

Beaminster School
Minutes of the meeting of the Full Governing Body held on
Wednesday 15th September 2021, 6.30pm

Governors (12):	R Amswych (RA), N Chalkley (NC), P Fleming (PF), K Hales (KH) Headteacher , H Harding (HH), B Millwood (BM) Chair , G Montague (GM), S A Palmer (SP) Vice-Chair , K Patten (KP), E Smith (ES), D Solly (DS), P Strong (PS).
In Attendance:	R Barnes (RB) Associate member , T Harley (TH) Clerk , D Withers (DW) Associate member

Item	Detail	Actions
39.1.	Welcome & Apologies: Apologies: D Baldwin (DB), M Carter (MC), accepted. Absent: None. The meeting was quorate.	
39.2.	Declaration of Beneficial Interest: None.	
39.3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2021 (previously circulated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governors APPROVED the non-confidential minutes as a true and accurate record, signed by BM, and agreed for them to be published on the school website. The governors APPROVED the CONFIDENTIAL Part 2 minutes as a true and accurate record, signed by BM. 	TH/NC publish minutes
39.4.	Matters arising and action list update from the minutes: The governors reviewed the minutes and the following matters were NOTED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38.1; HH, KP and PF had been sent a link to the NGA Welcome to Governance on-line meeting, to be held 14/10/21. 36.8; GM and DW had had discussions and confirmed the action was ongoing. 37.16; KH stated clarity on liability and signage had not yet been received from the insurers and KH would continue pursuing this. 38.6(2); the action to set a question on how safe an environment and how open channels were for students to speak with staff about safeguarding issues emanated from a GQ and the governors agreed to include this as a standard question for governor/student interviews. 38.5; David Herbert (Regional CEO Aspirations SW) had been appointed as the School Improvement partner and the first meeting was set for 24th September 2021. The school would continue to investigate MAT options, with support from David Herbert and the next steps would be to visit similar 'Good' schools to BS, for the SENCO to visit and research the SEND relationship with MAT's and the LA, and then for Governors to set up meetings and make visits. GQ: Where had the funds come from to fuel investments in the MAT schools. KH answered that 'top-sliced' funds within a MAT can provide additional funding to initially support new schools, if required (London schools are funded at a higher rate than rural schools). The MAT will make the use of these funds for the best of all students in their MAT. All other actions completed, to be reviewed at Committee or on the agenda. 	TH – update Action List
39.5.	Headteachers Report: The Governors RECEIVED Exam data, FFT aspire provisional GCSE analysis data and the SIP (September 2021 working draft) reports, (attached) from KH and NOTED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KH thanked all staff for supporting the testing of all students for Covid-19 in the first week back to school during tutor time which allowed for a 	

