

FGB Meeting 21 February 2024 Part One - Minutes

Present:

Victoria Abbott (VA)
Amy Betterton (AB)
Aaron Twaits (AaT)
Tom Crees (TC)
Ben Cross (BC)
Nigel Freeman (NF)

Adam Boshoff (ACB)
Kyra Mumford (KM)
Lucy Smith (LS)
Tim Hingston (TH)
Kerry Dixon (KD

In attendance:

Pam Langridge (Clerk)

Welcome & Apologies

AB & AaT declared business interests as well as KD & TC.

Constitution

There are no vacancies to report.

Governors were advised that ACB and KM will act as Co Chairs going forward. This enables ACB to retain position in GLP whilst offering a period of transition for KM who will be leading.

Governors asked what our position the GLP would be after academisation and it is expected we will be an associate member.

Approval of Minutes

Accepted

Governor Action List

Governors reviewed outstanding actions.

Chairs Update

Governors were advised that a draft annual work planner was in final stages. KM to align tasks with meeting dates and circulate.

Governors were advised of their strategic leads. It was agreed KD would meet with Vikki King and BC would meet with the Senco. VA agreed to update SEND policy and website with new roles and appointments.

Governors were asked to review their profiles on the school website and email the office with any updates, as required.

A statement from MM was shared with governors, ACB to arrange thank you gift.

Governor Actions / Training / Visits



Governors were encouraged to book their termly school visits and scheduled training aligned with strategic roles & responsibilities. Reports to be submitted to the Clerk for record keeping.

Governors thanked BC for his report shared on the portal.

It was agreed the Governor Handbook should be reviewed and there were discussions around introducing a mentoring / buddy system.

It was agreed KM would buddy with BC and AB with KD to support them in their new appointments.

GLP / Academisation

Governors were advised the issue with the land and rent is still ongoing. A meeting has been scheduled with all stakeholders and it is hoped an agreement after negotiation will be reached to enable academisation to proceed hopefully in April to tie with start of financial year.

It was agreed it would be useful for AaT have a conversation with Jack Mayhew to provide history and context around this issue.

Safeguarding

Governors were advised generally attendance and behaviour is good across the school with the exception of 3 pupils, 2 of which are on agreed part time timetables. It was noted Ofsted will likely take an interest in these cases.

Governors expressed concerns around safeguarding for staff and pupils in some of the instances discussed and agreed to look into how best to support the staff with their resilience. Governors fully support decision making so far. Governors were advised that it is likely one of the families will look to file a complaint.

Well Being

No topics discussed.

Policies

Governors were advised HT had uploaded some policies for review to gov files. These included:

- Capability of staff
- School complaints
- Behaviour principles written statement
- Behaviour in schools
- Governor allowance
- Teacher Appraisal policy

It was noted that the only change to these policies due for review was the renewal dates, and as content is unchanged Governors were happy to ratify.

HT will remind school office that policies due for renewal should be uploaded 7 days before the FGB.

HT to check title of safeguarding policy matches what is listed on DfE website and is consistent on school website.

Head Teacher Update



Governors were assured the year 2 data will improve as the year progresses, but it was noted that the data is lower than previous years. Governors were reminded Ofsted will focus on attainment data which is all on track. Governors commented on year 1 data which looks good.

Governors were advised SATs will proceed in May.

Governors noted writing was down for all year groups and were advised this is likely to the heavy focus on reading and the new reading scheme which links to phonics learning.

Governors thanked the HT report and pupil data.

Governors thanked AB for collating the results of the year R questionnaire and noted the positive outcomes.

Governors asked if it would be possible to offer the option of sending a hard copy rather than an ebook home with the pupils upon request and were advised that the costs and time required to manage such a system were prohibitive. Governors were assured children have access to reading books in school and a choice to take home but the reading books which link to the weekly phonics learnings would remain as ebooks. Governors were signposted to the Collins website if they wanted to read about the research done around the use of ebooks.

Confidential Items

None

Dates of future meetings

13 March (finance only), 24 April, 10 July 2024