



## MINUTES of the GARRAS LGC MEETING

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 5pm @ the school

Item	Subject	Action	
1	<p><b>Governors present:</b> (V = virtual attendance)</p> <p>Michael Davidson - Vice Chair (MD)(V)            Nathaniel Hobbs - Chair (NH)            Leona Lugg (LL)            James Sturges - Head of School (JS)</p> <p><i>Also present:</i>            Pat Nicholas – Governance Professional</p>	<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Laura Murgatroyd (LM)            Lisa Williams (LW)</p> <p>Lisa Coupland – awaiting DBS check            Emma Rayner – to join LGC as staff governor</p>	
2	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b>		
2.1	Staff governors declared an interest as paid members of staff. No new interests were declared.		
3	<b>Approval of minutes from the last meeting 9.2.23</b>		
3.1	The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chair.		
4	<b>Matters arising</b>		
4.1	There were no matters arising and no actions from the last meeting.		
5	<b>Head teacher's report - verbal</b>		
5.1	Staffing - Mrs Sophie Anthony was appointed as TA in the Barn Owls class and has taken up the post.		
5.2	Tom Price has handed in his notice and will leave on the 31 <sup>st</sup> March. A trust advert had gone out earlier in the day for a fixed term contract to support a pupil with an EHCP. Supply cover has been secured for the first two weeks of the summer term in case recruitment is unsuccessful.		
5.3	<p>Attendance - the attendance and exclusions summary report up to February 2023 shows that Garras has the best attendance of all the Crofty schools. This figure is all the more impressive given that Garras is also the smallest of the Crofty schools. JS was grateful for the support given by the EWO (Education Welfare Officer).</p> <p>Governors also noted the fact that Garras is one of only a handful of Crofty schools whose attendance is above the national average.</p>		
5.4	Behaviour - there are some low level concerns in school but staff are working closely with pupils and parents to address these.		
5.5	JS was invited to take part in interviews for a SENDCo at Porthleven School.		

5.6	<p>A SILC+ (School Improvement Leadership Cycle Plus) visit will take place at Garras on Monday 20th March. The visit will focus on the new phonics (Little Wandle) and Maths (White Rose) programmes; JS will seek support from the external advisor (an ofsted inspector) to ensure that the school can offer an outstanding curriculum. Governors discussed curriculum delivery in mixed age classes versus those in one or two form entry classes.</p> <p>NH thanked JS for his report.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Pupil outcomes and the curriculum</b>	
6.1	<p>There were no data updates for this meeting. JS told governors of the new tracking system 'Sonar' which replaces the previous Jason Hurr system. Staff training has been arranged.</p> <p>Q: What is the regime for data drops and assessments? The end of key stage assessments and phonics screening happen as usual. Teacher assessments will be added to Sonar, however the new system doesn't match up exactly with Jason Hurr system. Sonar assesses against 4 areas; 'above', 'at (expected)' 'just at' and 'below'. JS explained the differences between the two systems and how teachers can best manage these differences.</p> <p>Governors will each get their own Sonar log in to see the data.</p> <p>Q: How are the results of the PiRA and PUMA assessed? These are tests, but teacher assessments are included alongside the test results.</p> <p>Q: How are Trust outcomes measured against the data drop? Trust outcomes look at data for the Trust as a whole.</p> <p>The school will purchase a new interactive maths scheme (to replace Mathletics) called 'Maths Whizz'. The software is able to assess a child's maths skills and adapt the programme accordingly, and aims to create a more rounded mathematician. Training for staff has been booked in.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Safeguarding</b>	
7.1	LL will complete her safeguarding report with pupil monitoring.	
7.2	<p>The Trust DSL has completed the visit postponed from the 8th February.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site safety is an issue from Crofty's perspective, citing that there should be a 'it could happen here' approach. JS assured governors that the school and staff are not complacent and take site safety very seriously, and is updated regularly at the weekly staff meetings.</li> </ul> <p>Q: Are Crofty saying that fencing will be erected? Yes, but the land is not owned by the school and so it is not likely to be an easy matter. Governors heard that fencing was part of the discussion with Southerly Point in 2021 when planning for completion of the remaining work on the outdoor area.</p> <p>Q: Will the erection of security fencing mean changes to drop off and pick up arrangements? This will be up to the school to determine, but the DSL visit has already prompted new arrangements for morning drop off, which were explained to the meeting.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Governor monitoring</b>	
8.1	Governors were reminded of the 6 key areas; Safeguarding, Attendance and exclusions, Curriculum and pupil outcomes, Provision for SEND / Pupil Premium, Staff development / welfare and Parental engagement.	