	<p>quick seamless start to the new academic year.</p> <p>Exam data: The results remained unchanged from that reported in June, with just four stage one appeals and two students requesting stage 2 appeals. All evidence for these had been sent off to the exam boards and as all procedures had been followed correctly it was not thought the grades would be changed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: Had any appeals been made against the A-levels. No, and all students had secured their preferred routes forward. • KH felt the reporting of the results in the press and the exceptionally high results given out by private schools (up by 20%, compared with an average 7-8% for state schools) had done education a bad turn. • GQ: Were the results very different between 2020 and 2021? KH reminded governors that the grading system had been very different, in 2020 teachers graded on what students would have achieved and in 2021 grades were assessed on what evidence they had. However, the outcomes were similar. <p>FFT aspire data: KH took governors through the data explaining that attainment in English and Maths combined had a Value Added of +4%, showing the school had held firm to its integrity and grades had not been inflated. FSM6 had been disappointing with English Value Added at -0.5% and average GCSE at -0.3%. More work needed to be done with these students, as reflected in Areas of Improvement in the SIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: Was there anything that stood out and gave you reason for concern in the data? No, the results reflected our understanding of subjects and students. KH explained that it was hard to put the data in full context as there were no national averages or Pupil progress data available to compare, just raw attainment data as provided by participating schools. • GQ: Please explain the scatterplot graphs. The graphs showed each pupil (girls orange, boys blue dots) VA. If the dot is above the line they are making VA, below, they are not doing so well. • GQ: Is the data open to other schools for comparison? KH confirmed he was not yet able to compare with similar schools and that as no progress data would be available useful comparisons would be difficult. The government had not made provision for Progress data, therefore all current Y7 and Y8 pupils do not have any baseline P8 data for use when looking at exam data in 3 years time. <p>School Improvement plan: The main aims were to improve GCSE results by moving more grade 4's to grade 5's, to support and improve on 7+ grades and to improve SEND/PP/FSM6 outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new PP coordinator had been appointed who was looking at new innovative ways to work with students. This was a long-term plan, and the member of staff would be asked to present to the FGB in January 2022. • GQ: What was the coordinators background? KH explained she had previously been an English teacher and BM confirmed she had met her at a previous link meeting. • David Herbert, as the new SiP would be looking at the SIP during his first visit on 24th September and Mark Lees (West Dorset Locality Education & Challenge Lead) would be meeting with the SENCo and supporting work with Y7's on 16th September. • GQ: RA explained he had attended Strategic Vision training at the PoW school and he felt there was a missing link between the School's Values Statement and the SIP. Where did the school see itself in the next 3-5 years and what were we trying to achieve? A framework for the SIP. KH felt the Intent section of the SIP detailed much of this, but agreed a 	<p>Invite PP coordinator to FGB 3 2022</p> <p>KH – explore a Vision framework statement RA - circulate course material</p> <p>Send SIP</p>
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	<p>written statement might help to focus the intent between the Values and the Plan. RA agreed to circulate the course material to the FGB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: a governor had several questions on Outcomes & Evidence related to Standards. KH asked the governor to forward the queries to him for discussion at the Standards 1 committee meeting. 	<p>queries to KH for review at Standards 1</p>
<p>39.6.</p>	<p>Safeguarding: DW updated governors on current issues and NOTED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information was still being received from Primaries for the new Y7 students, with one new student on a Child Protection Plan. • The PD day 2 covered the KCSiE update and other general safeguarding issues. All staff must read part 1 of the KCSiE 2021 as part of their annual appraisal and governors were reminded that it was important they did too. The update included changes to managing allegations against staff and the school policy would need to be updated. • A dedicated school email address (justask@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk) was being set up to allow students to contact the school to seek support on all aspects of growing up. It was similar to 'Kooth' an external support network accessible to all students, but internal and would be triaged by the Safeguarding Team and signposted to named staff and agencies to support whatever the need is. The categories will be kept broad and positive sounding, including 'Mental Health', 'Physical Health', 'Gender & Sexuality' and has been designed to capture students who want support from school but may be unable to approach a member of staff face to face. • GQ: Has the helpline started yet and can it be used by parents and friends? DW explained no, not yet, the development stage was almost complete, and the launch date would be soon. All staff had now been named, with groupings decided, and training underway. The helpline can be used by the school community including parents, who can sometimes need more support than the students, such as on issues of gender and sexuality. There were now three identified transgender students in school and the Safeguarding Team were looking carefully how to sensitively support them and the rest of the student body. All students need to feel listened to, valued, accepted and included. Advice and guidance is being sought on how best to manage both the practical and social/emotional sensitivities associated with a number of the LGBT community. Parents of all students will also need reassurance. • GQ: Will the 'just ask' confuse the schools Values on Ask? DW did not think this would be an issue and confirmed the helpline had been developed 3 years ago but had been put on hold by the pandemic. • GQ: From personal experience a governor was seeing a lot of anxiety amongst young people. Were you seeing this and if so what were you doing to support students? DW felt generally staff were picking this up and much work had been done with students last summer through the recovery curriculum and with tutors for emotional and wellbeing support. It was an on-going mental health issue for all year groups. Assemblies were used to address the whole school issues and the individual issues and smaller questions were picked up through tutorial programmes, 1:1 supportive work and PSHE lessons. A governor reminded that a mindfulness programme had been successful some years ago and KH told governors that they were looking at something similar for 6th form students and an art therapy class for staff was being considered. • DW met with the Senior DSL weekly and the other DSL's fortnightly for supervision. 	<p>All govts read part 1 of KCSiE 2021</p> <p>Managing Allegations policy – review Standards 1</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: Were there any new Safeguarding issues? None other than the transgender students, which were a new, now more visible, minority group and how they were being treated was key. • GQ: Were all staff aware of the indicators and risk factors in terms of safeguarding issues as recommended? DW assured that he was confident they were, all staff had attended the PD day and will be directed to mandatory on-line training modules. Staff governors confirmed DW's assurances. 	
39.7.	<p>SEND: KH told governors there were no issues of concern to report other than NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Lees was coming in to support the SENCo with pupil pursuits. 	
39.8.	<p>Standards Committee: Committee Terms of Reference (previously circulated): Governors were asked to review the TOR for approval, noting they were unchanged since reviewed in 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification was sought on section 10.1 with regards to subject options and advising the resources committee. • With no further questions the governors, with a show of hands, unanimously approved the terms of reference. <p>Delegation to the Head for non-financial matters: Governors were asked to authorise the day-to-day operational duties, such as changes to the curriculum, teaching arrangements, appointment of staff, sessions etc. to the HT, without the need to go through the FGB in the first instance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With a show of hands delegation for all operational duties was granted to the HT. <p>Kirkland Rowell Working Group: a date for the next WG meeting was asked to be set; Monday 4th October at 2.15pm was confirmed. All governors welcome to attend.</p>	<p>Update policy file</p> <p>Note KR WG date 4/10/21 2.15pm</p>
39.9.	<p>Resources Committee: Committee Terms of Reference (previously circulated): Governors were asked to review the TOR for approval, noting they were unchanged since last reviewed in 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors had no questions and with a show of hands unanimously approved the terms of reference. <p>Delegation to the Head for financial matters: Governors were asked to authorise how much the HT could spend without having to go through the FGB in the first instance. Previously a cap of £10,000 had been granted, including for virements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GQ: Was £10,000 still sufficient. KH answered yes, it worked well and higher spends were taken to the Resources Committee. • With a show of hands delegation was granted to the HT for all financial matters with a cap of £10,000. 	<p>Update policy file</p>
39.10.	<p>Governance Committee: Committee Terms of Reference (previously circulated): Governors were asked to review the TOR for approval, noting they were unchanged since last reviewed in 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors had no questions and with a show of hands unanimously approved the terms of reference. <p>Governor recruitment: Governors noted there were current 3 Co-opted vacancies and 1 parent governor vacancy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recommendation for a co-opted governor was made and the details were passed to SP and TH to take forwards. • Governors were invited to attend the Y7 Welcome and Information Evening on Wednesday 29th September at 7pm. KH would speak about the parent governor vacancy and governors would have an opportunity 	<p>Update policy file</p> <p>TH/SP – contact prospective Co-opted governor</p> <p>All gobs – attend Y7 event 29/9/21</p>

