



**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE BEDELSFORD LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
HELD VIRTUALLY ON
THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2022 at 5 pm**

Members of the LGB Present virtually: Julia James (Principal), Julia Darbyshire (Chair), Ashley Jordan-Diaper, Amit Kohli, Emmet Murphy, Sylviane Wolfer, Tammy Segala.

Also in attendance virtually: Katie Swire, Clerk to the LGB.

1 Welcome from the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided introductions for the benefit of the Clerk, who was attending her first meeting.

2 Apologies for Absence

The LGB noted that there were no apologies for absence.

3 Declarations of Interest and KCSIE Update

The LGB noted that Governors should complete their annual declarations of interest form on Governor Hub. Governors should also read Part 1 of the September 2022 version of the Keeping Children Safe In Education document and confirm that they have done so, via the confirmations tab on Governor Hub that sits alongside the declarations section on each individual's profile page. The Clerk shared her screen and provided a demonstration to governors to show them how to access the declarations section on Governor Hub to allow them to record the required updates.

4 Constitution and Appointments (Appendix 1)

- a The LGB agreed to re-appoint Julia Darbyshire as Chair of Governors for the forthcoming academic year (2022-23).
- b The LGB agreed to re-appoint Tammy Segala as Vice Chair of Governors for the forthcoming academic year (2022-23).
- c Governors reviewed the membership list for 2022-23 and noted that there are currently two vacancies on the LGB. The Clerk noted that she would discuss the two vacancies with the new Governance Manager to determine progress to fill the roles and liaise with the Principal and Chair as appropriate. **Action: Clerk**

5 Principal's Progress Report

The LGB received a verbal report from the Principal, in addition to the background papers shared on Governor Hub in advance of the meeting.

The Principal noted that the school had had a very difficult start to the academic year with the death of two pupils. As well as supporting staff, the school have actively been supporting the two families.

The Principal explained that due to the nature of the loss of the two children in close succession, external support from Educational Psychologists, as well as

the internal support team within OHCAT, had been requested to provide support to the whole school community, as well as those members of staff who worked closely with the two children. Support has also been provided to children in school via a Mental Health Co-ordinator and children have been encouraged to engage in discussions around what it feels like to lose a friend. Governors noted that the nature of the school provision means that the school community deals with grief more frequently, however, the last eighteen months had been unprecedented with the loss of seven children. As a result of this, the school is looking at ways to remember and honour children with a permanent memorial on the school premises.

The Principal provided a report on other areas of significance for the school, such as the reintroduction of the keyworker scheme and the financial position of the school. Having asked questions, governors noted that:

- The keyworker scheme has been reintroduced for all TA's to create a robust mechanism to ensure that the needs of each child are met each day.
- The objective and aims of the keyworker scheme, as outlined in the background papers were shared by the Principal in an on screen presentation. The key driver behind the scheme is to ensure that at least one member of staff understands, and is aware of the individual needs of key children assigned to them. This will enable the school to practice personalised care for children.
- Energy costs for this current year have risen exponentially with the current estimate forecasting a 350% rise in school energy costs compared to the previous year.
- The public sector pay increase for both teaching and support staff will also have an impact on this year's budget, as the nationally agreed awards are considerably higher than the school budgeted for. The Principal has discussed the salary increases with the OHCAT Finance Team and the school will be able to draw down on their financial reserves, as well as offset any backdated pay increases against last year's budget.

6 Link Classes for 2022/23

The LGB discussed the allocation of link classes for 2022-23 and agreed that the Clerk would compile a list of all classes across the school to circulate to governors to allow them to review the list and email their preferences for allocation this year. **Action: Clerk**

7 Dates of Future Meetings

The LGB noted the calendar of meetings for 2022-23, including a reminder of the OHCAT Governors Conference, as follows:

- **Pay Committee:** Thursday 20 October 2022 at 5pm (*Pay Committee members only*)
- **OHCAT Governors Conference:** 6 October 2022 at 9.30 am
- **LGB 2 Meeting:** Thursday 8 December 2022 at 5 pm
- **LGB 3 Meeting:** Thursday 30 March 2023 at 5 pm

- **LGB 4 Meeting:** Thursday 22 June 2023 at 5 pm

8 Confidentiality

The LGB agreed that there were no items deemed confidential that should be excluded from the published minutes or papers.

Meeting ended at 6.00pm.

Item no	Action	By Whom
4c	Clerk to discuss recruitment to current vacancies on the LGB with the Governance Manager and report back to the Chair and Principal.	Clerk
6	Updated list of Link Classes across the school to be circulated to governors and governors to email their individual preferences to the Clerk.	Clerk