the process, ultimately this would be identified through the gap in results narrowing for disadvantaged students.

A governor stated we should be clear on our rationale regarding the two year KS4 to prevent the change appearing knee-jerk.

8. Year 11 Achievement

A document relating to Y11 achievement was distributed to governors prior to the meeting.

Miss Morton explained pupil premium is a focus. This time last year there was a 22 point gap with Pupil Premium at 30.56 and Non Pupil premium at 52.65. This gap has been reduced to 12 points, resulting in Pupil Premium at 34.02 and Non Pupil Premium at 46.45.

Last year there was specific guidance for revision due to the prevalence of Covid, this year students are expected to revise all matters.

Last year the gap for SEN students was 21 point gap with this year it currently standing at 19 point, again showing this has narrowed.

Mrs Khan explained students with the lowest scores have been identified from their mock exams to receive extra tuition.

A governor asked if the results of the pupil premium students had improved.

Mr Siddall stated he would distribute this to governors.

Mr Siddall

9. Headteacher's Operational Update

Mr Siddall discussed the recruitment for two Maths teachers, both of which start from August 2023 on a temporary basis to cover maternity leave. We are currently underway with the appointment of a Physics teacher on a part time basis to replace Mr Hibbert. The OFSTED report will be published in the next couple of days.

A governor asked if the report had been distributed to parents.

Mr Siddall stated it is being sent to Parents this week.

Mr Siddall explained Miss Turner will be on maternity leave shortly with Mr Rimmer becoming temporary Head of Science. Miss Kantharia to temporary second in department and Miss Scott to extra responsibilities in Science on a temporary basis.

The administrative staff are full with a change of the Educational Visits Co-Ordinator and no further movements as of yet.

10. MAT Proposal Update

The Schools bill contained very little information regarding Academies. The majority of the bill related to attendance

11. Educational Visits

The Educational visits document was circulated to governors prior to the meeting.

Governors approved residential visits to London and Cologne for 2023.

12. Governor Training & Development

This item to be deferred until the next governors meeting due to governor absence.

13. Risk Register

There were two internal scrutiny documents distributed to governors.

Mr Stott explained there are no red risks.

Governors were happy with the distributed documents.

Governors thanked Mr Stott.

14. Confidentiality

There were items in points and , deemed to be of a confidential nature and minuted as such.

15. AOB

The SRE Policy after being circulated prior to the meeting was ratified by governors.

OFSTED report – Governors wished to express thanks to Mr Siddall for the OFSTED report which highlights the hard work of the staff, support given to families and wonderful opportunities given to the students.

16. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 13th March at 4.30pm.