

**Minutes of the Full Governing Board Meeting  
Held on 12 May 2025 at 6pm  
South Wing Conference Room**

**Governors present:** Anne Canning, Jo Davey (coheadteacher), Tessa Hauswedell, Rachel Howarth, Zoe Judge (coheadteacher), Ian Macaulay (chair), Claire Montgomery, Antonia Shortall,

**Also present:** Emily Brooks, Lauren Common, Nofer Fari Florence Herrero, Kirsty Holder, Louise Prodromou, Ewan Scott, Kirsten Sullivan

**Clerk:** Sam Murray

*Governors agreed that Ian Macaulay (vice chair) act as the Chair for this meeting.*

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Mark Chapman, Reem Al Rasheed, Lorraine Hudson.

**2. Declaration of interests**

There were no meeting specific declarations of interest made by anyone present.

**3. CoHeadteachers' report**

Governors had received a copy of the CoHeadteachers written report and noted the following from the report:

**Pupil numbers** - the school is full which is pleasing in the local context of falling pupil numbers. Characteristics of pupil groups in the school are stable.

Governors noted that the home to school distance for Year 7 admission offers was slightly further than last year but this was expected and is a trend locally.

**Attendance** - Currently whole school attendance is 94% which is in line with national figures. In response to a governor question, KS outlined attendance requirements for Year 11/Year 13 students in the lead up to exams.

**Inclusion and pastoral** – Suspensions are down across the school. Governors received data on referrals to alternative provision and managed moves. Data on mental health provision and support was also shared.

Student mobility is being monitored in school and across the borough as all local schools are reporting higher levels of movement and some disruption to existing cohorts. In response to a governor question, KS outlined the role of the In Year Fair Access Panel and how it works to share data on pupils to support schools to manage these admissions.

**Staff continuing professional development** – Some planned sessions have been missed because of industrial action. A new model for delivering CPD is being developed which will give staff more autonomy and ownership of their own areas of development.

**Sixth form school improvement partner visit** – Feedback from the recent local authority visit noted many strengths and positive feedback. Over 20 lessons were visited and the SIP

spoke to staff and students during the day. The report will be used by the sixth form team for discussion and planning. A governor asked if the visit had identified any areas that were not already in the sixth form action plan. LC confirmed that there were no surprises and the school's view was aligned with the SIP view.

**Complaints data** – Governors were pleased to receive data showing that no formal complaints were received last term.

**3.1 Additional Resource Provision** – CoHeads provided a written update on the ARP project which has agreed in principle the opening of an autism ARP on the Fortismere site from September 2026, as part of the Haringey safety valve funding.

The onsite location is still being explored. Numbers would grow to around 30 students in three to four years time. The aim is to tie the ARP development into the School Rebuilding Project but an interim location is required.

In response to governor questions, the CoHeads explained how ARP students would spend half of their time integrated into mainstream lessons and the rest in the ARP. ARP specialist resources and staff would also benefit the whole school.

Governors also discussed communication of the project with the school community but accepted that there were still unknown elements to be confirmed.

Governors **agreed** that the Strategic Estates Committee should pick up this item for further discussion and consideration of the points raised in the update.

<b>Action: Strategic Estates Committee to pick up ARP item and report back to FGB at a later meeting</b>
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#### **4. Industrial action conclusion and actions**

Governors received a paper setting out the mitigations agreed with the NEU to end the industrial action. These will now be shared with parents and carers for their views. Mitigations include a shorter Friday and a two week half term. The views of staff have already been gathered and these will be used to make the final arrangements to apply from September 2025.

In response to governor questions, CoHeads explained how the extra time for early closure and a 2 week half term would be created. There are statutory requirements for the number of school sessions in a year and arrangements must be compliant with this.

Governors asked about the impact of reduced tutor time and CoHeads explained that staff and students had already been surveyed for their feedback on tutor time and a reduction in time is not out of line with the results of this. The impact of all the agreed mitigations will be closely monitored next year.

