

Beaminster School
Minutes of the Full Governing Body meeting held on
Wednesday 25th September 2024, 6.30pm

Governors (14):	N Chalkley (NC), D Ennals (DE), P Fleming (PF), K Hales (KH) Headteacher , T Harris (TH), B Millwood (BM) Chair , A Monks (AM), G Montague (GM), S A Palmer (SAP), K Patten (KP), P Richardson (PR), C Shead-Jones (CSJ), R Tanner (RT) Vice-Chair , A Taylor (AT).
In Attendance:	T Harley (TJH) Clerk , D Withers (DW) Associate member .

Item	Detail	Actions
64.1.	Welcome & Apologies: Apologies: D Baldwin (DB), H Harding (HH), M Sims (SM), R Barnes (RB) Associate member , all accepted. Absent: None. The meeting was quorate.	
64.2.	Declaration of Beneficial Interest: None declared.	
64.3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2024 (non-confidential minutes, previously circulated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governors APPROVED the non-confidential minutes, as a true and accurate record and agreed for them to be published on the school website. They were signed by BM. 	TJH /NC – publish non-confidential minutes
64.4.	Matters arising and action list update from the minutes: The governors reviewed the minutes and actions NOTING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initio MAT; a small number of questions had been raised since the meeting and KH suggested, as a good follow up, a small group of governors meet with the SJC strategy group, which KH had joined, to ask about the transition and other specific questions. GQ: Have there been any known impacts on BS with the joint sixth form? KH answered that it was too early to say and that it would be a good question to ask. GQ: Are we interested in talking to them, do we want to pursue joining them? As a board it had been agreed to keep a watching brief, be informed and keep close to the baseline for joining an academy but not to go forwards unless it was right. Joining Initio was not on the agenda at this time. BM, TH, CSJ and PR agreed to join the MAT strategy WG with KH. Questions would be drawn up and shared with the FGB before the meeting. ClassCharts; KH shared a presentation of the ClassCharts software which staffed used in conjunction with SIMS for classroom management with seating plans, behaviour management reward points, safeguarding and SEN information, attendance register and homework setting. Information was sharable with students and parents and the analytical data was very useful. GQ: Did staff engage well and find it useful? KP confirmed it was very useful, gave good snapshots of tutor groups/students, was good for setting homework and sending information to parents and was much easier to use than SIMS. The only criticism was the time it took to input data and find analytical data. Student Services; DW introduced and took governors through the ppt. (previously circulated) explaining the expectations, monitoring, interventions and thresholds for using the 6 week programme and the next level interventions when students do not make progress. 	MAT WG; draw up questions & meet with Initio

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: How many students on average are under BSS at any one time? Approx.. 5-6 in each year group. It is not necessarily a negative move for students but a way to access more support when barriers to learning cannot be overcome. • All actions were either complete, in hand or on the agenda and there were no other matters arising. 	
64.5.	<p>Headteachers Report: (Confidential Dorset exam data, FFT data and SIP summary, previously circulated): KH introduced the reports NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Data; The 36% 5+ English & Maths was still an area to watch but overall the results were satisfactory, but had been hit hard by the 9-10 students (2 left before exams, 2 with significant medical issues, 5 at learning centres) who had not taken a full set of exams. • GQ: Why do we have such a low KS2 score? It is just our demographics and probably our good reputation for SEN and inclusion. KS2 Maths has been low in Dorset for a number of years, our attainment was solid, but progress at 5+ is still a focus. • GQ: Ferndown had a similar KS2 score but better attainment, do you try to learn from schools that do better? Ferndown are an urban school. KH had worked closely with their HT with good support on raising achievement for boys and the SLT met regularly with other schools, including 3 visits to outstanding schools this year. • It was noted that MAT schools in Weymouth had not done so well (though challenging circumstances), Initio had performed similarly to us and only 5 schools remained maintained. • Early FFT data; Early indications for P8 was +0.06, but if the 9 students are included this will reduce to -0.10. • GQ: RS is low on the FFT report but not highlighted as an area of concern? All students are entered for RS and only have 3 hours a fortnight rather than 5. There is a commitment to teach the subject, and it is felt entering students for the exam boosts its value and through detailed analysis 20% of pupils benefited by getting all 8 subjects for P8 with RS. It was understood that RS was not high on students list for revision and there was a lot of content to cover but the KS3 curriculum was currently being reviewed to hopefully improve commitment. • 2024 Exam data; Subjects of note included: Triple Science; two groups this year with more mixed ability students. English, Maths and Science were fairly solid, and Geography and Food tech had done very well. Computer Science and Music now had new teachers, students had settled, and good work was being produced. Media Studies had had only 6 students and 3 had dropped out. Drama: further analysis was needed as grading had dropped from that expected. PE had low grades which were linked to course work and extra-curricula work. All Y10 parents would be contacted about supporting students to make progress and documenting portfolios. The 16% of students gaining grades 7-9's was very encouraging, with this remaining a focus, and there was much to celebrate. • GQ: How was marking since Covid? A bit harsher this year, with grade banding up about 5%, which did impact our estimates, and balancing out from the Covid years was ongoing. • GQ: Why such low numbers for Media Studies? This was not really known, there had been 20+ students in 2023 and the same again this year, but due to the results it was felt to run the course for one more year and unpick and decide whether to continue after. 	

	<p>School Improvement Plan summary: KH introduced the one-page summary report prepared for staff and asked for questions (previously circulated)</p> <p>NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: How aware are staff on targets? All staff know the attendance target of 97% and all targets are regularly reviewed by the SLT and shared as appropriate. • GQ: Is Gifted & Talented still an initiative? Not in itself, but all more able students should be provided with an ambitious curriculum, and all students should be encouraged across all subject areas. 	
64.6.	<p>Safeguarding Update (Safeguarding & KCSiE ppt, draft guidance on youngsters questioning their gender and Premises work ppt., previously circulated): DW updated governors on current issues NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCSiE; the main changes were language and a sharper focus on attendance and unexplainable or deliberate absence from education. • All staff had completed required training, and the DC audit was due in November. • GQ: the remit seems to have increased for the team, do you have capacity? Yes, with the DOLA's and BSS support, the Teams capacity had increased sufficiently. • There were links within the ppt. for governors to explore issues further. • Transgender guidance; DW had pulled together guidance using publications and information from supporting agencies and felt the draft was responsive and rational and honed in on students questioning, allowing the school to support students but not compromise others in a noncommittal way. • The framework provided by the DfE allowed for freedom to explore without encouraging or locking in and parents should be engaged unless there was a safeguarding issue. • GQ: It is disappointing there is not any reference to the Christian ethos of the school in the guidance. It's a secular document but does not reflect a flavour of BS. Could a Christian element/reference to the curriculum of learning be included? DW agreed, this was a fair point and he would put something into the document to reflect the schools background and curriculum. 	Include school ethos /curriculum info in document
64.7.	<p>SEND update:</p> <p>KH updated governors on current issues NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance was still a real challenge and getting the funding needed was proving very difficult. • There were 6 students with ECHP in YR7 and 10 needing dyslexia support and 20 students with additional autism/ADHD needs. 	
64.8.	<p>Standards Committee: (draft committee Terms of Reference, previously circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR; With a show of hands the GB unanimously approved the ToR, with no further changes or comments. • Delegation to HT for non-financial matters; With a show of hands the GB unanimously authorised the day-to-day operational duties such as changes to the curriculum, teaching arrangements, appointment of staff, sessions etc to the Headteacher, without the need to go through the GB in the first instance. 	<p>TOR approved</p> <p>Delegation to Head approved</p>
64.9.	<p>Resources Committee (draft committee Terms of Reference, previously circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR; With a show of hands the GB unanimously approved the ToR, with no further changes or comments. 	TOR approved

64.14.	Any other business: BM asked governors if they had any other business to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KH stated Rose Rychnovsky, Science teacher, thanked governors for allowing her to have a one-year sabbatical and had now returned to work. 	
64.15.	2024/25 Meetings, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting dates NOTED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards 9th October, 5.30pm Resources 4th November, 3.45pm FGB 27th November, 6.30pm Governance 9th December, 5.00pm 	
	With no further business the meeting ended at 8.40pm.	

Chair.....Dated.....

Item	Action	Owner	By when /report
64.3	Publish minutes.	TJH/NC	Completed
64.4	Draw up questions and meet with Initio (WG; BM, TH, CSJ, PR, KH)	MAT WG	Asap
64.6	Transgender guidance – include info on school ethos/curriculum in document	DW	ASAP
64.8/9	Update TOR and delegations for 2024 /25	TJH	Completed
64.10	Attend Presentation Evening; RSVP NC	All GB	3/10/24
64.11	Take strategy work forwards with WG and SLT meeting GB Review outcomes: Action Plan, Best Practice guidance Update TOR for 2024/25	KH/RT/AT SAP TJH	Asap 9/12/24 Completed
64.12	Review link meeting agenda focus Set exam review meetings and invite link governors	BM RB	27/11/24 Asap
64.13	Canvas for HTPM committee member Complete diversity questionnaire; collate data and publish Complete required safeguarding training for 2024; BM to remind	SAP GB – TJH BM	Asap Asap Asap