8.2	Governors agreed to cover the proposed network groups at the next summer meeting.	
8.3	The safeguarding report will include the actions from the Trust DSL lead report at the next summer term meeting.	
8.4	NH will carry out an attendance monitoring visit.	
8.5	LM will carry out a classroom monitoring visit in the summer term and tie this in with an SEND visit.	
8.6	A survey for staff is planned; this will be carried out online and managed centrally, and the results shared with governors.	
8.7	MD will complete a visit to monitor staff welfare through the move to Crofty MAT.	
8.8	<b>Action: PN to finalise monitoring dates in the diary, then update the monitoring schedule and circulate.</b>	PN
8.9	At the first summer term meeting, governors agreed to prepare the monitoring planning for the 23/24 academic year.	
<b>9</b>	<b>Governor training</b>	
9.1	NH attended the governor induction training on the 27th February.	
9.2	JS will lead Tier 2 safeguarding training for governors in school from 3.30pm-6pm on the 16th March.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Trust updates</b>	
10.1	<p>The meeting discussed the plans to appoint an executive head teacher for Garras and Godolphin from September 2023. Lucy Wandless will be full time head at Illogan School from the summer term, with the head at Sithney and Trannack taking on the interim headship at Godolphin for the same period. JS will return to his role as Assistant head at Garras, once the new head takes up post.</p> <p>Governors raised and discussed a number of concerns, chiefly the lack of communication from Trust leaders in relation to the announcement and the impact on the heads relief staff. There was also no consultation with the LGC. JS was offered a sincere personal apology from Tamsin Lamb about the way the matter was handled. Governors were pleased to learn that NH had agreed to be on the interview panel for the recruitment of the executive head.</p>	
10.2	<p>NH highlighted items from the latest Trust board meeting minutes, which were likely to impact on Garras.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It was agreed to investigate exactly what changes had been made to the Trust complaints policy.</li> <li>● The Trust is looking to renew the lease with the Trelowarren Estate, or purchase the land if they can secure funding from the RDD. NH will request a meeting to get an update on the status of this issue.</li> <li>● There are concerns that Crofty's pooling of all schools funding could have an impact on Garras' reserves. The Trust has reported a significant budget overspend at Trust level and so there are plans to reduce the deficit over the next 12-24 months. Governors expressed concerns regarding what this may</li> </ul>	

	<p>mean for Garras Schools budget. Garras governors agreed to continue to monitor Trust plans for reducing the deficit in order to ensure Garras school receives the resources it needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a planned change to the admission policy which will go to consultation. The change will involve the oversubscription criteria, currently the only Crofty school which is oversubscribed is Garras. Governors agreed that this needs to be monitored.</li> </ul>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Governors impact on the pupils</b>	
11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring standards by carrying out regular governor visits.</li> <li>• Monitoring staff wellbeing by keeping in touch regularly with the staff and Head of School.</li> <li>• Ensuring effectiveness by actively seeking and recruiting new governors.</li> <li>• Improving skills and knowledge by attending relevant training.</li> </ul>	
<b>12</b>	<b>Feedback to the Trustees</b>	
12.1	Governors wished to make Trustees aware of their concerns about how the proposed change of headship was handled.	
	<b>AOB</b>	
	<b>Dates of next meetings:</b> Thursday 18th May 2023 5pm Thursday 13th July 2023 5pm	
	Meeting finished at 7.15pm	