

Minutes of the Full Governing Board Meeting
Monday 14th October 2024 at 6.00pm
In-person meeting

Governors present: Anne Canning, Mark Chapman (*Chair*), Jo Davey (*Co-headteacher*), Tessa Hauswedell, Rachel Howarth, Lorraine Hudson, Zoe Judge (*Co-headteacher*), Ian Macaulay, Antonia Shortall, Tessa Hauswedell,

Staff present: Darrel Barsby, Lauren Common, Nofer Fari, Florence Herrero, Kirsty Holder, Louise Prodromou, Ewan Scott, Kirsten Sullivan

Also present: Sam Murray (*Clerk*)

1. Apologies were received and accepted from Reem Al Rasheed.

2. Declaration of interests

There were no meeting specific declarations of interest made by anyone present. Governors were reminded to ensure their entry in the register of business interests is kept up to date.

3. CoHeadteachers' Report

Governors had received a copy of the CoHeadteachers written report via GovernorHub. The CoHeads highlighted the following key points:

Pupil numbers show a slight drop in the sixth form roll only. Census day is soon and there may be some in-year admissions completed before then.

Contextual information was set out in the report and shows a slight increase in FSM and Ever 6. Parents eligible for free school meals have been encouraged to apply. Prior attainment data shows some change in the percentages of students in the groups.

Attendance data was shared. The new DfE attendance monitoring tool is being used by the school. Whole school attendance is at nearly 94% which is an improvement and a good start to the academic year. CoHeads reported that they were pleased with the new Haringey Education Welfare Officer and the support service provided. The EWO had recently been into school to meet all new Y7 parents and set out expectations around attendance and punctuality.

A **staffing update** was provided and CoHeads reported a stable start to the year. There are eight early career teachers following the two-year support programme.

Governors received and considered **behaviour data** set out in the report. There has been 1 suspension since the start of term and no permanent exclusions. In response to a governor question, CoHeads explained that steps have been taken to reduce avoidable suspensions including more use of interventions in the Hub and working on student reflection after an incident. CoHeads also noted how calm and focussed the students were at the start of term. The behaviour data is tracked closely by staff.

There has been one managed move arranged at the request of the parent and the student. There has been one referral to alternative provision and four Fortismere students at Finch.

Governors considered data showing students coming on and off-roll and noted the high level of mobility. CoHeads highlighted that there have been five admissions into Y11 since the start of term.

A **mental health and wellbeing update** was shared and governors received data for the numbers of students accessing in-school support services. A new Police Liaison Officer has been appointed but is shared with three other schools and is often called away from school-based work.

In a **teaching and learning update** ES highlighted monitoring that had taken place since the start of term including; exams analysis and SLT lesson observations. The annual appraisal cycle has also completed. Evaluation shows that the teaching & learning policy is well embedded at KS3/4 and the curriculum includes breadth and depth. Focus areas now will be an assessment policy review, consistency of homework policy and practice and maximising the impact of the timetable as a tool for effective curriculum delivery. CPD for the year ahead will be informed by this work.

Link governors for teaching and learning had met with ES and has discussed recent monitoring mechanisms in detail. In response to a governor question about student participation, ES explained that this refers to full active participation in the learning and is not related to low level disruption in lessons.

Governors received an update on **parental complaints**. The school has engaged an independent investigator to deal with a recent complaint. The Complaints policy is due for review this year. The Chair **agreed** to appoint a governor to work on a review of the policy in conjunction with CoHeads and the clerk.

Action: MC to appoint a governor for the complaints policy review work

Open Evening was held at end of September and was well attended. CoHeads reported that they had held an extra event for a local primary where children had been away on a school trip.

Back to school information events had been held for each year group with a tailored focus on the year ahead and how parents and the school can best work together to support students. These events were well received and well attended and it was helpful for staff to have this face-to-face communication with families. LINC are also running parent/carer information events and including LA support services.

The Chair noted that governors want to arrange a governor parent and carer surgery this term.

Action: MC to appoint a group of governors to host a parent surgery this term.

CoHeads advised governors that there was no progress on the **School Rebuilding Programme** (SRP) to report since the last update in summer 2024.

3.1 Finance & Resources update

Governors received a Quarter 2 update with figures that now reflect the full details of the final teacher pay award and income streams that were previously based on assumptions. The current forecast position is £187K. Link governors had met with the Director of Operations to scrutinise the Q2 figures and will meet again to consider any action required.

The CoHeads advised governors that the school is moving forward with the proposed plans to move to 30 pupils per class in line with the DfE national funding formula to schools. Some

adjustment to teaching contact time is also being considered. CoHeads have met staff and unions are aware.

Action: CoHeads to update governors on this matter at the next meeting

In response to a governor question about SEND contingency funding, LP explained that the LA contingency funding has stopped. Haringey LA have said that the new SEND bandings and funding the school has received should cover the loss of the contingency fund income but it doesn't. LP will keep asking about additional sources of funding via the LA.