	<p>to speak with parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TH would run the Parent Governor Election after the evening in the hope that the introduction will attract several candidates. 	TH set parent election w/c 4/10/21
39.11.	<p>Chair's report The Governors RECEIVED the first Co-Chairs report, prepared by MC and delivered by BM NOTING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a national level the response to Covid-19 remains in the news, with the most recent issue being the offer of a vaccine to 12 to 15-year olds, which has been far from straightforward. • The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advised that there were insufficient medical grounds to recommend vaccination of healthy 12 to 15-year-olds without pre-existing medical conditions. However, the UK's four Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) have since recommended that a single dose of the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccine should be offered to all children aged 12 to 15 based on educational and mental health benefits, which were beyond the purely medical remit of the JCVI, and that has resulted in uncertainty and confusion. • Following the CMO announcement, headteachers (including Keith) have been threatened with legal action by the pressure group named Lawyers for Liberty, if schools take any active role in England's proposed Covid-19 vaccination programme for school students. • Conversely, the Good Law Project are taking the Government to Court over their strict attendance policy, which makes no allowance for Covid-19 within a family. • At local level there have been anti-mask / anti-vax protests outside local schools, with parents sending strongly worded anti-vax letters to schools, including BS. • Our last Ofsted inspection was conducted on 21st September 2017, so we are due another. Ofsted's priority remains schools that are rated as Inadequate or Requires Improvement, plus there's a large backlog of schools that have not been inspected for many years, having previously been assessed as Outstanding. • With the impact of Covid, and the requirement to inspect all Outstanding schools, Ofsted are now some 18 months behind schedule. Our Ofsted inspection could therefore be delayed until early 2023. However, we should assume that it could be at any time from now onwards, and Ofsted Preparation will be on the Agenda for future Governance Meetings; agreed action. <p>GB Standing Orders (updated version for approval, previously circulated): Governors were asked to review the SO, unchanged since last reviewed in 2020, except for the addition of an annex setting out the Co-Chairing arrangements for this academic year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors had no questions and with a show of hands unanimously approved the Standing orders. 	<p>Preparing for Ofsted – Governance agenda</p> <p>Update policy file</p>
39.12.	<p>Clerk's Report (previously circulated): The Governors RECEIVED the Clerk's report and NOTED: Governor and Associate member re-appointments: TH asked governors to consider and approve the following re-appointments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robin Amswych – Authority Governor term ends 31st December 2021, renewable appointment to be confirmed by the LA. • Mark Carter – Foundation Governor term ends 5th January 2022, renewable appointment to be approved by the Diocese. • Richard Barnes – Associate Member term ends 20th October 2021, 	Complete governor re-appointments