Governors discussed the importance of early and clear communication with parents and carers about changes to school day arrangements. CoHeads noted this and will work on a comms plan.

#### **5. Year 11 and Year 13 pupil progress data**

**KS4 data:** Governors received final progress data for Y11 prior to external exams. ES noted that following analysis of the data, the school is positive about final outcomes.

ES outlined key points from the data for identified groups including, boys/girls, SEND, and pupil premium. English & Maths tie-in data shows a significant improvement between the

mocks and progress point 6 data, moving from 75% (Jan 2025) to 82% (latest) as a result of work by both departments. Governors considered data on individual subjects and noted the comments in the report.

ES highlighted interventions for Y11 students and a real push to keep students engaged and attending school right up to their exams. Support to students and parents has been provided.

KS5 data: Governors received final mock data for Y13 students. The average grade on results day 2024 was C+ and on current data has now moved up to B-

The use of the new Cos X platform has provided a different view of the data which has been useful to the sixth form team. The progress point 6 data shows a general trend of improvement on the previous progress point and governors considered the comparative data by subject contained in the report.

Data by groups was also considered and LC highlighted the SEN K group (64 students) who are performing well against targets.

LC noted that Y13 attendance is a current concern as many students have reduced their attendance levels once subjects finish teaching any new content. Year 13 tutors looked at PP6 outcomes against attendance across the last month and identified specific students who have been contacted and strongly encouraged into school for support.

In response to a governor question about priorities next year, LC advised that attendance is and would be a focus. The sixth form team are really pushing a strong message about being in school to the current Year 12 so they are in the right mind-set and ready to go from September.

## **6. Pupil premium strategy**

Governors had received a copy of the updated pupil premium strategy for publication on the website. EB has used the DfE template to set out a statement of intent and the school plans for use of the funding. The pupil premium cohort is small but funding will be used to strategically to have maximum impact. In response to a governor question, EB explained that the school is looking into how PP students can be given more autonomy in how some of the funding is used. EB confirmed that some final costings will be added to the document prior to publication on the website: governors noted this and **agreed** the strategy.

## **7. Student voice**

Governors received a paper from the CoHeads on student voice at Fortismere including the formal and informal opportunities for students to be heard. The paper set out National Governance Association suggestions for reporting and monitoring of student voice. Governors discussed different approaches to hearing about this work including attending student voice activities in school. Governors noted that they do already hear about student voice through different reports and presentations but agreed that it would be helpful to have an explicit report in a format and to a cycle that fits the school's work on this.

Governors **agreed** that a student voice report should be included in GB workplans for 2025-26 to a schedule and format that suits the school's plans for this area.

<b>Action: Schedule a student voice report into the GB workplan for 2025-26</b>
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## 8. SEND Report

Governors had received documents including the SEND action plan, SEND population data, a copy of the HEP SEND review and an update on the SEND Inclusion Award.

NF provided governors with an overview of the year and an update on progress against targets in the action plan and work to achieve the SENDIA Award. SEN Link governor has met with NF and gone through the data and reports in detail.

Governors noted the **SEND population** figures which are higher than some other local schools. There are 71 students with EHCPs (4%) and 345 students at SEN Support (19.5%). The SEN Support cohort has increased. The school also identifies students with AEN (those who are moving towards or away from SEN Support) and this cohort has increased from 100-190.

In response to a governor question, NF explained how the SEN register works and how students are included or removed.

NF noted that the school had challenged some of the language used in the introduction of the HEP **SEND review** from October 2024 as they felt it was overly negative; however there were also some very positive comments in the review. The link governor had attended some review meetings and felt that parents had been very positive in their feedback especially around transition, communication and the use of key workers. Students were also positive about the key worker model in their feedback to the review. NF is proud of the work the school do around SEND transition.

