

Minutes of the meeting of the full governing body held on Monday 18th September 2023 at 4.30pm.

Present:

Mrs N Galloway (Chair)
Mrs H Benwell
Mr I Lindsay
Mrs J Vila
Miss J Harvey
Mr T Rimmer
Mr C Feeney
Mrs N Harwood
Mr A Walker
Mr I Siddall (Headteacher)

Also Present:

Mrs E Wallace (Clerk to Governors)
Miss F Bate (Observer – Deputy Headteacher)
Mr S Stott (Observer - Director of Resources)

Apologies:

Apologies received and accepted for Mrs Khan

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.

2. Election of Chair and Vice-chair

It was agreed by governor votes that Mrs N Galloway be re-elected as Chair of Governors and Mrs H Benwell re-elected as Vice chair of governors, both to serve until the first meeting in the Autumn term 2024.

3. Governing Body Matters

a) Declaration of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest. Mr Stott to distribute the declaration of interest form to governors.

b) Register of interest

Register of interest forms to be distributed to governors.

c) Terms of Office

Mr Rimmer’s term of office will end on 30th September. Mr Rimmer has sent a letter of resignation. The letter was read to governors and governors thanked Mr Rimmer for his time and work.

Mr Stott

Mrs Galloway's term office to end on 5th October with a trustee's meeting to be arranged prior to this.

Clerk

An election to be held before the next governors meeting to elect a parent and staff governor.

Clerk

d) Committee Membership

After discussion amongst the board, Mr Lindsay to join the Audit Committee, Mrs Harwood to join the pay appeals committee. Mr Lindsay and Mrs Collins to be added to staff attendance committee. Mr Lindsay to join the pupil discipline committee.

e) Code of Conduct/Attendance/Induction, Training and development Policies – Annual Renewal

After being distributed to governors prior to the meeting, the policies were ratified by the board.

f) Governor Committee Terms of Reference – Renewal

After being distributed to governors prior to the meeting, the terms of reference were ratified by the board.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting and any matters arising

It was resolved of the minutes of the previous meeting be approved and signed by the chair with the following amendments.

- Charlie Feeney, Ian Lindsay & Marie Collins to be added to present Governors.
- Jane Vila name to be removed from present governors.
- Mr Stott confirmed the meter reading received regarding the solar panels was £4511 **£2721**. The staffing costs are difficult to estimate, however in the report distributed to governors there are benchmarked figures in there.
- Miss Bate highlighted governors still to complete the safeguarding course.
- Link to be re-issued to governors regarding safeguarding.

Miss Bate

5. Year 11 Exam Results 2022/23

The 2022/23 Exam results document was distributed to governors, prior to the meeting.

Mr Siddall discussed the document, with grades broadly in line with last year's results. The attainment 8 figure has dropped due to the drop in humanities and MFL grades. MFL and Humanities will be receiving subject reviews due to the drop in grades.

Students to currently receive two and two thirds of a year learning two languages before their options allowing students a richer experience in languages.

There were some strong performances within Humanities, however there were also students who under achieved.

A governor questioned if there was a national drop in French.

Mr Siddall explained there is a lower national pass rate are lower in language qualifications.

A governor queried whether this cohort was the first year group to do a language.

Mr Siddall explained it was the first year group to a language, with Year 11 learning German, Year 10 is French and Year 9 are to pick their options, later in the year.

A governor questioned if Religious Education was an option.

Mr Siddall explained there is statutory RE and a GCSE option. RE performed well, however this is a small cohort of 22 students. Mr Siddall added the progress 8 figures are not released until the first week of December.

A governor asked how the MFL department feel about all students taking a language at GCSE.

Mr Siddall explained the decision has been challenging for the department, with some students lacking motivation to learn a language.

6. Finance & Governance Update

The Finance and Governance update was distributed to governors prior to the meeting.

A governor asked where the repair works were.

Mr Stott explained there is a concrete banding which is degrading surrounding B Block and the academy will be seeking advice from a contractor, however there are no cracks.

A governor queried whether the academy had received any phone calls from parents regarding Raac.

Mr Stott explained there had been no phone calls received, however after the inspection there was no Raac found.

A governor queried a re-call of funding.

Mr Stott explained this is currently being queried as the academy may have been allocated double funding.

A governor questioned if the tutoring figure will be r

Mr Stott explained the academy will not use the full £32,000 however some of this will be spent to reimburse the academy on tutoring already used.

7. Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy and Procedure - Renewal

Miss Bate explained the safeguarding policy still under construction due to the upcoming updates to be released shortly.

Mr Siddall explained the guidance has been released later than normal which has not only affected Hodgson but all schools.

A governor requested the Keeping Children safe in education Part one to be issued to governors.

Miss Bate explained this will be distributed along with other documents that must be read by governors.

Clerk/
Miss Bate

8. Policy Update

The policies were distributed to governors prior to the meeting and all were ratified by governors.

The Health and safety policy to be updated with names.

Mr Stott

9. MAT Update

This item was deemed as confidential and minuted as such.

10. Confidential

There were items discussed in points 5, 9 and 11 deemed to be of a confidential nature and minuted as such.

11. Any Other Business

Mr Siddall explained there is upcoming strike action. There will be a slight adjustment to directed time for staff.

A governor asked how many staff are part of the union.

Mr Siddall stated there are 27 members equating to a third of the staff body.

There has been a permanent exclusion with the possibility of another.

12. Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next full governors meeting will be held on Monday 27th November 2023 at 16:30