



Education Committee – Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 1st October 2020

Meeting Venue: Via Zoom

Meeting Time: 5:00pm

Governors: Louise Baxter, *(LB)*, Committee Chair
Alison Allart, *(AA)*
Marilyn Benzing, *(MB)*
Sara McKenna, *(SM)*
Joyce Swann, *(JS)*

Ex officio: Stuart Reeves, *(SRv)*, Head Teacher

Also in attendance:

Catherine Geldard, *(DLS)*, Director of Lower School
Jemma Graffham, *(DSF)*, Director of Sixth Form
Dominic O’Driscoll, *(AHT-SEN)* Assistant HT - Director of Inclusion
Danny Simmonds, *(AHT-B&A)*, Assistant HT - Behaviour & Attendance
James Towner, *(AHT-A&C)*, Assistant HT - Assessment & Curriculum

Clerk to Governors: Julia Jenkins *(JJ)*

Apologies: Gabrielle Mace, *(GM)*, Committee Vice Chair
Julian Mace, *(JM)*, Chair of Governors
Matt West, *(MW)*

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Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and apologies for absence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair welcomed Governors to this ‘virtual’ Education Committee Meeting via Zoom and noted the apologies of JM, GM and MW. • LB informed Governors that SE had offered to join the next Education Committee as it was rather low on numbers 	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No declarations. • Governors declared various interests in respect of their children who attend the school. 	
3.	<p>Minutes of previous Education Committee Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair explained the minutes of the 19th March Education Committee Meeting were approved and signed off at September’s FGB of 27th September. 	Clerk
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data <p>EYFS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair commented that having read the papers she was satisfied that students were, on the whole, attaining very well. DLS commented that this cohort had many summer born students who were not yet developmentally ready. Classes were unbalanced this year – a result of Nursery schools not having correctly assessed or shared information. One class in particular has a student with significant special needs resulting in a significantly reduced timetable. However, when the student commences full time then this will present major issues with staffing. The students were however achieving above the National Average. <p>KS1 Attainment and Progress Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLS advised that outcomes were above National Average. Summer Born had found the year challenging as had the lower attainers. Governors queried whether the gender split may have impacted on outcomes as for Y2 there were twice as many females as males which could have lifted it. • DLS advised Governors that Year 1 and Year 2 will be sitting a phonics test this academic year. Students who don’t pass will resit in Summer. <p>KS2 Attainment and Progress Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Again, DLS advised that outcomes were above National Average. DLS commented that the data was based on teacher assessment due to the current conditions. <p>Chair enquired how the Primary students were coping with social interactions following a return to school. DLS reported that staff had commented that the children were not very independent and were falling out with peers however, this was normal behavior expected in September. SM also commented that students were tired but had been amazing with washing hands and keeping safe. SM said that staff had observed a massive dip in writing, capital letter formations etc. Handwriting had gone downhill and staff were implementing strategies to include extra handwriting into lessons. This dip had been observed across all primary year groups. Governors commented that this was common across schools and we had seen this situation before in our school for many cohorts. Therefore more needed to be done to focus on this area of concern.</p>	

7.	<p>Virtual Open Evening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via Teams, HT accessed GH Website and shared link to the Virtual Open Evening. In addition to the virtual presentations on the Website, from both students and teachers, the school was offering four Webinar Events which were taking place during w/c 5th October. Bookings were low but HT attributed this to parents being totally satisfied with the information offered via the Website. • Chair asked whether any feedback had been received from parents of current Y6 cohort? HT said that he had received a few queries from parents enquiring as to whether they needed to apply for a Y7 place. Chair made a suggestion that perhaps current Y6 parents should be invited to the HT presentations. • Chair asked how many Y6 students were lost to other schools in the last academic year. HT responded with three – one to a local school, one to a school of special needs and one to a specialist boarding school. 	HT
8.	<p>Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MB talked Governors through her Careers monitoring visit. • Governors queried how the school was supporting Careers during COVID-19. DSF commented that it was extremely difficult to undertake interviews with social distancing in place. Chair offered interview practice as did MB who was also keen to become involved with virtual work experience. DSF thanked Governors for their support. 	
9.	<p>Policies Reasonable Force Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed – HT wanted it noted to Governors that this Policy was not a responsibility of the Governing Board but, due to its sensitive content, he had wanted to share this Policy with Governors. 	
10.	<p>Any other urgent business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
12.	<p>Confirmation of future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of next meeting – 10th December 2020 Enterprise Committee 	Clerk
13.	<p>Meeting Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair closed the meeting at 6.35pm 	