

Minutes Academy Full Governing Body



Blue Coat
Church of England School
& Music College

Held on: Tuesday 26 March 2019 at 5.00 pm

Place: Blue Coat School

Present: Lyn Johnson - Chair
David Kershaw
Vicki Shelley
Lois Whitehouse
Graeme Anderson
Peter Merrylees
Mike Draper
Jane Durkin
Eniiwaju Etomi
Mark Gore
Anna Stacey

In attendance: Francis Peacock – Deputy Headteacher
Lisa Henden – Deputy Headteacher
Kay Grainger – Clerk to Governors

1 WELCOMES AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Janet Powell and Paul Tuffin.

2 OPENING PRAYERS

The meeting opened with a prayer from Graeme Anderson.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no business interests declared in any items on the agenda.

4 MEMBERSHIP

- Resignation received from K Routley, Support Staff Governor.
- Governors agreed for Support Staff governor process to take place. **ACTION: KGR to put in place.**

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 were confirmed and signed.

6 MATTERS ARISING

- Item 8 – A Tomlinson was appointed Assistant Headteacher.
- Item 11 – Wembley trip – M Draper reported positive parental comment received referring to an 'enjoyable trip'.

7 CHAIR'S CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

8 HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

- The Chair thanked VSH for her comprehensive report and asked the meeting if they wished to discuss any areas of the report.

- Section 2 – Exclusions – 1 PEX in Jan 19 – upheld by governors. Blue Coat continues to support the student outside of the school.
- Section 4 – Complaints – 1 received re: toilet ‘policy’. This was resolved as the new system was adjusted.
- Section 6 – Staffing – mindful of finance and staffing issues.
- Section 7 – Staff Absence – continue to implement the Absence Monitoring Policy.
- Section 8 – Student Absence/Attendance – M Gore raised concern re: prizes awarded to 100% attendance but children with sickness issues are disadvantaged.
- Section 9 – Safeguarding – DSL has now been moved to K Arnold on a temporary basis to be reviewed by VSH/LJO at the end of the academic year.
- Section 10 - Curriculum.
 - Yr11/13 mocks to be moved to pre-Christmas next academic year.
 - Positive celebration assembly.
 - 20% achieved Grade 7 or above; with departments setting grade boundaries high.
 - Large amount of time to improve before summer exams.
 - Issues identified in History:
 - significant grade uplift applied.
 - Cold War unit delivered in Yr9 and not reviewed
 - Strategies now put in place with Pixel learning and Walking/Talking mocks/knowledge organiser.
 - Slowly closing the gap in gender/FSM/PP students.
 - Significant issue in GCSE Food Technology; aspects of the course not taught correctly.
 - LHE advised strategies were being put in place to ensure this does not occur again.
 - Governor queried Progress 8 in English and Maths and asked if we are looking for additional intervention in these subjects.
 - LHE advised English intervention tutor was not replaced when moved to salaried trainee.
 - Governor advised this was addressed at the last PPS meeting and wished it noted that the Schools’ financial situation is directly impacting the quality of provision we are providing in that we are unable to appoint an intervention teacher or additional teaching staff.
 - Governor stressed a heartfelt plea from governors that other schools are not impacted in this way; Blue Coats’ financial constraints are having a huge impact on our students. Governors are concerned for future impact on students’ results and learning as we are unable to appoint in core subjects.
 - Governor stressed staff are not failing. This concern is a consequence of the financial constraints and being failed by the ESFA causing an injustice to our students.
 - Governors discussed the recruitment process and inability to compete financially with similar schools across the city.
 - Year 13 students have received a large number of unconditional university offers.
 - Year 10 Speaking and Listening tests have been very positive and students have a solid attitude towards their early entry.
 - Curriculum model to remain the same for next academic year.
 - 172 Blue Coat Post 16 applications received – 90 of those not applied elsewhere. 92 external applications and 34 from Eden Girls School.

6:05pm – G Anderson excused himself from the meeting for a prior engagement.

- Section 11 – Charterhouse – new map received showing new 4G pitch. FPE had attended a successful Neighbourhood Forum Meeting where the Charterhouse renovations were discussed. FPE also attended an archaeological dig at the site with a number of Blue Coat staff and students.
- Section 12 – Teaching & Learning – feedback summary shared from Huw Bishop visit.
- Section 13 – SRM – metrics discussed, which had also been submitted to the ESFA.

9 MAT UPDATE

- Staff had been informed which had been well received.
- JDU/VSH/LWH attended Inspire Directors Meeting who are concerned re: Blue Coat debt.

- Inspire Trust in a transition of change. A new CEO needs to be appointed. Feel Blue Coat needs to be wait for this appointment to be made.
- Blue Coat was advised to obtain permission from the Headteachers' Board, which we have submitted. However, the Board is running behind and therefore this may not be heard til May/June.

10 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE'S

i) Finance Committee

- Minutes from Januarys' meeting issued. Minutes from last weeks' meeting to follow. No issues to raise.
- Letter received from Lord Agnew but nothing to report.
- Governors wished to thank the Bishop for his support and were very appreciative.
- Budget forecast to be discussed at next FGB for submission to ESFA by 18 May. **ACTION: KGR to place on next agenda.**

ii) PPS Committee

- Minutes from Februarys' meeting issued. Minutes from last weeks' meeting to follow.
- PPS had discussed monitoring of the SDP (School Development Plan). Will be introducing a series of visit and will complete a proforma for supporting these visits.

11 SCHOOL POLICIES

i) Collective Worship

- P2; para 4 amend to 'shared values'.
- P3; para f – parents send their 'children' not pupils.
- **Governors approved this policy.**

ii) Mobile Phone

- P1; para 5 amend to Blue Coat School.
- **Governors approved this policy.**

iii) Uniform

- P2; PE Kit – amend to navy and amber shirt.
- **Governors approved this policy.**

12 SET DATE FOR NEXT AGM

- Next AGM to take place on Tuesday, 3 December 2019.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, 14 May 2019 at 5:00pm

Tuesday, 9 July 2019 at 5:00pm

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO THE CHAIR

- PME queried timing issue of governor minutes. LJO advised processes in place.

Meeting closed at 7:15pm