Minutes of the Full Governing Body of The Blue School

Venue: Virtual Attendance **Date:** 2nd December 2020

Time: 7pm





Register of Attendance

Name	Position
Rachel Jones ('HT')	Headteacher
` ′	Appointed by virtue of office (Ex-Officio)
	Expiration of Term in Office: Not applicable
Rev Alison Walton	Vicar-in-charge, All-Saints
('AW')	Appointed by virtue of office (Ex-Officio)
Vice-Chair	Expiration of Term in Office: Not applicable
Stephanie Ajayi	Local Authority Governor
('Chair')	Chair of the Full Governing Body
	Expiration of Term in Office: 06-07-2022
Simon Shimmens	All Saints Parish Council:
('SS')	Expiration of Term in Office: 26-01-2024
Donna Williams	All Souls Parish Council
('DW')	Expiration of Term in Office: 09-04-2024
Ruth White ('RW')	St John's Parish Council
,	Expiration of Term in Office: 13-07-2024
Rev Peter Vannozzi	Appointee of the LDBS
('PV')	Expiration of Term in Office: 24-02-2024
Heidi Swidenbank	Elected Parent Governor
('HS')	Expiration of Term in Office: 29-11-2022
Clair Couch ('CC')	Staff Governor
	Expiration of Term in Office: 21-11-2022
Matthew	Deanery Synod
Koster-Marcon	Expiration of Term in Office: 14/10/2023
('MKC')	
Stuart Minster ('SM')	Appointee of the LDBS
	Expiration of Term in Office: 15/11/2024
Jane Francis ('JF')	Deanery Synod
	Expiration of Term in Office: 5-09-2023
ADVISERS	
Tara Rodrigues	Clerk to the Full Governing Body
('Clerk')	
Marcia Reeves	Clerk to the Committees of the FGB
('Clerk')	
APOLOGIES	
Lavinia	Co-opted Governor
Pashley-Wilkins	Expiration of Term in Office: 26/02/2024
('LPW')	
Chris Dickson ('CD')	Elected Parent Governor
, ,	Expiration of Term in Office: 30-09-2023

Part 1

Item	Item title		
	Welcome and introductions		
	The meeting, being quorate, was started by the Chair of the Fo	GB at 19:01pm	
	Opening prayer	Chair	
	The Chair invited Rev PV to open the meeting in prayer.	l	
	Apologies received in advance of the meeting and the FGB's acceptance or rejection of any absences	Chair / Clerk	
	The Clerk informed the FGB that apologies had been received	d from CD and L	PW.
	The apologies were accepted and authorised .		
	The FGB requested the Clerk to update the register of attendance.		
	Clerk to update the FGB register of attendance.	Clerk	ASAP
	Declarations of interest, pecuniary or otherwise, in relation to any item on the agenda	All	
	No conflicts of interest were declared by the FGB Governors, recorded within the Register of Business Interests.	other than those	already
	Approval of the minutes from the previous FGB meeting held on Wednesday 7th October 2020.	All	

The minutes from the previous FGB meeting had been circul minutes were held to be a true and accurate record of the me	-	neeting. The
The minutes were signed and dated by the Chair.		
There were no further amendments .		
The signed minutes were passed to the HT for filing.		
File the signed minutes from the previous FGB meeting.	HT	ASAP
Review of the Actions List and any other matters arising from the minutes of the previous FGB Meeting	Chair	
Governors reviewed the Actions list from the previous FGB rarising from those minutes not already on the agenda.	neeting and any r	matters
All previous actions were completed except:		
 working progress towards integrating the FGB monitors schools' Quality Cycle AW to send details of training completed to the Clerk 	oring schedule wii	th the
The FGB confirmed that all actions arising from the previous	s meeting had bee	n completed.
Approval of the committee meetings	All	
Governors reviewed the minutes of the committee meetings of	on:	
1) Pay & Personnel committee on 18th November	r	
The Committee Chair suggested that the board School Council regarding their school uniform the board should aim to respond in the Spring have been drafted and the Chair completed trait explained that addressing more issues on race a healthy sign that policies are working effective the HT for completing the staff appraisals for r	proposal. The Cl Term. The Equali Ining on diversity and diversity would by The board cor	nair agreed ty policies and ild be a igratulated

non teaching staff including caretakers. 18 draft policies were read by the Committee.

2) Finance & Buildings committee on 19th November

The Committee Vice Chair will visit with the Committee chair to check on the health and well being.

3) Curriculum committee on 17th November

The Chair debriefed the GB in the Committees Chairs' absence. The Chair confirmed that the marking policy and catch up programme were reviewed in depth and the target setting is still being reviewed.

Governance All

Board membership

The Chair welcomed and introduced the new LDBS governor, SM to the board and briefly updated governors on the upcoming vacancy. The Chair **informed** governors that this would be DW's last meeting as she is taking up a new appointment. The replacement priest Joe Sellers, is likely to be in post by Easter. PV will act as the interim Chair of the F&B committee.

Declaration of Interests

Governors were reminded to complete the declaration of interests form and send them to the Clerk.

