

Brookside Academy (327) – Board of Governors
Company Registration Number: 07641618 (England & Wales)



Minutes of the **Board of Governors** meeting held in Kangaroos and via Microsoft Teams, on Monday 25 April 2022. The meeting started at 6.00pm.

MEMBERS

✓ Clare Bolton (CB)	✓ Jenny Moore (JM)
✓ Stuart Clowes (SC)	✓ Jonathan Sansam (JSa)
✓ Colin Driscoll (CD)	✓ Julie Summerhayes (JS) (Chair)
✓ Helen Fisher (HF)	✓ Rob Sutherland (RS) (Vice Chair)
✓ Craig Harris (CH)	✓ Alex Tedford (AT)
✓ Martin Hooper (MH)	✓ Brian Walton (BW) (Headteacher)
✓ Helen Keast (HK)	✓ Adi Whatling (AW)

IN ATTENDANCE

✓ Sarah Ashford (SA) Deputy Headteacher	Sandra Cinicola (SC) Business Manager
✓ Greg Jones (GJ) Clerk to Governors	Chris Lane (CL) Assistant Headteacher

(✓ those present) (v = virtual attendance)

Minutes

No.	Item	Action
Governor Meeting – Opening Section Chaired by Julie Summerhayes (Chair of Governors)		
G71/21	<p><u>Spotlight on Inclusion</u></p> <p>The Headteacher (Brian Walton) gave a presentation on Inclusion at Brookside Academy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why - Equality vs Equity • Changes - Exclusions in Specialist Provision • Actions – Investment, SEND Green Paper • 3 Key Challenges <p>Governors discussed the recent expansion of Specialist Provision which is now at 50 children with challenging high needs.</p> <p>It was noted that the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings involved the Local Authority, Social Workers and Mental Health professionals and were different to the Team Around the Child / School meetings that are part of the next stage.</p>	
G72/21	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>a) Apologies for absence Martin Hooper</p>	

No.	Item	Action
	The Clerk advised that with 13 of the 14 Governors present the meeting was quorate.	
	<p>b) Declarations of Interest Rob Sutherland – Business Manager at Crispin School. Adi Whatling – Employee of Millfield School. (MAT update) Greg Jones – Company Secretary of Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust (MAT update)</p>	
G63/21	<u>Headteachers Report</u>	
	<p>a) Headteachers report The Headteacher (Brian Walton) gave a verbal update on items of interest to the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing There has been a good response to the Teaching jobs with interviews on the 5th May. <p>There has only been one application for the Assistant Headteacher role so far with another interested person looking around the school on Tuesday 26th April. Interviews are on 4th May. It was noted that the last 2 incumbents have both moved onto headship roles which should make the role more attractive.</p> <p>Governors discussed why there were fewer applications with greater competition for senior roles from MATS etc.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>A Governor asked what contingency was in place if the school was unable to make an appointment? The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher will cover the role.</p> </div>	
<p>Mainstream Teaching & Learning Section (T&L) Chaired by Craig Harris (Mainstream Teaching & Learning Lead)</p>		
T&L 14/21	<u>Outcomes and Assessment</u>	
	<p>a) Data overview in PP children (Spring 22) The Deputy Headteacher (Sarah Ashford) highlighted the main points of the Data Overview report circulated with the papers for this meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that the expected Average Depth score is 1.8 and that there are a significant number (30%) of children at 1.7 or 1.6 who are near to achieving the target score. Comparison to last years scores shows a significant improvement.</p> <p>Pupil Premium scores will change quickly due to the small numbers as children</p>	

