

Minutes of the Full Governing Body meeting of Ivydale School, held via videoconference on Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 6:00pm

Present

Lynne Gravatt (LG) (Chair)
 Dipalee Jukes (DJ)
 Faye Rounding (FR)
 Anna Townsend (AT)

Helen Ingham (Head)
 Catherine Mahony (CM)
 Jessica Skinns (JS)
 Rosh Wijayarathna (RW)

Also Present

Nicole Galea – Clerk

<u>PART 1 Governor Business</u>	
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>LG thanked Governors for attending the meeting, held virtually via Zoom due to the continuing Coronavirus pandemic. She extended a particular welcome to Dipalee Jukes as a newly elected Parent Governor.</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received in advance from Atya Ashraf, Alasdair Buckle, Bartley Shaw and Judith Lambert. Governors resolved to consent to the absences. The absence of Peter Lilford was noted.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the meeting was quorate.</p>
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>LG advised Governors of the need to declare any interests for items on the agenda; no declarations were made.</p>
3	<p><u>Minutes of the previous meeting: 30/3/21 – Parts 1 and 2.</u></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of 30/3/21 (Parts 1 and 2) had been distributed in advance. It was RESOLVED that they were accurate reflection of the meeting. LG undertook to provide an electronic signature for the documents.</p> <p>Matters Arising <u>Item 6: CFC Committee</u> CM reported that she had received no comments on ideas for Board development, increased diversity and visibility. It was agreed to carry this forward as a general action.</p> <p>There were no further matters arising not picked up elsewhere on the agenda.</p>
4	<p><u>Governing Body Operation</u></p>
4.1	<p>Membership</p> <p>The Clerk reported the following membership updates: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atya Ashraf and Dipalee Jukes were the successful candidates following the recent Parent Governor election • There remain 3 Co-opted Governor vacancies, 2 of which have historically been ringfenced – 1 for support staff and 1 for a parent meeting specific diversity or skills requirements.

LG

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a vacancy for a Staff Governor following the resignation of Kimberley Starke. • JS and AT's terms of office as Parent Governors are due to come to an end on 30/11/21. • AB has recently moved home; he is willing to continue as a Governor whilst meetings are virtual or until a replacement is found but plans to resign his Co-opted position when meetings in person resume. <p>LG reported that Southwark has provided the names of 3 potential candidates for the Co-opted Governor vacancies who are independent of the LA. She advised that she has spoken to one of the candidates, will speak to another tomorrow, both possess skills that would be useful. She will follow up on the third. CM volunteered to join LG in the call to the second candidate. The candidates have been made aware that the next part of the process will be followed up in the autumn term.</p> <p>HI stated that a further Parent Governor election process would be run in the autumn term. JS advised that she would be willing to stay on beyond November in another capacity to see out the work on the Ivydale Futures Strategy. Governors wholly supported the suggestion, to be agreed at the September FGB.</p> <p>LG stated that she has had conversations with the new Parent Governors about opportunities to support them with on boarding, noting that AA has attended both the CFC and Resources Committee meetings. CM and JS volunteered to act as buddies.</p> <p><i>Governors asked if the unsuccessful candidate at the Parent Governor election could be considered as a candidate for the Co-opted Parent vacancy.</i> HI stated that the individual did not meet the diversity or skills requirements but that there will be a further opportunity to stand for the Parent election in the autumn term.</p>	<p>CM / LG</p> <p>Agenda</p> <p>CM / JS</p>
5	<p><u>Headteacher's Report</u></p> <p>HI referred Governors to the report which had been provided in advance.</p> <p>Covid-19</p> <p>HI advised that there were initially 3 positive Coronavirus cases when she wrote this report, which subsequently increased to 4 within the week. This represents the largest number of cases in school in the past 18 months and resulted in 4 classes out of school, of which 3 have returned. A number of staff were also impacted. Schools across Southwark have suffered as the level of cases has been very high with many classes closing.</p> <p>From 19/7/21, the need for bubbles and classes to self isolate etc will cease and the responsibility for Track and Trace will transfer from Heads to the NHS. Following the advice of DfE and Southwark however, the decision has been taken to continue with existing arrangements for the last week of term, in order to minimise any impact for staff and families on the holiday period.</p> <p>The DfE has just published updated guidance which will be reviewed in terms of the arrangements in place for September. It is likely that the staggered lunch arrangements which worked so well will continue. The plans will be communicated to parents before the end of term as will the new class arrangements.</p> <p>The INSET day held last week was very productive; the curriculum was updated and planned, on the basis of the relaxation of all restrictions and the return of school visits.</p>	