Arbor logins

The AHT has set up the logins for all governors. The HT **updated** governors that the dashboard will be customised to the school's needs as there is no template for this. The HT has agreed to finalise the dashboard with Arbor. A newly appointed governor asked what Arbor is. The HT **explained** that Arbor is the school MIS system and the Clerk shared the link to the list of acronyms on the google drive.

Governor Newsletter

The link inclusion governor is drafting the governor newsletter which is due to be published on 14th December. Governors were reminded of the copy deadline on Friday 11th.

Link Governor Roles

Governors **discussed** how they could perform their link roles effectively with COVID restrictions in place. The Chair **asked** whether the link monitoring visits could be done remotely, which may reduce staff workload. The HT **agreed** this is feasible and needs to be in conjunction with the Quality Cycle. The Chair **asked** how the staff workload is being managed. The HT **explained** that a staff survey including workload questions will be sent to all staff next week. The survey is anonymous but will report on the job type, not individual roles in order to analyse any pressure points. The HT and Chair will liaise to make sure the school Quality Cycle will coincide with the monitoring link visits. The Chair **asked** all governors to arrange remote link monitoring visits. It was **highlighted** that the safeguarding link role was a key role given the changes due to COVID, requiring regular monitoring of risk assessments etc. The safeguarding link governor sent a list of questions in advance of the meeting scheduled with the HT next week. The Chair **completed** LDBS Safer Recruitment Training on 1st December 2020 and will send the template for the safeguarding audit to HT for comparison with the current audit document.

The Key for School Governors membership

The school subscribed to annual membership with the Key for Governors.

Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct was amended to add clarity on the conduct of the parent governors who raised queries on how to address potential conflict of interests in certain contexts at the last FGB meeting.

Governors DBS checks

Governors were reminded to provide the school office with relevant documents to complete their DBS checks as soon as possible.

Headteacher's Report	НТ	
Governors to drop DBS documents to the school office	All	ASAP
Chair to send the LDBS template for the safeguarding audit to HT	Chair	ASAP
Governors to schedule remote monitoring visits for link roles	All	ASAI
Governors to complete Declaration of Interest forms and return to Clerk	MK, CC, JF, LP	Asap ASAP

The HT submitted a <u>written report</u> to the FGB in advance of the meeting. The governors raised the following **challenges** in discussions:

School Self Evaluation

The school has updated the SEF using the template from the Key for School Leaders. The SEF was compiled by several staff members with detailed rationale about why the school deem itself to be outstanding. The HT **asked** the link governors to send questions to feed into the next SEF so that the school can respond.

School Improvement Plan (2020-21)

The HT shared the finalised one year plan as agreed at the FGB Strategy Meeting in September. The HT **shared** the summary document which was extracted from a much larger worksheet. The HT **highlighted** that 28% of pupils speak English as a forgeign language, which is in line with the school's target. It was noted that the school demographics have changed considerably over the past 5 years. The school has observed the stage learners for EAL have a big impact on the pupils' learning. The staff are undertaking training and the school is embarking on quite specific work in this area. The nursery pupils are early stage learners as they are learning english for the first time. The school data shows that the EAL impacts on pupil progress. The school always encourages fluency in a pupils' home language as it is more beneficial for the child to be secure in at least one language. JF **agreed** to contact the HT to design metrics / KPIs around SIP to track progress.

Attendance

The HT **reported** that overall attendance for the Autumn Term has been extremely good, exceeding 97%. Attendance is monitored on a weekly basis.

Catch Up Programme

The catch up programme is running well. The school were apprehensive about the National Tutoring Programme initially but now that it is up and running, are considering the FFT Lightning Squad programme for Y3-4 and academic mentoring for Y5-6 provided through Teach First. This is heavily subsidised and the school would only pay 25% (£2,200) of the total subscription cost which is £8,800. A governor **asked** what would be provided for that cost. The HT **explained** it is a 6 week programme of 30 minute tuition for 40 children on a daily basis and includes training for TA's on supporting the pupils thereafter. The majority of the 40 pupils will be from year 3 and the academic mentoring programme will be aimed at Year 5 pupils. A governor **asked** whether the training would be specifically for the TA's in Year 3. The HT **detailed** that the training will not be limited to Year 3 TA's and will include the Inclusion team to ensure children can access the support across all year groups. A governor **asked** how the school is managing mobility for families taking pupils out to homeschool. The HT **confirmed** that no families have taken pupils out to homeschool but 4 families moved over the summer.

Young Leaders Award

The HT **updated** the GB that the school will introduce the Young Leaders Award for Year 4 and 5. The aim is to strengthen work on character development in Years 4 and 5 and are very interested in the <u>Archbishop of York's Young Leaders' Award</u>. SLT is currently considering this.

