



**Abbey School Local Governing Body
Teaching, Learning & Wellbeing
Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 12:00
via MS Teams**

Those Present:		
Luci Windle	Exec. Headteacher	LW
Alison Warner	Chair & Safeguarding Link Governor	AW
Janine Brullo	Parent Governor	JB
Ivy Dorchester-Brown	Governor – Wellbeing Link Governor	ID-B
Tayla Hamilton	Teaching Staff Governor	TH
Sue Hodgkinson	Parent Governor	SH
Dawn Jeffery	Parent Governor	DJ
Peter Macaulay	Support Staff Governor	PM
Jim McIntosh	Governor – Finance Link Governor	JMcI
Sonia Seymour-Thackery	Vice Chair & Parent Governor	SS-T
Ian Tankard	Parent Governor	IT
Marion Tapp	Governor	MT
Also Present:		
Wayne Askham	Head of School	WA
Joel Hardwick	Nexus MAT Assistant CEO – Strategy & Partnerships	JH
Emma Sheedy	Nexus MAT Clerk	ES
Apologies:		
Warren Carratt	Nexus MAT CEO	CEO
No Apologies:		

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Actions
<p>1.1. To receive apologies for absence</p> <p>LW advised that ID-B and SS-T would be joining the meeting late. LW advised JH offered his apologies but hoped to join the meeting late.</p> <p>Apologies were received from the CEO.</p>	
<p>1.2. To accept apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were accepted from the CEO.</p>	
2. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
<p>2.1. Chair to determine any items of urgent business</p> <p>2.1.1. There was a discussion regarding the latest guidance announcement of the 10th May. LW advised this would duly reviewed over the next few days and risk assessments updated accordingly.</p>	
3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
<p>3.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>There were no declarations received.</p>	
4. ABBEY SCHOOL LOCAL GOVERNING BODY MINUTES	
<p>4.1. To approve the minutes of the following meeting:</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2021 were approved as a correct record with no amendments.</p>	
<p>4.2. Review of Action Tracker</p> <p>The outstanding actions on the tracker were reviewed and updated.</p>	
<p>4.3. Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>A Governor asked how the Confidential Appendix is checked for accuracy and it was explained the Chair deals with this.</p>	
5. POLICIES	
<p>5.1. Policies for Review</p> <p>5.1.1. Governors reviewed and approved the Behaviour Policy.</p> <p>5.1.2. Governors reviewed and approved the E-Safety Policy.</p> <p>5.1.3. Governors reviewed and approved the Consolidated Health & Safety Report.</p>	
<p>5.2. New Policies</p> <p>None.</p>	

6. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	
<p>6.1. Teaching & Learning Report</p> <p>Governors had received the T&L Report in advance of the meeting, which was overviewed by WA, and discussion/challenge was as follows:</p> <p>A Governor queried current attainment compared to pre COVID and WA explained year on year comparisons would be provided at the next meeting. WA also spoke about the historical peaks and troughs of Abbey’s pupils, which links to delivery of the curriculum.</p> <p>A Governor queried the KS3/KS4 pupil’s data and asked for more context. Is this due to higher number of pupils in KS3/4, which affects the %’s, or is it because they returned during lockdown and others did not and WA explained it is a mixture of both. KS3 struggled to engage with online learning and required hard copies of learning.</p> <p>A Governor asked if Maths is the subject, which has suffered the most, and WA agreed, explaining using and applying maths had suffered.</p> <p>[ID-B joined the meeting at 12:17].</p>	
<p>6.2. Behaviour Log</p> <p>Governors received the Behaviour Log and it was agreed that LW would provide Governors with the Behaviour Table following the meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: LW to share Abbey’s Behaviour Table with Governors.</p> <p>LW shared with Governors the increase in pupils de-regulation but this forms a small number.</p> <p>A Governor commended the exemplary behaviour of pupils and asked if the introduction of the characters had assisted and LW explained about lessons learnt and how negative behaviour is unpicked and managed.</p> <p>A Governor asked how observing children are managed and supported when a significant Team Teach hold has been carried out and LW explained that 95% of incidents are supported via de-escalation; the rest of the class are removed or the child in crisis is. None of the team like holding and it is important to provide the child in crisis with dignity and support. LW also spoke about repair and reflection, which is more important than the actual restraint, because this makes or breaks relationships. Observing children are supported and very accepting of the behaviours of others.</p>	<p>LW 06/07/21</p>
<p>6.3. Wellbeing Report</p> <p>Governors reviewed the Wellbeing Report.</p> <p>LW provided context regarding the long-term absence of three pupils. The Chair commended the efforts of school, as outlined on Page 3 of the report, in supporting pupils not attending. LW explained about the increase in holiday requests, which are responded to on a case-by-case basis.</p>	