Governors noted progress and outcomes data for SEND students which is very positive and is reviewed by link governors through other reports.

**SENDIA Award** – NF has previously presented to governors on the SENDIA Award that the school is working towards this year and updated them on progress to date. Surveys to staff, parents and students have provided rich feedback that is really helpful to the LINC team. Focus groups have also worked really well and provided useful comments. NF is pleased with the progress being made and hopeful of a positive assessment in July. The SEN link governor has received regular updates from Nofer on the award.

**SEND action plan** – governors noted the amber areas on the action plan and NF confirmed that work will continue on these items. Priorities for next year include upskilling staff through CPD; creatively managing resources to extend capacity; improving partnerships; and two way home school communications.

Governors noted that it was pleasing to hear the positive comments and feedback about communication. NF gave credit to the LINC team who have worked really hard to get to know SEND parents and to build relationships with them.

The SEND link governor added that balancing the budget and meeting the needs of increasing numbers of SEND students is challenging for the LINC team but this needs to be planned and prepared for carefully as resource challenges do not appear to be going away soon.

### 8.1 SEND policy and SEN Information Report

The SEND policy and SEN Information Report have been reviewed – the only changes required are to the names of school staff listed. Governors **agreed** the documents.

Governors thanked NF for a thorough and detailed report and asked him to extend their thanks to the whole LINC team for their hard work.

## 9. Committee reports

**Resources Committee:** The Resources Committee had met on 23/04/2025 and on 06/05/2025. Minutes of the meetings and copies of the documents received at the meetings are available to all governors on GovernorHub.

AS highlighted the following from the recent meetings:

**Draft budget 2025-26:** Governors received the final outturn figure for 2024-25 which closed in a surplus position. Draft figures for 2025-26 were considered in detail by the committee and LP answered questions on the figures and assumptions in the budget.

The committee met again on 06/05/2025 to receive further updated information from LP and were then content to recommend the draft budget for approval at FGB.

In response to governor questions, LP advised that the cleaning contract cost had increased because of national insurance costs being passed on to the school. Increased national insurance had also raised the cost of agency staff.

LP also explained that sixth form funding is received differently to funding for Y7-11 and this impacts on the ability to budget ahead. The current figures are based on this year's student numbers but will be updated as assumptions become known figures.

A governor commented on the high expenditure on exam fees. CoHeads commented that this has become a real concern for many schools because of the high number of exams and papers.

<b>Budget 2025-26 for approval: the full governing body agreed the budget 2025-26 as presented. Figures will be submitted to the local authority.</b>
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Governors thanked the Resources committee and LP for their detailed work on this.

## 10. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 March 2025 were approved and agreed as an accurate record.

### 10.1 Matters arising from the last meeting

*Item 8 Establish a new Curriculum Committee:* Link governors (IM and TH) had met with ES and the clerk (SM) to discuss an outline work plan. SM is drafting terms of reference for a new committee and will create a draft work plan for the year ahead to discuss with SLT and the chair before sharing with governors at the next FGB in July.

<b>Action: Create draft terms of reference and a workplan for the new committee</b>
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## 11. Governing body membership update

Governors received an update on membership and agreed the following appointments:

**LA governor:** Governors **agreed** to reappoint Mark Chapman as the LA governor for a four year term of office.

**Co-opted governor:** Governors **agreed** to appoint Lewis Shevelan as a Co-opted governor for a four year term of office.

Governors noted the following:

- Co-opted staff governor vacancy is currently advertised.
- Two parent governors (RAL and RH) will come to the end of their terms on 31/08/25.

**12. Date of next meeting**

Friday 4 July 2025 7.45am

*Meeting closed*

**ACTIONS**

**3.1: Strategic Estates Committee to pick up ARP item and report back to FGB at a later meeting**

**7: Schedule a student voice report into the GB workplan for 2025-26**

**10.1: Create draft terms of reference and workplan for the new curriculum committee**