Black History Month

The HT reported that two staff members put together a <u>montage video</u> of children's work and activities about BHM, which was shared during the morning Worship. The facilitator who led the workshop with year 4,5 and 6 commented to the HT, how impressed he was with our children's level of respect and understanding of equality issues. The Chair

commended the school for the montage celebrating black hist tour.	tory and the HT's welcome	
Behaviour		
The HT reported that behaviour continues to be excellent. The school has added a new section on behaviour to the data report. This indicates more serious incidents where the school has spoken to parents. A new row has been included to show if whether there have been any racist, homophobic or other incidents relate to protected characteristics. The local authority no longer records racist incidents but the HT highlighted the importance of governor awareness.		
Governors asked for the school to express thanks on their behalf to the Year 6 Gardening Club for their hard work on the school grounds.		
JF to get in touch with HT to design metrics / KPIs around SIP to track progress.	JF	
Link governors to send questions about SEF to HT	All	
Finance	НТ	
The LA have removed £10K from the schools allocated funds oversight of SEND funds. The school is making a note of this accordingly next year.	-	
The HT explained that the budget is under control and the school is rigorously monitoring spending. As a result the school has made major inroads into recovering the deficit. The arrangement with LB Hounslow is for two years so there is no requirement to clear the deficit fully this year. However the school forecast indicates that it may improve the original budget.		
Premises/Health & Safety	нт	

The Buildings Committee reviewed the <u>Annual Condition Report</u> in depth which highlighted the main areas of work required are:

- 1. The screen (wall) to the Y6 classrooms and offices / library below
- 2. Outside learning environment in EYFS including canopies
- 3. Repairing the bumpy paths and the potholed drive, which are unsightly and increasingly hazardous
- 4. New LED lighting as the light quality is poor in corridors and some rooms

The HT **updated** the board that research and discussion is underway to resolve the first two. However the path repairs are not very likely to be completed unless the school is successful in securing additional funds for this. The school has asked a consultant working with the school, to investigate whether the school can obtain a grant for new lighting in the corridor.

The HT **explained** that there is also major work needed on the trees as many are unsafe and need lopping, crowning and felling. The one that has caused major drains damage at the front of school will have to be felled. The school received quotes from three companies, and will proceed with the work in December. It will take place on weekends for safety reasons.

The school has appointed a grounds maintenance company to do regular visits for maintaining shrubs and trees.

Policy Review	All
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The GB and HT **thanked** the Clerk of the Committees and the office administrator who drafted and edited over 18 policies.

The FGB **reviewed** and **agreed** to adopt the following policies:

- a) The <u>SEND policy</u> (Governors' read and approved <u>SENCO's Review</u>
- b) Accessibility Plan
- c) GDPR Policies
- d) <u>Curriculum Policy</u>
- e) Marking Policy
- f) <u>Update to Behaviour and Rewards Policy</u> The amendment to Appendix 4 Anti-Bullying Policy was approved
- g) Equality Policy
- h) ICT and Acceptable Use Policy
- i) Images Policy with Annex A & B
- j) <u>Intimate Care Policy</u>
- k) Parental Complaints Policy

A governor **asked** whether the school wishes to take a 3 stage approach rather than 2 stage. The DFE model policy now allows for the school to add another stage rather than asking for an independent panel of governors after the stage 1. The HT **confirmed** that the school has adopted the LDBS policy so that they can approach them for support. The school could choose to follow the LDBS or the DFE model policies as there is not much difference between them. The school try to proactively deal with concerns before they escalate into complaints. The HT explained that an example occurred this week and an email was pro-actively sent to parents about the poor food quality.

The board **agreed** on the working party for the catering contract review. SM has already put together some proposals for the catering contact. SS and JF, PV, SS and CC **agreed** to form the catering working party.

comp HT le	vernor asked whether the Arbor data dashboard laints. The HT explained that a complaint wou evel in order to be manually logged on Arbor. Guittee should review parameters of parental commit.	ld need to be esca overnors agreed t	lated to the the P&P
P&P to revie	w the parameters of Arbor monitoring	P&P Committee	Next meeting
Monitoring	visit reports & Training	All	
a) The F	eviewed the following monitoring school visit r H+S visit report from 27/11/2020 ill submit a report of visit (walk around) compl		
Governors updated the board on the following Training courses completed: i) SA - BAMEed Training Course - Courageous conversations around Race - 23.11.20 - over 100 people in attendance to support young people removing barriers surrounding race ii) SA - Safer Recruitment Training - hosted by Michele Robbins - 1.12.2020 - 9 - 3.30pm. iii) PV agreed to book onto the next Safer Recruitment Training.			
PV to book th	he next available Safer Recruitment Training	PV	ASAP
Date of the r	next meeting	For informati	on

The next Full Governing Board of The Blue School will take place Virtually via Google Meet at 7pm on Wednesday 24th February 2021 .
The meeting moved to Part 2

Approval of the minutes by the Chair of the FGB

I, Chair of the Full Governing Body of the Blue School, approve these minutes as an accurate representation of the Full Governing Body meeting (Part 1), which took place on Wednesday 2n December 2020 at 7pm by Virtual Attendance using Google Meet.	ıd
Signed:	
Date:	

Stephanie Ajayi

Chair of the Full Governing Body

The Blue School