

**The Court School**  
**Full Governing Body Meeting**  
**Tuesday 25 March 2025**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 25 March, 2025
<b>Venue:</b>	The Court School
<b>Present:</b>	Cllr. Garry Hunt (GH) (Chair), LA Governor Amy Griffiths (AG) (Vice Chair), Parent Governor Tanya Griffiths (TG), Parent Governor Chloe McBratney (CM), Community Governor Ceri Gibbon (CG), Community Governor Sarah Jenkins (SJ), Teacher Governor Glynis Webb (GW), Staff governor Jamyn Beesley (JB), Headteacher Pam Cotter (PC), Clerk
<b>Not Present:</b>	Christine Murrell (CM), Parent Governor Naveed Chaudhry (NC), LA governor
<b>Observing</b>	Caroline Joy (CJ), Deputy Headteacher James Perkins (JP), Teacher Governor Neil Percell (NP), ??
<b>Apologies</b>	Denise Sargent (DS), Community Governor Cllr. Jon Shimmin (JS), LA Governor Emma Powell (EP), Parent Governor

Item	Discussion/Actions	Owner
1.	<b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b>	
1.1	GH welcomed governors to the meeting.	

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1.2	Apologies had been received from Emma, Denise and Jon. Christine was not present and Naveed Chaudery was not present due to being missed of the distribution list	
1.3	The meeting was quorate.	
2.	<b><u>Declaration of Interest on items on the agenda</u></b>	
2.1	No interests in items on the agenda were declared.	
3.	<b><u>Approval of Minutes of previous meeting</u></b>	
3.1	<b><u>Accuracy</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Insert the Estyn recommendations at page 5</li> </ul>	
3.2	Minutes from 11 February were agreed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.	
4.	<b><u>Matters arising</u></b>	
4.1	Item 5: GH had not emailed the LA regarding staffing, but it was noted that JB has been in discussions with the LA and has a meeting 4 February with Jennie Hughes and others, including a senior finance representative.	
4.2	Page 4: Noted that the second psychology student is back in both are doing really well. SJ briefly updated that there will be more students starting in September and JB noted that it is pleasing to see the good numbers of students applying to the program that the school runs; JB further noted that the feedback from students has been incredible in terms of how life changing the experience has been for them and how they gain valuable experience.	
4.3	<b>Action: SJ invite students to the next GB meeting</b>	

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4.4	JP noted that there is a requirement to give 28 days notice for educational visits	
4.5	<b>Action: Bring an updated version of the Educational Visits Policy to the next FGB meeting for approval from governors.</b>	
4.6	There were no other matters arising that could not be dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.	
5.	<b><u>Safeguarding update - JB</u></b>	
5.1	JB advised governors that they continue to have lots of involvement with Children Services. JB further advised that there is one ongoing case with daily interactions with Children Services and social workers and that communication and dialogue continues.	
5.2	JB noted that he triages incidents recorded on MyConcern, which he goes back to for a deep dive, which ensures better awareness of what's going on.	
5.3	<b><u>CLA update - CJ</u></b> CJ provided an update on the three learners who are CLA.	
5.4	GH invited questions. There were no questions.	
6	<b><u>Update on Progress meetings - CJ and NP</u></b>	
6.1	CJ and NP shared a presentation on Progress.	
6.2	NP provided an overview of how the progress meetings have been adjusted from the previous SEN system to the new ALN system, incorporating Estyn recommendations and comments around tracking progress towards the intended outcomes.	

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6.3	<b>Qu: How have you established the distribution of intended outcomes at the school?</b>	
6.4	<b>Ans: The sizes of the circles represent the data from the table relating to the intended outcomes that staff set</b>	
6.5	<b>Qu: Does the system get it right in terms of BESD; are the right children coming into the school?</b>	
6.6	<b>Ans: the system doesn't always get it right or provide for all of the ALN areas of need.</b>	
6.7	Governors thanked NP for the interesting presentation.	
7.	<b><u>Key updates for Finance, Health &amp; Safety and Staffing - JB</u></b>	
7.1	<u>Finance</u> JB advised governors that for this academic year there was a governor approved budget of £337k deficit which will roll into the next academic year. JB further advised governors that there will be a deficit budget £360K in the next academic year, which reflects the ongoing issue of how the school is funded. JB noted that he and GH have continuous conversations about this.	
7.2	JB advised that he will continue to have ongoing discussions with the LA about the budget and GH noted that they have not been advised by the LA that they are doing anything wrong and the LA advises that they are doing well. JB highlighted that they make savings where they can and can demonstrate this to the LA.	
7.3	JB informed governors that the LA are doing exploratory work and reviewing ALN across the authority.	
7.4	JB highlighted to governors that they have the budget for this year but are moving into a different staffing structure, further	