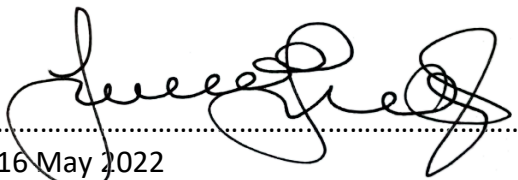
No.	Item	Action
	<p>move into the expected Average Depth.</p> <p>Maths lags behind Reading and Writing in Year 6 as there are still a lot of objectives to teach.</p> <p>After 2 disruptive years it was pleasing that the gap is closing. But children in years 5 and 6 are still at a lower score and need more help to make progress.</p> <p>It was noted that there is no National data against which to make comparisons until the SAT's results this year.</p> <p>No more Marking has provided confidence in the Handwriting results.</p> <p>A Governor asked if there had been any external moderation in Maths? The school is taking part in a No more Marking trial for Maths that has just started.</p> <p>There followed a discussion about how this will work with most focus on the working out rather than the final answer.</p> <p>The key point is that it will provide a comparison with other schools.</p> <p>The Standard Attainment Tests are taking place week commencing 11th May.</p> <p>b) Whole School group Average Depth data The Deputy Headteacher (Sarah Ashford) highlighted the main points of the Whole School group data report circulated with the papers for this meeting.</p> <p>Key Stage 1 – data is higher than the same time last year. Key Stage 2 – Pupil Premium writing is not yet at the level of Reading and Maths.</p> <p>Governors noted the small gap between boys and girls and the impact on the figures of children that have moved from other schools.</p> <p>c) Early Years data overview The Deputy Headteacher (Sarah Ashford) highlighted the main points of the Early Years data overview report circulated with the papers for this meeting.</p> <p>The National Baseline data measured in autumn 2021 was high and the children are still making good progress towards a Good Level of Development.</p> <p>A Governor asked about the interventions in place for children at a lower level? There are interventions for attendance and language.</p> <p>d) Phonics Update 72% of Year 1 are at the expected score of 32 or higher from a starting position of being 8 weeks behind in learning.</p> <p>e) No More Marking Year 6 have just completed No More Marking and some students have come out at a level of Year 9 (14 years old).</p>	

No.	Item	Action
	<p>A Governor asked why the previous teacher marking does not match the NmM results? Teachers noted that the scripts were what they would have expected with an average of 22 comparisons per script.</p> <p>The whole sample size was 51,000 pupils.</p> <p>Year 6 were ranked 10th in the whole country.</p> <p>Governors discussed what part the quality of the presentation made to the marking. Brookside scripts were mixed with other schools to validate the marking. Pupil Premium results were also higher than other schools.</p> <p>It was noted that there have been enough results now that the school is able to follow the progress of each pupil from year to year.</p> <p>Action – Produce an anonymised progress over time report for a future meeting.</p> <p>f) Emerging Readers</p> <p>The Deputy Headteacher (Sarah Ashford) highlighted the main points of the Early Readers report circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>This was an action from the previous OFSTED inspection and not as much progress has been made than expected.</p> <p>The Headteacher is now listening to children in the bottom 20% read in years 1 & 2. All children knew where to go and find a book and what level book they should be reading.</p> <p>All children are reading well and can sound out words using their phonics skills.</p> <p>Governors discussed the ability of children to read and sound out words leading into their comprehension of what is being read.</p> <p>It was noted that there are still some actions to complete in the report.</p> <p>A Governor asked if the interventions have been split into technical and comprehension? Reading becomes more guided as children move through the school with a greater focus on comprehension.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Children have been identified for interventions and recording of progress is taking place.</p>	BW
T&L 15/21	<u>Diminishing the Difference</u>	
	<p>a) Pupil Premium data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above 	
T&L 16/21	<u>Teaching & Learning</u>	
	<p>a) Reading Monitoring Report</p> <p>See above</p>	

