



Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body held on Thursday 11TH February 2016 at 4.00 pm.

Governing Body:

(+)David Barter	DB	Chair
(+)Judith Langley	JL	Head
(+)Charlotte Morley	CM	Co-opted Governor, Vice Chair
(+)Gavin Price	GP	Co-opted Governor
(+)Geoff Evans	GE	Co-opted Governor
(+)Beverley Harding	BH	Partnership Governor
(-) Jenny Tuck	JT	Co-opted Governor
(-)Simon Goldsmith	SG	Parent Governor
(+)Philip Goddard	PG	Parent Governor
(+)Graham Rudd	GR	Parent Governor
(+)Jodie Walters	JW	Staff Governor
(+)Martin Sands	MS	Local Authority Governor

In attendance:

Jennie Morgan	JM	Clerk to Governors
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	TOPIC	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received and accepted from Jenny Tuck.	
2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST None	
3	CONSTITUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY Vacancies: Link Governor Partnership Governor JM to circulate description of Partnership Governor	JM
4	MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on 17 th December 2015 were approved and signed.	
5	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 17 DECEMBER 2015	

	Committees – JW and GR will join the Staff and Students committee	
6	<p>CHAIR'S ACTION</p> <p>The Governing Body would like to thank all the staff, pupils and parents, the leadership team, and everybody involved in the Ofsted inspection. JL to pass on to staff.</p> <p>It was acknowledged from the Ofsted inspection was that everybody involved was absolutely committed to the school and its success.</p> <p>A group of Year 11s were asked how they felt about the school and replied that they were part of a community. When asked what they considered to be a 'community' they simply swept their arms and replied 'this'.</p> <p>Julie Stockdale, Strategic Lead for Schools Commissioning, and Lyn McGrady, Head of Finance, are visiting the school on 25th February.</p> <p>Julie Stockdale, David Hodge, Leader of the Council, Linda Kemeny, Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement and Maria Dawes, Head of School Excellence, have all sent their congratulations on our Ofsted result as did the Chair and governors from Tomlinscote.</p>	JL
7	<p>LEADERHIP REPORT</p> <p>JL presented the Leadership Report. She commented that when she had re-read her report prior to the meeting it was interesting to note that within the reports from the departments there were key words that were repeated such as 'challenge', 'inspire' and 'learning'. JL reminded the governors that the Heads of Faculty had highlighted the significant experiences that had ben offered to Kings students outside the curriculum.</p> <p>The KS2/KS3 co-ordinator went on a conference and felt that Kings were already at the cutting edge of best practice for transition.</p> <p>An Ofsted survey, 'The Wasted Years' confronted secondary schools about the challenge provided from KS2 to KS3. Kings surveyed Year 7 students to gain their views. The results seem positive. JL to circulate and will be discussed at the T&L Committee Meeting in February.</p> <p>Ofsted said that our students were making good progress at KS3.</p> <p>Governors noted the good triangulation shown between teaching, marking and students/teacher and pupils views.</p> <p>It was also commented by governors that it is easier in a small school to treat students as individuals.</p> <p>JL commented that the Ofsted Inspector had remarked that Kings would need to re think how to keep the small school feeling alive as Kings grew as he felt sure that it would!</p> <p>The Kings self-evaluation process continues to be undertaken with honesty and accuracy. Self evaluation will begin to be written against 'good 'and 'outstanding 'criteria.</p>	JL