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	highlighting that they will be moving onto two sites, a decision made by the LA, which requires duplicate staffing infrastructures.	
7.5	JB informed governors that he has been advised by the LA that the new school will open in February 2026 with 48 pupils, 60 pupils in September 2026 and 72 pupils in January 2027.	
7.6	JB advised that the LA has requested a £10k clawback from the school in respect of MSF. JB advised governors that the school has paid in approximately £32k this year, and is expected to pay in between £42k and £45k next year with the likelihood of a clawback too.	
7.7	CG noted that JS had advised that he will raise the issue of MSF day 6 funding on Thursday 27 March at Full Council and report back to governors.	
7.8	<u>Health &amp; Safety</u> JB last met with the LA Health & Safety officer on 18 February. They will meet again on 23 May.	
7.9	JB shared an email from the H&S officer following his visit which confirmed that he had carried out a Health & Safety audit, noting that there was a shortage of sockets and extensive use of extension leads in classrooms. A shortfall in H&S induction of staff was further noted which JB advised are carried out but not recorded.	
7.10	JB has been advised by the H&S officer to scan over to him evidence when actions are completed so that the school remains compliant.	

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7.11	JB noted that Chris, caretaker, is very good at picking up and completing actions required to maintain compliance with H&S; JB is grateful to Chris for his contributions to maintenance work which has resulted in a cost savings.	
7.12	<p><u>Staffing</u></p> <p>JB thanked EP for help with TA interviews. JB advised governors that there are still vacancies, and that his intention is to get as many agency staff centrally employed as possible, rather than keeping them on agency contracts. JB explained that this would help with consistency, that many agency staff are asking to be employed centrally. JB also noted that the LA would cover the increase in NI for centrally employed staff.</p>	
7.13	JB advised that Neil Purcell is leaving his Outreach role and moving to an emotional wellbeing role within the LA.	
7.14	JB requested support on 3rd April afterschool for interviewing	
7.15		
7.16	<p><b>Action: PC circulate the email for 3rd April</b></p> <p>JB informed governors that he has been advised that the new school will open in February 2026, and he has an urgent meeting on April 4th with the LA regarding staffing structures. .</p>	
8	<p><b><u>Meeting the Needs of All/Our Journey @ the Court School</u></b></p> <p><b><u>(PowerPoint presentation)</u></b></p>	
8.1	SJ and JB presented this twice over the last few weeks, once at an ALN conference and again to central teams.	
8.2		

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8.3	<p>JB shared the presentation on Changing our Mindset - Meeting the Needs of All, reflecting on the journey of The Court School.</p> <p>GH invited comments and questions. Governors agreed it is good to promote the school and its improving reputation, sharing good practice that the school has developed.</p>	
9.	<b><u>Governor training and development including compliance with mandatory training</u></b>	
9.1	Clerk reminded those who have not yet completed their mandatory training, to please do so.	
10.	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	
10.1	None.	
11.	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
11.1	Need an open day in place for governors to visit the school.	
11.2	<p>New buildings update from the LA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirement to finalise HR structure</li> <li>• Caretaker is required on each site</li> <li>• Work with Lloyd, graffiti ideas</li> <li>• JB has forthcoming meetings regarding bike containers, ICT infrastructure, contracts list, branding including apparel.</li> </ul>	
12.	<b><u>Date and time of next meeting</u></b>	
12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer 1 – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Amy joining virtually</li> <li>• Summer 2 – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025</li> </ul>	
13.	<b><u>Determination of matters to be regarded as confidential</u></b>	
13.1	Staff governors left the meeting	
13.2	Item discussed under confidential.	

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