



**Full Governing Body Meeting
Wednesday 9 July 2025 at 6.00 pm
This meeting was held in school**

Minutes

KEY: Governor Challenge Governor Approval

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| <p>Present S. Levy (Headteacher), R. Whitehouse-Jones, O. Brook, P. Hopkins, P. Wilson, E. Croxford, M. Sargent (Chair), F. Rumball, C Phillips and J Lowing</p> <p>Also Present N. Dickson (Deputy Headteacher) and Isabel Clark (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies M Ryan</p> |
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| No | Agenda Item | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Welcome and Apologies The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all colleagues.</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from those listed above.</p> <p>A presentation was made to MS (Chair) who was retiring from the governing body at the end of this academic year.</p> <p>There was still a vacancy for another parent governor, which will be advertised in the Autumn term.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Declarations of Interest P. Hopkins declared that his partner was employed by the school. I Clark (Clerk) declared that she was also a School Estates Officer for the Council.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Agree Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on the 14 May 2025 The minutes of this meeting were AGREED as a true record.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of the February meeting had been uploaded to GovernorHub • The Chairs position will be dealt with at the next FGB meeting • New visit reports were now on GovernorHub • All other matters had been dealt with | |
| 5 | <p>Headteacher's Report As the report was shared prior to the meeting, the Head Teacher highlighted the following points:</p> | |
| 5.1 | <p>Data had been shared at the STAR committee meeting immediately prior to this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS2 combined measure was above national | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GD in Reading was above national • All others were broadly in line with national • Maths at 80% and had seen a significant improvement in GD this year (from 10% to 17%) • Nothing was 'red' • Times-tables check was now ahead of national since using Number Sense and TT Rockstars • Phonics – re-sits got us to 87%, but this is a very high needs cohort • Early Years – where we can measure children have improved for their baseline check, but came in very low this year. • PP – in Year 6 8/22 children have SEN and are all PP. 4 have EHCPs. Our PP children here are outperforming our non-PP children <p>The Chair commented that pupil voice had said that children were not challenged, but analysis and there did not seem to be an issue. The STAR committee had also discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The September 2025 intake looks to have a high number of high needs children. Coming from various settings there is a different approach to SEND at each. • We know our gaps and these will inform the SDP for next year • We are hoping for 80% in Maths next year. <p>Governors congratulated all Children on their achievements this year.</p> <p>5.2 Attendance</p> <p>A lot of work had been done with the Head Teacher as the daily monitoring person. Tenacity was paying off. The FRESH Committee will receive a case study on attendance at their next meeting.</p> <p>Governors asked the following questions:</p> <p>Q Will you continue with the same approach to attendance next year?</p> <p>A Yes. SL will still be the Champion and there will be extra capacity in the SLT. We also need to undertake a review of the coding.</p> <p>Q Do we still have persistent lates?</p> <p>A Yes, but this is about having siblings at different schools. We have seen massive progress.</p> <p>5.3 Staffing</p> <p>Governors asked the following questions</p> <p>Q Are you fully staffed for September?</p> <p>A Yes. The children are spending time with their new teachers this term. Som positive phased returns are in place. The Cook resigned after a period of sick leave, so we are thinking of our options before just appointing. The FRESH Committee discussed recruitment for TAs.</p> <p>Q Where do you advertise?</p> <p>A We use 'My new term' and EPM's website</p> <p>5.4 OfSTED</p> <p>There is only 1 week left in which we can be inspected; after that the programme starts again in November under a new system.</p> <p>Governors asked the following question:</p> <p>Q Is there any report on the pilots carried out under the new system?</p> <p>A They are all being challenged by the Unions through the courts. But as our data is good, our teachers are happy. Governors may want to review the SEF which we hope will transfer easily to the new system.</p> <p>5.5 Summer works</p> | |
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| <p>5.6</p> <p>5.7</p> | <p>These had been discussed at the FRESH Committee.</p> <p>Pupil voice 214 responses had been gathered. We are now persuading parents to go onto Parent voice. Updates will be posted on GovernorHub. Governors were impressed with the response to question 14 about school values.</p> <p>Additional question Q We have 20 EHCPs in school (without those coming into Reception in September 2025). In the press the government is mooting change. How will this affect us? Will it be easier or harder to get an EHCP? A Probably about the same. It's already harder to get an EHCP for neuro development. Numbers are rising nationally, but we believe all here deserve their EHCP. Parental voice seems to suggest satisfaction with the SEND provision here.</p> | |
| <p>6</p> | <p>Policy Review(s) in line with schedule Parental communications and expectations. This is a new policy and comes about in response to a need to control parents' expectations of a response to their emails. At the moment what they are 'demanding' is unfair and unreasonable. We then receive 'threats' if we don't respond to their demands. This policy makes it clear what is 'reasonable' in responding to parents' communications. There is nothing controversial, but it is firm. Governors AGREED this policy and were happy to do so in light of all staff's work/life balance. Governors suggested an auto-response to all emails and linking this to the policy.</p> | |
| <p>7</p> | <p>Safeguarding: All information was contained in the Head Teacher's report. There have been no DV reports during this period.</p> | |
| <p>8</p> | <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FRESH Committee had received a full financial statement. • Money needed to be spent to avoid the 8% clawback • The Committee reviewed the costs of wrap-around care and FSM. A 4% increase to the wraparound care (just to cover the increase in staff costs) was AGREED. Both areas will be reviewed in the new academic year. • The school were reviewing the SENCo role • The return-to-work process was now more robust • A well-being breakfast in September was suggested • The summer works were discussed <p>Governors asked the following questions: Q Can we use the money we need to spend on more TAs? A We have enough funding to recruit to what we need, but these will be 1-year fixed term contracts, so we have capacity to review at any time. Q Will we be full in September? A Almost. Numbers, particularly in KS2 are dropping across the city, so we are cautious. Governors went on to discuss numbers, forecasts and pressures.</p> | |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Governance Governors were well aware of the need to find a new Chair in September. Elections for Chairs of the Committees will also take place in September,</p> | |

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| 10 | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>ND was on his last assessment for his NPQH qualification</p> <p>Congratulations were offered to JP on being appointed as the Assistant Head Teacher.</p> <p>MS expressed here thanks to all governors and the support they gave to the school.</p> <p>SL thanked MS for all she had done as both a governor and as Chair. Her knowledge and experience had brought words of wisdom to the school. MS was a good role model to all as a woman and as a leader.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Meeting dates for the new academic year will be circulated.</p> | Clerk |
| The Chair thanked everyone for attending. The meeting ended at 7.25 pm. | | |

| Summary of Actions | |
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| 11 | Meeting dates to be circulated |