No.	Item	Action
	<p>b) Nursery The Deputy Headteacher (Sarah Ashford) gave a verbal update on the Nursery.</p> <p>Staff have been incredibly flexible in supporting the operation of the Nursery at a high standard.</p> <p>A restructure is taking place to cover the maternity leave of the Supervisor with the 2 deputies acting as supervisors.</p> <p>Recruitment issues have eased as another local Nursery has closed and a Level 3 practitioner has returned from Maternity leave. Key workers have been offered more flexible hours to aid retention.</p> <p>A review is taking place of the staffing and space as more parents are seeking places at the nursery.</p> <p>Governors discussed the numbers for September 2022 and noted that they are better than September 2021 at this time of the year. Increasing staffing is OK but the issue will be increasing floor space to meet the required ratios.</p> <p>Governors recorded their thanks to all the school staff who stepped up to support the Nursery.</p> <p>c) Curriculum The Headteacher (Brian Walton) reported that the monitoring of the curriculum is at the 2nd stage with reviews of books in years 1,3,5 & 6. The action plan will be reviewed for strengths and gaps in the summer term.</p>	
T&L 17/21	<u>Themed Policies</u>	
	<p>a) Policy Grid The Clerk (Greg Jones) noted that there were no statutory policies for MTaL that require review</p> <p>b) Policies to approve None</p>	
Governor Meeting – Final Section Chaired by Julie Summerhayes (Chair of Governors)		
G74/21	<u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u>	
	<p>Colin Driscoll proposed that Governors approve the minutes of the meeting 28 March 2022. Seconded by Rob Sutherland and approved by all present. For: 13 Against: 0 Abstentions: 0</p>	

No.	Item	Action
	<i>[Governors not present at the meeting abstained from approving the minutes]</i>	
G75/21	<u>Papers for Information</u>	
	None	
G76/21	<u>Matters Arising</u>	
	<p>a) Multi Academy Trusts The visit to Bridgwater & Taunton College Trust will be on Monday 16th May with 6 (now 8) governors attending. <i>Julie Summerhayes, Brian Walton, Adi Whatling, Martin Hooper, Alex Tedford, Colin Driscoll, Stuart Clowes, & Rob Sutherland.</i></p> <p>A visit to the Wessex Learning Trust will be arranged.</p> <p>The paper on the proposed Millfield School MAT will be available as soon as it has been approved at their next Board meeting.</p>	
G77/21	<u>Governors Visits and Training</u>	
	<p>a) Governors Visits' to School JS – Fortnightly visit</p> <p>The Headteacher (Brian Walton) will follow up the participants for the governor walkthroughs.</p> <p>b) Governor Training The clerk noted that he has received the summer programme from SGS and will circulate it to governors.</p> <p>There is free training available online from Governors for Schools https://governorsforschools.org.uk/elearning/</p> <p>Webinars and training is also available from the National College</p>	
G78/21	<u>Procedural Matters</u>	
	None	

No.	Item	Action
G79/21	<u>Any Other Business</u>	
	<p>A letter from local MP (James Heappey) stating that there is no additional funding to cover the increases in energy costs was noted.</p> <p>Governors discussed that the school could not pass on the £1 a day increase in energy costs to parents.</p> <p>Governors discussed energy saving measures that could be used in the classrooms. The school could apply for a SALEX loan to replace the lighting with LED if it can demonstrate the level of saving needed to qualify.</p> <p>Governors recorded their thanks to Helen Keast for her work as a governors over the last 8 years.</p>	
G80/21	<u>Date, time, and place of the next meeting</u>	
	<p>The next meeting of the Board of Governors will be on Monday 16 May 2022 – SSB Kangaroos – Brookside Academy (There will be the option to join this meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams)</p> <p>All meetings will start at 6.00pm</p>	

	<p>Signed on behalf of the Governors of Brookside Academy</p>  <p>..... 16 May 2022</p>	<p>Signed on behalf of the Area Lead</p> <p><i>Craig Harris</i></p> <p>..... 16 May 2022</p>	

With no further business, the chair declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Action List

Agenda Item	Action	By Whom	Due Date
S04/21	Review of First Aid policy.	CL	07/02/22
S08/21	Review Sex Education	CL	16/05/22
G66/21	Fact finding visits to Millfield, Wessex Learning Trust, and Bridgwater & Taunton College Trust.	ALL	ASAP
T14/21e	Produce an anonymised progress over time report for a future meeting.	BW	18/07/22

Any business for the next Board of Governors meeting should be advised to the Chair of Governors.