	<p>Attendance for 'disadvantaged' is a focus from our SEF and Ofsted 'areas for improvement'. Tom Burns, Assistant Head, is putting in place clear strategies and systems to track attendance. The tracking sheets will show the impact of our actions.</p> <p><i>DB suggested assigning governors to key priority areas of Attendance and Gifted and Talented.</i></p> <p>BH volunteered to look at Attendance and MS to look at Gifted and Talented.</p> <p>Assessment – Life without levels – JW told governors that a working party has been set up with visits to other schools to look at the best way for Kings to move with the changes.</p> <p>JL noted that English and Maths now have levels 1-9. For current Year 10's a level 4 will be equivalent to a C, but for current Year 9's a level 5 will be needed in order to not resit the core subjects.</p> <p><i>MS asked about feeder schools and who advised their students on which secondary school to choose.</i></p> <p>School replied that nobody has that influence. Headteachers and teaching staff at primary schools are not allowed to give advice.</p> <p><i>MS said that the more people who are aware of Kings' facilities the better.</i></p> <p><i>DB agreed and said that this is a positive of having sporting facilities used by other schools.</i></p> <p>JL noted that Holly Lodge has been visiting to use the facilities and that other schools have used the drama studio.</p> <p><i>BH asked if after school clubs are well attended.</i></p> <p>JW replied that it is dependent on the club but as we are a small school there is a knock on effect of, for example, lots of students are involved in a drama production.</p> <p>Staffing update in addition to Leadership report. We are recruiting for a Maths and Geography teacher.</p> <p>The Imam is coming into visit the school, facilitated by the RS team.</p> <p>JL then asked if there was anything else that governors would like to see on the Leadership report.</p> <p><i>DB asked if there was anything negative to report as most items were overwhelmingly positive.</i></p> <p>JL replied that the only issue at present was uniform and was in hand.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>YEAR 11 TRACKING</p> <p>Students continue to be targeted to ensure at least expected progress. It is such a small cohort that for instance the drop in 5 A*-C English and Maths from the October figures to the present relates to just 2 students.</p> <p>The governors were reminded that this cohort was significantly below the national APS at KS2 but progress is good. The tracking will be looked at in more detail at the Teaching and Learning committee meeting</p> <p>1:1 has been put in place for both the able and less able students.</p> <p>DB congratulated Steve McGonnell on the easier to understand presentation of</p>	

	the tracking sheets.	
9	<p>COMMITTEES AND NOMINATED GOVERNOR REPORTS</p> <p>There were no minutes to be signed off as these had not been agreed by committees yet.</p>	
10	<p>OFSTED UPDATE</p> <p>Feedback from the Ofsted inspection was very positive. It is a tribute to the school, and to JL and the leadership team around her, that things ran so smoothly in JL's absence on the first day of the inspection. It showed the effectiveness of the way that authority has been delegated to the SLT from JL and that they have responded accordingly. In a small school it would be easy for there to be ill defined delegation - clearly not at Kings! It is strength of the school that the establishment functions independently of people; the systems are robust. GP congratulated staff that the issues raised on the first day were successfully evidenced on the second day.</p>	
11	<p>SUCCESSION PLANNING</p> <p>DB spoke about the fact that now the school has gained a 'good' from Ofsted, he will now be leaving at the end of the summer term. DB was asked if he felt there were any governors on the existing governing body with both the experience and time to take on the role. In his considered opinion there was one candidate who could take on the role – the current vice chair – but with her political ambitions she would not have the time. DB asked governors if anybody felt that they wanted, and would be suitable, to take on the role. No governors came forward.</p> <p>JL, in consultation with Babcock, has identified somebody with experience who would like to become a chair in this area. DB suggested that this person be co-opted from the beginning of the summer term and governors can then make a decision regarding the role of chair in September.</p> <p>DB also noted that succession planning needs to be considered by the governing body as a whole.</p>	
12	<p>CHAIRS' AND CLERKS' BRIEFINGS</p> <p>There has been no chairs' briefing this term.</p> <p>The clerks' briefing highlighted the need for Prevent training to be cascaded through the governing body and spoke about communicating expectations of their roles to governors.</p> <p>JM to send details of the Prevent training taking place on the Shape inset day to governors.</p> <p>JL will speak to JT regarding cascading of the training.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>JL</p>

13	<p>UPDATE OF COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE WITH SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT</p> <p>Governors accepted the amendments to committee ToRs with the new safeguarding statement and these will be signed by committee chairs and replace the previous versions.</p>	
14	<p>FINANCE POLICY</p> <p>A couple of minor amendments were made and the policy was then proposed by PG and seconded by GP.</p>	
15	<p>GOVERNORS CONSIDERED WHAT HAD BEEN DONE AT THIS MEETING THAT HAS IMPROVED THE EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL:</p> <p>A focus on able students. Assigned governors with specific responsibilities for Ofsted ‘areas for development’ Looked at the next steps towards making Kings an ‘outstanding’ school.</p>	
16	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>17th March at 4pm</p>	
17	<p>PART 2 BUSINESS</p> <p>On separate sheet.</p>	

Meeting closed 6.00 pm.