<p>Staff have now submitted their summer term data; headlines will be collated and circulated for Governor's information before being discussed in more depth at the autumn term Standards Committee meeting.</p> <p>Governors asked the following questions: - <i>The number of pupils on roll is increasing, is there any indication that the number of pupils with FSM and SEN are also increasing?</i> HI stated that there will be 2 x Y6 classes leaving and 3 Reception classes joining. With the exception of the children moving up from Nursery, it is not possible to confirm this data until September when the profile of the new Reception intake has been reviewed and Southwark provides the FSM data. Ivydale is in the very unusual position within Southwark to have 90 pupils confirmed for Reception and a waiting list in place. It is only 1 of 7 schools with a full Reception, many schools have a significant number of vacancies. Having mapped the home addresses, HI confirmed that they are all local families which is very positive. However, it is not known how the numbers will fare going forward. HI stated that she was aware of some families moving out but frequently they do not inform the school until house sale completions have been confirmed.</p> <p><i>How many cohorts will be 2FE at Ivydale next year?</i> HI reported that the 2FE year groups in September will be: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 (57 pupils) – it has been 2FE throughout its journey through the school • Y3 (58 pupils) and Y5 (60 pupils) have now been capped at 2FE <p>HI added that Y1 has 69 pupils; it cannot be capped and legally Y1 and 2 classes cannot exceed 30 pupils. The LA suggested that Y1 and Y2 be merged into 5 classes as a cost saving option, but the school feels that it is important for these cohorts to remain separate as they were amongst those that were most impacted by lockdown. The plan is to use Catch Up funding to provide Quality First Teaching in single age smaller classes.</p> <p>Budget Recovery Plan HI and LG reported that they attended a presentation by the Director last week (documents to be circulated) regarding placement planning. The key point of which was that Southwark is aiming to remove 300 (10 FE) Reception places across the borough for September 2022, followed by a further 300 (10 FE) Reception places the next year. There is talk of mergers and closures to reduce the admissions numbers but there does not seem to be a borough wide conversation or plan. Governors discussed what the falling roles could mean for Ivydale, in light of the current budget deficit position.</p> <p>HI advised that she has now met with the ESFA Financial Adviser. These consultants usually work with Academies, but the DfE has asked that they work with LAs, looking at budgets and cost savings. The consultant was able to offer some useful pointers. The challenge however is the 6 day turnaround required for documentation to be sent to her at an already busy time of year. Her report will feed into the BRP and so the LA has agreed to delay the updated BRP until this information is available. Despite this, the HI and LG have been asked to attend a further meeting next week.</p> <p><i>Governors asked if this process is being carried out with other schools.</i> HI stated that it has become apparent that Ivydale is just a small part of the picture across Southwark. It is a tricky situation; other Heads have had similar meetings and it is now possible to see where Ivydale sits. LG added that there is also the issue of lack of clarity from the LA and it not doing what it agrees to do.</p>	<p>HI / Standards</p> <p>HI</p>
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	Further items were discussed and recorded under Part 2: Confidential Items.	
6	<u>Delegated Items</u>	
6.1	<p>Committee Chairs to Report back on key items Committee Chairs were asked to highlight the key points from the summer term meetings.</p> <p>CFC Committee - draft minutes of 16/6/21 had been circulated in advance. CM advised that the committee discussed the work being undertaken to re-establish an effective Parent Forum and the wider opportunities for parent voice. HI reported that following on from the work of the Board and staff on vision and values, communication went out to parents last week. An explicit question was asked if parents would be willing to identify their racial ethnic background as an opportunity to hear ALL voices within the parent body.</p> <p>CM noted that the committee also discussed the negative impact of the pandemic on Governor visits; HI is looking into dates for visits in the autumn term.</p> <p>CM also put forward a suggestion that Governors and staff could enjoy an informal social event such as a picnic in the park. It was agreed that CM would send a doodle poll asking for preferences for a weekend lunchtime in September or an pre FGB for the September meeting.</p> <p>Standards Committee - draft minutes of 18/5/21 had been circulated. JS stated that the focus of the last meeting was the identification of gaps due to lockdown, the use of Catch Up funding and the changes in EYFS from September with an excellent presentation from Jan Harpley. The committee also discussed the ongoing impact of the budget constraints on the school, particularly on the wider curriculum.</p> <p>Resources Committee - draft minutes of 5/5/21 & 26/5/21 had been circulated, draft minutes of 23/6/21 to follow. LG reported that the main work of the committee had been discussed.</p>	CM
6.2	<p>Committee Membership The Clerk had circulated the governance map in advance; it was agreed to defer any changes to the September FGB meeting. Aim to have a balance of Governor categories across the committees, Clerk to forward the membership with the papers for that meeting.</p>	FGB Agenda
7	<p><u>Statutory Duties / LA, and DfE Items</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that the following items referred to changes taking effect from September 2021 that Governors should be aware of, the information on which is included in the London Governors' Newsletter (as attached).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to Pupil Premium Grant requirements • Early Career Framework • New EYFS Framework– JS referred Governors to the Standards Committee minutes of 18/5/21 • Introduction of DfE Behaviour Hubs 	

8	<p><u>Urgent Business</u></p> <p>LG advised that the school and Board now has membership of the National Governors Association (NGA) which Governors can use as a source of information, resources and some on line training opportunities. Welcome packs and a handbook are available for collection from school.</p> <p>LG confirmed that there were no other items of Urgent Business and the meeting concluded at 8:20pm.</p>	
9	<p><u>Date of next meeting and agenda items</u></p> <p>28/9/21 – FGB 5/10/21 - Standards 13/10/21 - Resources 3/11/21 - CFC 16/11/21 - Standards 30/11/21 – FGB 7/12/21 - Resources</p>	

Signed

Date