4. Exam outcomes 2024

4.1 KS4 Y11: Governors had received a detailed report on the summer 2024 KS4 exam results. DB highlighted the following key points:

Results are very good but so is the level of consistency with last year's results. DB reminded governors that the data is unvalidated so there could be some changes following remarks.

Attainment 8 score was 57.71 (at PP6 was 57.65). Progress 8 score was +0.58 (at PP6 was +0.51). The internal data was incredibly accurate and shows that key systems are embedded and effective in terms of challenging students through effective curricula, tracking student attainment/progress and summative assessment of students.

Attainment by key groups was considered and the following noted: 84.62% achieved 4+ in English and Maths and 70.77% achieved 5+ in English and Maths. Girls were top performers when compared to boys in English. In Maths boys outperformed girls.

Non-Pupil Premium students outperformed Pupil Premium although PP students secured 60% 4+ in English and Maths. SEN K students achieved very well with 80% achieving a 4+ in both English and Maths and 60% achieving a 5+ SEN E achieved less well although 45% achieved both English and Maths 4+.

Subject performance data shows that some subjects are outperforming others but in some low performing subjects need to also consider the make-up of the cohort.

Link governors had met with ES and discussed the data in more detail including the widening gap boys/girls and student engagement with learning in lessons. The SIP 2024-25 will include some focus on boys. The actions set out in the report were discussed by link governors including: developing a greater level of participation for all students, focus and monitoring of identified key groups and bespoke CPD for staff to support classroom delivery.

A governor asked if results were expected to be lower this year because of the high number of boys in Y11. DB advised that the last progress point data doesn't show this.

Destinations data for Y11 students was shared and discussed. Governors were pleased to see high numbers of students remaining at Fortismere sixth form.

The Chair thanked ES and DB for the detailed data presentation and thanked all staff for helping to achieve another set of impressive results. The control and consistency is very pleasing to see.

4.2 KS5 Y13: LC presented headline data to governors including the following:

Average A level grade is B- and the ALPS measure is 5. ALPS 5 is national progress so this is ok but not where the school wants to be. It is positive to see so many students going on to their next steps. BTEC results were also pleasing and most students were able to move on to their destinations.

Subject and key group analysis are complete, with some outstanding remarks in drama and PE still to come. Exam analysis highlighted areas for improvement in low-performing subjects. LC detailed actions in Further Maths. SEN support K students made above-average progress. Most students got their preferred first or second choice destinations.

5. Sixth form improvement plan

LC outlined the sixth form rapid action plan based around six key areas: teaching & learning and assessment; pastoral and academic learning environments that are vibrant and challenging for all; improved attendance and punctuality; leadership and support team have a clear understanding of what success looks like; good information advice and guidance to get the right students on the right courses; clear routines in class and out of class. Sixth form team working to a detailed operational plan behind these 6 areas.

Link governors discussed how to monitor and have oversight of the Action Plan and will use this plan as the framework for their link work this year. Governors were pleased to see this action plan up and running so quickly and thanked LC for her report.

6. Minutes of the last meeting & Matters arising

Governors had received and agreed the minutes of the last meeting held on 5th July 2024 as an accurate record of the meeting. There were no outstanding matters arising from the last meeting.

7. Governance documents 2024-25

7.1 Governors had received updated governance documents for approval as follows:

- **Governing Body Code of conduct** – governors approved the document and agreed to act in accordance with the Code.
- **Delegation planner** – governors noted the minor revisions and agreed the document as presented.
- **Standing orders document** – governors agreed the document as presented.

7.2 Committee membership 2024-25

- Admissions committee – Agreed that Antonia Shortall join. MC, AC, AS, CoHeads
- Strategic Estate committee – MC, RAR, AS, ME (Associate), AL (Associate), CoHeads
- Pay committee – MC, AS, RAR

7.3 Link roles 2024-25

Governors agreed the link roles and areas as set out in the document shared on GovernorHub. IM is attending training on how to be a good link governor and will share any training material on GovernorHub.

Governors discussed how to ensure that the scrutiny and monitoring that takes place in link meetings is captured for the record. Governors discussed developing a template document to use at every link meeting.

7.4 Declarations on GovernorHub

Business and pecuniary interests - Governors were reminded to complete an annual declaration on GovernorHub. This includes making a nil return.

Keeping children safe in education 2024 - Governors were reminded to declare that they had read the KCSIE statutory guidance 2024.

8. Governing body membership update

Governors noted the two vacancies for Co-opted governors and agreed that MC should draft a note to all parents to explain what the school is looking for and asking for any nominations.

9. Policies for approval

Governors received and approved the following updated policies

- Safeguarding & Child protection policy
- Attendance policy
- Governor allowances policy

Meeting closed