	<p>renewable appointment to be formally approved by the FGB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With a show of hands, the governors unanimously approved the re-appointments for 4 year terms. <p>Policies Review Schedule (previously circulated): TH asked governors to review and confirm the policy review schedule, noting that many LA HR policies now had to be bought when needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With a show of hands, the governors unanimously accepted the schedule. <p>Business Interest Forms (previously circulated and tabled): TH asked governors to ensure they updated and re-signed their BI forms before leaving the meeting and confirmed all interests would be published on the School Website along with attendance information as required.</p>	Update info on website
39.13.	<p>Link Scheme: The Governors were asked to use the pro-forma question sheet (previously circulated) and academic data to drive and focus link meetings and NOTED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links were also about creating relationships and being a support and friend of a department and for getting a different perspective from that of the SLT and formal GB meetings. • Governors would be invited to the Departmental Governor Review meetings, formerly Exam review meetings, to be held this term. • PF asked to shadow a link meeting before attending his first meeting as MFL link governor. PF advised to choose and attend a review meeting to be held before the MFL meeting. • A governor reported that following a question at his last link meeting the SLT had been given a distinct vote of confidence for their support of the department. 	<p>RB - Invite Govs to dept. Review meetings</p> <p>PF shadow a link meeting</p>
39.14.	<p>Any other business Further business requested by governors and NOTED: Broadband provision: A governor raised concerns that the SuperFast BroadBand was not available at the school and asked if the GB contacting the local MP would help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KH confirmed that SuperFast BB was being rolled out in Beaminster and the school was in communication with BT and it was hoped the connection would be made in the next few weeks. Current BB provision cost £3,000 per annum and the new costs were not yet known. Quotes from external providers were as high as £10,000 but it was thought the BT service would be somewhere between the two. <p>Communication to governors: A governor asked if a termly date sheet for school events be reinstated so governors could be made aware of events and meetings they could attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The termly calendar had ceased during the lockdown and KH agreed to look at re-instating one and confirmed governors were now welcome to visit the school at all times. <p>Inspirational speakers: A governor had an idea for a motivational speaker and would forward the information to KH.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors agreed that exposing students to different people and career ideas was very important and that they all must know someone that could speak with the students. • DW suggested inviting people to the School Council Hotseat, for those not wishing to address whole assemblies. <p>Y7 & Y8 Inductions: A governor explained that he had been at a BSPTA meeting and 3 parents (2 Y7, 1 Y8) had stated they felt there had been a distinct lack of communication on Y7 transition and new parent support this and last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KH confirmed the Y7 welcome open evening had not been able to happen 	<p>Share school events diary with GB</p> <p>Forward motivational speaker info with KH/DW</p>

	<p>last year due to the school being closed, but all the information had been provided on-line and parents had been invited to attend on-line parents' evenings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Y7 Welcome evening was happening this year and parents would be meeting the Head of Year and tutors. KH agreed to consider how to further support Y8 parents who had missed out on this last year. <p>Beaminster Big Green Day: A governor encouraged everyone to attend the Big Green day event on 18th September, a national event highlighting environmental concerns and actions.</p>	KH consider other face-to-face support for Y8 parents
39.15.	<p>2021/22 Meetings The next meeting dates were NOTED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards 1 6th October 2021, 4.00pm Resources 1 27th September 2021, 3.45pm Governance 1 18th October 2021, 5.30pm FTT 1 1st November 2021, 5.30pm FGB 2 10th November 2021, 9.15am 	
	With no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm	

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

Item	Action	Owner	By when /report
39.2	Publish approved minutes	TH/NC	completed
(37.16)	Contact insurers for advice on signage and liability	KH	asap
39.3	Continue Academy research	Governance 1	completed
(37.12(2)	Review model self-review questionnaire at Governance committee	Governance 1	completed
37.14 (4)	Underachieving Boys	Standards 1	Completed
(5)	Campus Plan priorities and costs	Resources 1	completed
38.10	Arrange focus meetings for review of the self-review answers. Review model questionnaire for use at the next self-review.	Governance 1	completed
38.11	Preparing for Ofsted	Governance 1	completed
39.5	Invite PP Coordinator to FGB 3	KH	FGB 3
	Explore a Vision framework statement	KH	FGB 2
	Circulate course materials on Strategic Vision	RA	completed
	Share SIP queries and questions with KH	GM	Standards 1
39.6	Read part 1 of KCSiE	All Govs	FGB 2
	Update and review Managing Allegations policy	DW	Standards 2
39.8/9/10	Update Policy file for TOR, Delegations & SO	TH	completed
39.8	Note KR WG meeting date	All Govs	Completed
39.10	Contact prospective new co-opted governor	SP	FGB 2
	Attend Y7 Welcome evening at 7pm	All Govs	completed
	Run parent Governor election	TH	4/10/21
39.12	Complete governor re-appointments	TH	31/12/21
	Update BI and attendance data on school website	TH	completed
39.13	Invite link gov's to dept. review meetings	RB	completed
	PF shadow a link meeting	PF	This term
39.14	Share school events diary with GB	NC/KH	termly
	Forward ideas for motivational speakers to KH / DW	All Govs	asap
	KH consider other face-to-face support for Y8 parents	KH	FGB 2