

St Augustine's School

Governing Body Meeting

Tuesday 18th October 2016 at 6.00 pm

Item	Minute	Actions/matters arising
Present:	<p>Foundation Governors; Dr D. Swiers (Chair), Mrs M. Harriott, Fr. Pat Keogh; Head Teacher; Mr M. Taylor, Teacher Governor; Mr G. Welch, Parent Governors; Mrs J. Brierley and Mrs L. Blake, LA Governor Mrs L. Jeffreys By Invitation; Mr P. Griffin Deputy Head Teacher Clerk: Mrs S. Brown Apologies for Absence; Foundation Governors Mrs M. Baines, and Mrs E. Siddall (Vice Chair) and Mrs K. Boyes. 3 Core functions 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction 2. Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance of management of staff 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it is money well spent.</p>	
FGB 36 /16	Opening Prayer by Fr Keogh	
FGB 37/16	Governing Body Membership Mr Welch was thanked for his term of office. There will be a ballot for the staff governor vacancy.	
FGB 38/16	Apologies for absence Governors agreed consent to the apologies for absence.	
FGB /16	Declaration of interest To invite members to declare any interest in matters which are the subject of, or are connected with, any item of business on the agenda. No declarations were received.	
FGB /16	Confidential agenda items To consider if agenda items need to be treated as confidential and excluded from the published minutes. No confidential notes were taken	
FGB 30/16	Minutes of the last meeting. (Previously distributed) The minutes of the meeting held on 13 th June 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
FGB 31/16	Matters arising No matters arising.	
FGB 32/16	Strategic Improvement Group (SIG) Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated) 29 th September 2016 Governors agreed the minutes as true record with typing error amended.	
FGB 33/16	Review the Standing Orders of the School and the Code of Practice Governors accepted the standing orders and code of practice and will review again in 3 years unless changes are required.	
FGB 34/16	Register of Business Interests Governors present signed the business interest's form.	
FGB 35/16	Publication of Governor details and the Register of interests New governors present signed the register of interests form	
FGB 36/16	New disqualification Declaration October 2016 New governors present signed the disqualification declaration.	
FGB 37/16	The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) The Modern Foreign Language option required for EBacc was discussed to consider whether to delay the introduction of the compulsory option subject until 2018 in line with other schools.	

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	<p>Governors questioned whether this would affect staffing and the Head confirmed the MFL teacher concerned with increasing hours was happy to wait until 2018 having already gained extra teaching hours due to increased Y7 groups. Governors agreed this.</p>	
FGB 38/16	<p><u>Attendance & Exclusions</u> The Head reported attendance stood at 95.65% A persistent absentee pupil was now off roll and due to attend the PRS. The Deputy Head reported excitement amongst pupils regarding the 20 day 100% attendance challenge. Successful pupils will have the opportunity to win one of two sets of family ticket to the Alpamare swimming complex. Governors challenged the Head to improve attendance by .2% by the next meeting. 3 pupils have been excluded this term amounting to 4 days. One child with an Educational Healthcare Plan (EHCP) is finding school particularly challenging and many strategies have been put in place to help improve behaviour. Governors asked the Head to consider Rainbows, which is a counselling group in school.</p> <p><u>Multi Academy Trust (MAT) developments</u> The Head teacher reported that the latest proposal for MAT would be to have 3 regional MAT's- Northern, Central and South with St Augustine's in the central region along with 2 other secondary schools and 18/19 primary schools. Budgets and shared service possibilities was discussed.</p>	
FGB 39/16	<p><u>Middle Leaders:</u></p> <p>The Chair explained that it was felt good practice for governors and middle Leaders to meet, explain results, issues and development needs. Also to discuss Middle Leaders intentions to improve or enhance their role and discuss any issues within the department. Mr Welch Head of Faculty Technology spoke with governors explaining lots of changes in technologies and that IT had been replaced by Computer Science.</p> <p>He felt that lower than predicted grades were due in part to poor attitude by that cohort of pupils. Students with lower academic ability tended to choose technology options but struggled with portfolios of evidence. He felt there were too many time pressures on the students for all subjects .When parents of the pupils who failed to reach deadlines and were contacted they preferred their child to concentrate on English and Maths, or lacked interest in supporting them. Mr Welch also said the pupils work had been heavily scrutinised by the moderator. He had reduced marks but failed to given any reason for this. Mr Welch said there are no standardisation training sessions anymore for staff to confirm their marking is accurate.</p> <p>Mr Taylor felt that joining the MAT would merit shared good practice with other MAT secondaries as Trinity had gained strong results this year.</p> <p>The Food & Nutrition qualification replacing the Catering GCSE will be more theory focused and will have improved portfolios which have been weak in the past. More</p>	

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	<p>experimentation and testing /tasting is taking place. Predictions for 16/17 results were 70% .</p> <p>Governors challenged what changes had been made to improve results and were told that parents had already been invited in to school to discuss subject deadlines instead of in January when it was often too late. Governors asked if there were interim deadlines and Mr Welch confirmed this.</p> <p>Governors challenged whether there were rewards or incentives for completing portfolios and the Head was happy to allow this as long as the pupils who produced work on time were also rewarded.</p> <p>Mr Welch spoke about the new Technology specification which could question the pupil on any of the technologies so they would have to have a strong awareness of them all instead of specialising on one. This could make the subject almost impossible to pass.</p> <p>There is also a Technology Award where pupils will make a product and be marked on this. This has not yet been approved but looks likely to be.</p> <p>Governors asked about staff responsibility to ensure portfolio deadlines are met. Mr Welch said it was staff responsibility for their subject to deal with deadlines not met but if they came to him he would also try and get the pupil on track to complete.</p> <p>All technology staff stay behind and help the pupils get their work up to scratch and completed. Governors questioned how Mr Welch monitored staff. He said teachers displayed their mark books on the whiteboards during lessons so pupils and staff could see how everyone was working. He had many drop ins and in when not teaching there isn't an empty room so Technology staff tend to go in to other technology lessons and work from there or join in with the lesson.</p> <p>Governors asked if there was anything could be done to secure outstanding Middle Leadership at Ofsted inspections.</p> <p>Mr Welch thought discussing the questions asked by the inspectors to the teacher's involved would help them know what to expect.</p> <p>Governors thanked Mr Welch and felt they had a much better view of his Middle Leadership pole. It was agreed that Mrs Boyes be nominated link governor for Technology.</p>	
FGB 40/16	<p><u>Statutory documents and policies</u></p> <p>None reviewed</p>	

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FGB 41/16	<u>Governor visits to school</u> Mr Baines has visited the RE department	
FGB 42/16	<u>Governor training</u> The Head Teacher, Chair and Vice Chair all attended the Bishop's study day Mrs Brierley attended the Governor NYCC School Improvement Network (SIN) meeting	
FGB 43/16	<u>Appoint Link Governors</u> M. Baines RE / Chaplaincy D. Swiers- Child Protection D. Swiers-Health & Safety L. Blake - SENCo M. Harriott- English E. Siddall- Pupil Premium K. Boyes - Technology	
FGB 44/16	<u>Any Other Business</u> Governors asked the clerk to re-establish coloured minutes. Governors requested lanyard photographic identity badges so parents could identify them at meetings and open evening in the school	Clerk to arrange identity badges
FGB 45/16	The meeting closed at 7.00p.m.	
FGB 46/16	<u>Date of the next meeting</u> Strategic Improvement Group 4pm: 16th November 14th December 15th February 2017 22 nd March 26th April 17th May 12 th July 2017 Full Governing Body meeting: 6pm: Spring 17th January 2017 Summer 13th June	