



MINUTES of the GARRAS LGC MEETING

Thursday 13th July 2023 5.30pm @ the school

Item	Subject	Action
1	<p>Governors present: (V = virtual attendance)</p> <p>Nathaniel Hobbs – Chair (NH) Laura Murgatroyd (LM) Emma Rayner (ER) James Sturges – Head of School (JS) Lisa Williams (LW) V</p> <p><i>Also present:</i> Pat Nicholas – Governance Professional</p>	<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Michael Davidson (MD) Leona Lugg (LL)</p> <p>*Governors noted that this was to be MD’s final LGC meeting and offered their sincere gratitude to Michael for his long service as a governor at the school.</p>
2	Conflicts of Interest	
2.1	Staff governors declared an interest as paid members of staff. No new interests were declared.	
3	Approval of minutes from the last meeting 18.5.23	
3.1	The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18 th May 2023 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.	
4	Matters arising	
4.1	All actions from the last meeting were completed.	
5	Head teacher’s report - verbal	
5.1	Budget meeting – the initial budget setting meeting was held with Linda May and Sean Pinhay. JS attended a second budget meeting only to answer queries about staffing.	
5.2	Governors were updated on the headship arrangements for September.	
5.3	<p>KS1 and KS2 SATs results –KS1 results were 67% for maths (including 11% GDS), for writing 56%, and reading 67% (including 22% GDS).</p> <p>Q: In terms of attainment and social skills, what year group has been most affected by covid? A: Years 5 and 6 missed much of their learning in years 3 and 4; effectively half of their KS2 education. In addition, the lack of social interaction has affected their relationships with the other children as well as their resilience.</p>	
5.4	<p>KS2 results were writing 67% (including 11 % GDS). Writing was externally moderated this year and very successful. JS thanked the KS2 class teachers on the hard work done with writing this year.</p> <p>Reading was 89% (including 44% GDS). Maths was 44 % (including 11% GDS). This was as expected, with one child very close to the pass mark. This figure is slightly up on last year (37.5%). Governors heard that</p>	

	<p>White Rose is beginning to have an impact, and the school continues to build up the attitudes to learning following covid. Grammar was just below national averages with GDS at 11%. Y4 Multiplication check– Garras is top of the Trust schools with an overall score of 23.5 out of 25. Year 1 phonics screening was 89%, well above national averages.</p> <p>Q: Will any of these results filter into the SDP? A: JS has RAG (red, amber, green) rated the SDP, and is currently waiting to meet with the SIP. Maths remains a priority especially KS2, and Little Wandle will carry over in terms of interventions. Curriculum also remains a priority, especially developing the foundation curriculum with an expert across the schools. Leadership still a priority due to the changes. TL (Tamsin Lamb, Director of Education) is happy with these priorities.</p> <p>Q: How would it work across the 5 schools when a subject lead needs to have detailed knowledge of the lowest achieving 20% of children? A: Each individual school can still use the expertise of its own staff.</p>	
5.5	Staffing in Sept – Mrs Hains is leaving the school, and we are currently recruiting to find a TA to support additional needs in Eagle Owls from September. The shortlisting will take place on Monday (17 th) afternoon and the interviews will take place on Wednesday (19 th) morning, both at Halwin School.	
5.6	<p>Governors expressed concern about the latest 6% teacher pay rise considering the tight school budgets. JS explained that the government will fund 3% of the pay increase.</p> <p>Governors agreed to ensure that Garras can fund its own projects, from its own surplus, given the pooling of funding that Crofty undertakes (GAG pooling). Staffing hours are protected by TUPE for the coming year only.</p>	
5.7	<p>Q: When will the performance data be available? A: These will come from the County Corestats team in September.</p>	
5.8	<p>Attendance – letters will be sent out next week to the parents of children whose attendance is under 95%. Overall, attendance is improving and overall is the best in the trust.</p> <p>Q: Have any fines been imposed? A: No. While the Crofty policy is robust, the guidance from the EWO (Education Welfare Officer) is unclear. Governors feel that persistent absence and the possible imposition of fines needs to be administered centrally.</p>	
	NH thanked JS for his report.	
6	Pupil outcomes and the curriculum	
6.1	Covered under item 5, head teachers report.	
7	Safeguarding	
7.1	LL has updated the safeguarding matrix and the final report was circulated at the meeting.	
7.2	The s157 audit has been submitted.	
7.3	There is no requirement for governors to undertake Tier 2 safeguarding training.	

8	Governor monitoring	
8.1	<p>Monitoring plan for 23/24- a copy was circulated; governors agreed to adopt the plan for the coming year.</p> <p>Governors discussed the differences between Southerly Point and Crofty MAT in terms of the requirements for governor monitoring.</p>	
8.2	<p>Staff wellbeing follow up (MD) 3.7.23</p> <p>Governors received and noted the report.</p>	
8.3	<p>Governors recorded their concerns about being able to raise issues and/or frustrations about the Trust with TL at their meetings. Staff may be unable to be as frank as they would wish. It is unclear, as yet, how many meetings the executive head teacher will be attending through the year.</p>	
9	Governor training	
9.1	<p>LL has completed Tier 2 safeguarding training. At a recent Chairs meeting, TL informed those present that Tier 2 training was not essential for governors.</p> <p>Governor Induction training will take place on Tuesday 3rd October 2023 from 5-6pm at Tolvadden.</p> <p>Monitoring and other governor training is planned for the coming year.</p>	
10	Trust updates	
10.1	<p>Board minutes 16th May</p> <p>Governors received and noted the minutes.</p>	
10.2	<p>Governor expenses policy</p> <p>Governors received and noted the travel and expenses policy.</p>	
11	Governors impact on the pupils	
11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitoring standards by carrying out regular governor visits, and planning monitoring for the next academic year. ● Monitoring staff wellbeing by keeping in touch regularly with the staff and Head of School. ● Ensuring effectiveness by actively seeking new governors. ● Improving skills and knowledge by attending relevant training. 	
12	Feedback to the Trustees	
12.1	<p>Governors wished to receive further clarification on the leadership for September, and the roles and responsibilities of the Head of School in the new arrangements.</p>	
	<p>AOB</p> <p>Pupil survey – JS is pleased with the results overall. Governors wished to make three observations about the results.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is almost impossible to get any real meaning when the results are not divided by key stage/year group. 2. The number expressing anxiety about the behaviour of other children, and what that could represent. 	

	<p>3. With no comparative data the results are difficult to interpret. JS explained the recent 'tweaks' to the behaviour policy, and a discussion followed.</p> <p>Governors agreed to have staff wellbeing as a standing item on future agendas.</p> <p>Governors agreed to approach the parish council to see if anyone is interested in joining the LGC as a community governor.</p>	
	<p>Dates of next meetings: Thursday 28th Sept 2023 5.30pm</p>	
	<p>Meeting finished at 7.05pm</p>	