<p>A Governor asked about the potential of using shadow data to improve the overall attendance picture and LW explained that best supporting pupils is more important and a priority.</p>	
<p>6.4. LAC Report</p> <p>Governors received the LAC Report. WA explained about the recent change in LAC, due to a change of circumstances and the different LA's he works with.</p> <p>A Governor asked if the Trust could do anything further to secure additional funding and a discussion followed regarding the value and support from Virtual Schools.</p> <p>[SS-T joined the meeting at 12:39]</p> <p>A Governor commended the attendance of LAC, which is exceptional.</p> <p>LW stated Abbey will be focusing on trying to improve parental engagement with LAC families. A Governor asked if this generally happens nationally and WA spoke about the importance of getting to know families and working with them, in such a way that promotes investment and encourages engagement. WA also explained how changes in social care affect this. A Parent Governor provided context regarding her personal experience. A Governor asked if the Governors could act as proxy parents for LAC and all commended this.</p> <p>WA advised that the focus of the next Governing Body training event will be the SIP.</p>	
<p>6.5. Pupil Premium Plan</p> <p>The Pupil Premium Plan was overviewed by WA.</p> <p>A Governor queried if the number of PP pupils increased during COVID and LW advised no. Following a parental questionnaire, only three families suffered furlough. School offered support but the families declined food parcels etc.</p> <p>A Governor asked if COVID has had a detrimental effect on Educational Psychology and LW explained than an EHCP change is mandatory, which the LA pays for. In addition, Abbey also have a service agreement.</p> <p>A Governor asked which target intervention is working the best and LW explained music therapy and emotional literacy support assistant (ELSA) training.</p>	
<p>6.6. School Admission Refusals</p> <p>LW advised of 199 requests to date; 175 refusals, 22 accepted, 2 pending with more pending review.</p> <p>A Governor asked of the impact on class sizes and LW provided context regarding a tribunal case tomorrow.</p>	

<p>6.7. LGB Annual Self-Assessment Report</p> <p>AW provided an overview of the Self-Assessment Report and suggested discussing this further at the next Governing Body training event.</p> <p>A Governor commented on the robustness of the systems of the school/Trust and commended their efforts.</p>	
<p>6.8. Proposed 2021/2022 Meeting Dates</p> <p>Governors received the proposed dates and raised no queries.</p> <p>[JH joined the meeting at 13:15]</p>	
<p>6.9. Chair/CEO Verbal Update of Key Issues from Trust Board of Directors</p> <p>Not provided.</p>	
<p>7. GOVERNANCE MATTERS</p>	
<p>7.1. Governors to complete Activity Log</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JMcI attended school on 26/03/21 and 16/04/21 for a Budget Review • JMcI attended school on 17/04/21 for TA interviews • JMcI attended school on 06/05/21 for interviews • JB has had discussions with Horizon and is trying to arrange a virtual meeting • MT had a virtual meeting with WA on 04/05/21 and discussed wellbeing • AW attended school on 06/05/21 to discuss safeguarding • ID-B has attended school to meet with Jill Newbolt. Dates to follow. <p>ACTION: ID-B to submit dates of governor activity to clerkingservices@nexusmat.org</p>	<p>ID-B 06/07/21</p>
<p>8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</p>	
<p>8.1. To consider any other urgent business agreed by the Chair</p> <p>8.1.1. LW commended the efforts of ID-B regarding Beat the Street.</p> <p>8.1.2. The Chair shared with Governors her experience of an NGA Wellbeing Webinar.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to share AW's output from the NGA Wellbeing Webinar.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>9. CONFIDENTIALITY & RISK</p>	
<p>9.1. To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>9.2. To consider any areas of risk discussed during the meeting</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>10. DATES OF NEXT MEETING</p>	

Tuesday 6 th July 2021	12:00 – 14:00	Abbey School	Safeguarding, Leadership & Management
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Minutes approved

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE