

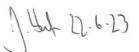
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COURT SCHOOL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2023 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT: G Hunt (Chair), D Sargent (Vice Chair), A Griffiths, C Gibbon, S Jenkins, G Webb, E Powell, and J Beesley (Headteacher)

APOLOGIES: S Bounds, J Shimmin

ALSO PRESENT: E Gudgeon (Clerk) and C Joy (Deputy Headteacher - observer)

Minute		Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies for absence.	
1.1	The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting.	
	C Jones was thanked for her hard work and dedication in her role as Clerk and E Gudgeon was welcomed as the new Clerk for the remainder of the academic year.	
1.2	The meeting was quorate.	ş
2.	Declaration of interest in agenda items.	
2.1	There were no declarations.	
	JB asked EG to step out of the room at the end of the meeting.	
3	Approval of draft full governing body minutes.	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting on 30 th November 2022	
	were approved as a true and accurate record and would be	
	signed by the Chair pending the following corrections:	
	Minute 4.4 (Page 2) – 'court hearing' replaces 'court heating'.	
4	Matters Arising	
4.1	AG had not received a copy of the business interests form. EG to	EG
	contact Ruth Lock to request a copy and forward on to AG.	
4.2	An old copy of the school's behavioural policy is showing on the website. Headteacher to action the new policy being added.	JB
4.3		



	AG confirmed sex education would not be removed in any form from the curriculum, and the only current alternative for those wishing their child not to receive this education is home educating.	
4.4	JB shared that the school's caretaker, C. Hole would be returning to the role after half term. Thanks were given to D Evans for stepping in.	
5	Governor Vacancies.	
5.1	There are currently 4 Governor vacancies – 1 Parent, 1 LA and 2 Community posts.	
,	GH contacted R. Lock who stated she had an LA Governor in	
	mind, but no name had been suggested.	
	JB shared he had been approached by a Parent who was	
	interested in filling the position, and had someone in mind for a community position, C McBratney.	
	GW wished to raise a point regarding gender imbalance, as	
	females outnumbered males.	
	CG shared that they have no male members on their Governing	
	body, and GH felt there was a greater need for Governors over their gender.	
5.2	Committees	
	A review of the committees took place with a view to filling vacancies.	
	Staff Disciplinary/Grievance Appeal	
	EP was asked to consider joining the panel. AG would contact EP	AG
	to discuss what the committee entailed.	
	Pupil Discipline and Exclusions—	
	No changes required.	
	Performance Management of HT and Pay review No changes required.	
	Performance Management of HT Appeals and Pay Review Appeals	
	AG to join.	

N. by 22.6.23

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	<u>Complaints</u>	
	AG and EP to join.	
	<u>Finance</u>	
	1 Vacancy	
	Curriculum & Standards	
	CG and GH to join.	
5.3	DS requested an up-to-date Safeguarding & Child Protection	In
	policy documentation. JB to send.	JB
6.	Headteacher's report including updates on the implementation of the new Curriculum for Wales	
6.1	The report is lengthy but is necessary as the quality of	
	information shared with Governors is important.	
6.2	JS is now back in work and has been for a while on a reduced timetable.	
6.3	The work of Teaching Assistants within the school is unbelievable. It is recognised that they work so hard for poor pay. Some TA's have left the profession because pay is better elsewhere. I am trying to work with SWASHH to make a change.	
6.4	Applications for advertised positions have been received from existing staff at the school who are currently supplied by agencies.	
	The Grade 3 and Grade 4 positions will be shortlisted on the 27 th	
	February if anyone can assist. GH and AG offered to support.	
	It is hoped to conduct interviews on 2 nd March, which is a strike day. AG could assist.	
	Once a re-structure has been completed, a Grade 5 position will be advertised.	
6,5	One psychology student is with us at present and it is hoped we will be able to recruit more in the future.	
6.6	Training sessions are continuing to take place with recent sessions covering Makaton sign language and Rights Respecting Schools.	
	A 2 day Team Teach package is due to be delivered and it is likely that twilight sessions will run for the second day to free up the 24 th July.	

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6.7	The School Improvement Plan has been included in the HT report as it is an evolving document, so is regularly updated.	
6.8	A consortium meeting is due to take place on March 2 nd at the end of the day with G. Howell. GW asked if staff could attend this meeting? JB explained that as performance would be discussed, it would not be appropriate for staff to attend.	
6.9	Healthy Eating is something that is difficult to encourage here. A box of fresh fruit is purchased every Monday, which is offered to pupils. GW challenged the weekly shopping list that is shared with every class within the school as it offers biscuits and crisps as options.	
	AG shared that her child was bribed with sweets for a time, which goes against healthy eating encouragement and promotion.	
	CG shared that all the school can do is promote healthy eating options and JB asked that the Governing Body explain to Estyn that the school do promote healthy eating.	
6.10	Learning Walks & Governing Body Open Days will take place on the 13 th and 17 th March. 13 th March: GH to attend. 17 th March: AG, CG and EP to attend.	
	JS and SB to be asked to attend on 13 th March.	
	SJ mentioned staff want to get to know the Governing Body so the open days are very welcome.	
6.11	The school's budget currently has a £24,000 carry forward and the most desirable staff structure has been discussed. We are pushing for a better, enhanced budget.	
6.12	Pupil Progress will be reflected upon at the next meeting.	
6.13	Pupil behaviour pre-Christmas was easier than it has been post-Christmas. January 31 st was a very difficult day. Members of staff were off for PPA, off site for training or off due to days owed. This impacted our pupils, and 1 pupil did receive a 1-day exclusion.	

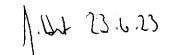
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	It is worth stating that changes to pupil's medications do make a difference and we do recognise that positive handling does	
	happen a lot. AG is happy to visit school to discuss this and learn about the	
	systems the school uses and the techniques that have been	
6.14	taught.	
	Dates for the next Governing Body Meetings	
	23 rd March	
	10 th May 28 th June	
7.	Committee Reports	-
7.1	JS provided a H & S report via email as he was unable to attend	
	this meeting. The email mentions the following points that were	
	raised during a recent walk around of the school site.	
	There is still water ingress into the staff room. JB reports	
	the council say they need warmer weather to fix it, but it	
	really could do with being properly patched in the short	
	term. Nothing forthcoming from the council on that matter.	
	 Council as landlord still not acted on some things, e.g. 	
	fixing the fence along the playground.	
	 Throughout the site there are some small things which 	
	need to be fixed, i.e. light fixings, finger guards on doors.	
	The council need to be called for some but others can be	
	done in house. Might take a little longer with temporary caretaker.	
	 Temporary caretaker is doing a good job, but time is 	
	limited and there are certain legal checks they need to use that time on.	
	 2 new wooden playground pieces are a big hit with the pupils. 	
	 Generally the site is in a good shape (well, considering! Nothing big to worry about). 	
7.2	A site inspection checklist from C. Kitchen is shared with the school.	
8.	Review School Improvement Plan (SIP)/Self-Evaluation (SE) Plan Progress	
8.1	This has been covered within the Headteacher's report	
9.	Safeguarding	
9.1	On Friday prior to an inspection the police were called using the 999 number (as opposed to 101) to report a Parent who was	

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	abusive. No charges were brought against the Parent and there was no damage to property.	
	CJ added the situation was dealt with very well and Staff were fantastic.	
	CG asked if the school has a lockdown policy.	
	JB explained the school does, but it is a little different to what	
	may be expected as the school site has magnetic locks on all	
	entrance/exit doors already.	
10.	Policy Review	
10.1	AG requested copies of the policies be sent to her.	
10.2	The policies are:	
	- Accessibility Plan	
	- Complaints	
	- Curriculum	
	- Healthcare needs - Whistleblowing	
10.3	The accessibility plan has been worked on by CJ.	
10.4	The complaints procedure is a Welsh Government policy that has had information such as the school's details added.	
	The Governing Body confirmed they were happy to adopt the Welsh Government's policy.	
10.5	The curriculum policy is an approved document that CJ & RF have	
	worked on. The Governing Rody confirmed they were harmy to account this	
	The Governing Body confirmed they were happy to accept this policy.	
10.6	The healthcare needs policy is a local authority policy that CJ has	
	worked on.	
	The Governing Body confirmed they were happy to accept this policy.	
10.7	The Governing Body confirmed they were happy to accept the Whistleblowing policy.	
11.	Governor Training and development including compliance with mandatory training.	·
11.1	EG is to liaise with R. Lock regarding SJ & DS Level 2 safeguarding.	EG
11.2	AG has completed the following training:	
	- HT Performance - ALN	

J. W. 23.6.23

	- Developing Welsh in Education	
1.5	- Enabling Equality & Excellence	-
12.	Correspondence	
12.1	JS provided an email which contained his report from the	
	previous Health and Safety walkaround	
13	Any Other Business	
13.1	AG has met with CJ to discuss IDP's and was reassured that school	
	IDP's are more robust. There are plans for a database to be	
	created that will log any changes that are made, and every pupil	
	will have their own profile.	
13.2	AG discussed the matter of domestic abuse support and	
	mentioned meeting with Lesley from Spectrum. Previous training	
	which was offered approximately 6 years ago upset children	
	greatly and was deemed to be very triggering.	
	It would be possible for training to be offered to Parents and/or	
	Governors and asked if training could take place during one of	CI
	the school's Parent and Carer coffee mornings.	
-	It was felt that it would be more appropriate to offer a session separate to the coffee morning. The deputy head will action this.	
	separate to the conee morning. The deputy head will action this.	
13.3	A Directors briefing with the Chair of Governors is due to take	
	place on the 7 th March and the 8 th June. GH will report back if	
	anything arises.	ļ
13.4	Governors Annual Training set for 25 th March.	
13.5	The Governors Annual report will be shared within a meeting.	
13.6	Suggestions for new school names	
	- Ysgol Afon/Elas (River/Blue)	
	- Ysgol Cynefin (Habitat, Safe, Home)	
	 Ysgol Cynefin West 	
	Ysgol Cynefin East	
	The general consensus was for Ysgol Cynefin West/East	
13.7	CJ reported on the looked after children within the school. CJ	
	explained that where there was an unauthorised absence it was	
	generally because there had been no communication from the	
	pupil's family, and so no reason had been provided for the	
	absence. EG provided a report to CJ each week showing which	
	pupils had been absent that week and if a reason for absence had	
	been given.	:
13.8		
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	GH thanked AG, CG and SB for their recent attendance at a staff disciplinary hearing and shared that a report has been submitted. There are some measures that need putting into place and will be acted upon.	
	DS asked why there was such a delay. GH stated there were a number of factors and was very conscious that a lot of time had passed.	
14.	Calendar of meeting.	
14.1	23rd March 2023	
	10th May 2023	
	28th June 2023	
18.	Determination of matters to be regarded as confidential.	
18.1	HT Pay Decision	

J.M 23.6.53