

**THE NON- CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY MEETING
HELD ON THE 10th FEBRUARY 2025 AT 3.30 PM, LOCATION, THE CUBE**

Composition of the Board

NAME	TYPE OF GOVERNOR	END DATE OF OFFICE	Attended Y/N
Viv Evans	Community	03.10.2025	Y
Gareth Owen	Community	03.07.2026	Y
Tim Rodgers	Community	08.12.2027	Y
Olumuyiwa Ojo	Community	16.12.24	Y
Dave Bennett	Headteacher		Y
Pankaj Thacker	Staff	03.07.2026	Y
Grant Turner	Staff	03.07.2026	Y
Rosemary Campbell	Parent	26.02.2027	Y
Jane Mullan	Parent	07.04.2028	N
Vacancy	Community		
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In Attendance			
Nicki Green	Governance Professional		Y
Andy Smith	Focus Trustee		Y
Chris Parkinson	CEO		N
Parin Chouhan	Observer		N
Sherilyn Perriera	Observer		Y

**AGENDA
NON-CONFIDENTIAL**
[Meeting Folder](#)

ITEM NO	ITEM	Action	Due
1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES All present were welcomed to the meeting by VE Apologies were received and accepted from PC, JM & CP It was noted that SP joined the meeting at 4.05 pm		
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS No pecuniary interests were declared regarding the business to be discussed in the meeting.		
3.	INDEPENDENT LEARNING A presentation of the independent learning (IL) update given by NR was included in the meeting documents.		

	<p>During the meeting, a handout explaining the phasing in of different subjects and year groups to IL was provided, giving a clear overview of expectations that have been shared with all stakeholders.</p> <p>A refresher was given on IL and how it is expected to improve pupil subject engagement and outcomes. An overview of the forgotten curve and how this can be interrupted by embedding knowledge through IL was explained.</p> <p>Subject exam data was highlighted, evidence of improved results in maths and PE, which have well-integrated systems and routines for independent learning.</p> <p>It was clarified that the aim of independent studies is for students to master the knowledge they need to be successful in exams.</p> <p>Q. Are the tasks on Sparx and Key Science self-marking exercises, or is there an increased teacher workload?</p> <p>A. No, we wanted to limit any addition to teacher workload. Sparx is self-marking and intuitively sets tasks based on students' current abilities. A summary of platforms used in other subjects and the benefits that these provide was given.</p> <p>It was discussed how student engagement with IL is logged and monitored, and used to inform CREW coaching and goal-setting conversations.</p> <p>In response to a governor's question about parents being informed when students are not engaging with IL through Arbor, it was clarified that negative homework points are logged as independent learning and included in behaviour points. Compulsory study clubs for pupils not engaging with IL were explained. The improvement in Sparx reading scores of students who had attended compulsory study club was given.</p> <p>In answer to a query, NGRT scores, how improvements are measured over time, and TWS compared to national data were clarified.</p> <p>The next steps were explained as outlined in the presentation.</p> <p>Q. Are IL tasks set for the weekend or everyday</p> <p>A. Generally, they are set at the beginning of the week, and students are encouraged to build good habits and routines for work to be completed during the week.</p> <p>Q. Have you been surprised by the resistance of students to engage and how quickly it has subsided</p> <p>A. The pastoral team has provided great support, which has helped embed good practices quickly. The behaviour reset helps manage student expectations, and IL is part of continuously raising the bar.</p> <p>In response to a question, it was explained how IL is embedded with KS3 students, who may not appreciate its benefit compared to KS4 students who are working towards exams.</p> <p>A discussion was held on reading stamina and its importance to learning. It was queried if using Sparx Reader has reduced the number of books borrowed from the library. It was explained that fewer books are being taken from the library, but it remains an integral part of the school. Sparx Reader has increased reading scores and abilities.</p>		
4.	CEO PRESENTATION		

	CP was unable to attend; this item has been postponed to an LGB meeting later in the year. VE provided a summary of the trust's mission, vision and values																											
5.	LIFE PEOPLE STRATEGY CP was unable to attend the meeting; the item has been postponed to later in the year.																											
6.	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING The non-confidential and confidential minutes of the Governing Board meeting held on 16.12.24 were approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting. An update was given advising that since the last meeting, there have been 135 first-choice applications, which is more than the available places.																											
7.	MATTERS ARISING To review and update actions from the previous meeting. <table><tr><th>DATE</th><th>ITEM NO</th><th>ACTION</th><th>BY WHO</th><th>WHEN</th></tr><tr><td>14.10.24</td><td>10</td><td>Any changes, amendments, or additions to the draft governance action plan 24-25 are to be emailed to VE. The action plan is to be finalised at the December LGB meeting. 16.12.24 As VE was not in attendance at the meeting, action has been carried forward to the next meeting</td><td>All</td><td>10.02.25</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Update- This item is included in the agenda- Action Closed</td></tr><tr><td>16.12.24</td><td>10</td><td>Governors are to read the PP strategy and provide comments to DB by the end of the week. The strategy is due to be published on the school website by 31/12/24</td><td>ALL</td><td>20.12.24</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Update- No comments were received in regard to the PP strategy, and it has been published on the school website- Action Closed</td></tr></table>	DATE	ITEM NO	ACTION	BY WHO	WHEN	14.10.24	10	Any changes, amendments, or additions to the draft governance action plan 24-25 are to be emailed to VE. The action plan is to be finalised at the December LGB meeting. 16.12.24 As VE was not in attendance at the meeting, action has been carried forward to the next meeting	All	10.02.25	Update- This item is included in the agenda- Action Closed					16.12.24	10	Governors are to read the PP strategy and provide comments to DB by the end of the week. The strategy is due to be published on the school website by 31/12/24	ALL	20.12.24	Update- No comments were received in regard to the PP strategy, and it has been published on the school website- Action Closed						
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8.	GOVERNANCE - CONSTITUTION/ MEMBERSHIP a. The LGB's remit and the difference between governance in a MAT and a Local Authority (LA) school were explained. The role of a governor was briefly outlined. It was highlighted that being part of Life MAT reduces responsibility for some areas compared to an LA; finance and policies were given as examples of this. b. The Chair position for the TWS LGB is currently vacant. VE and TR are sharing the role at present. If anyone would like to be considered for the role going forward, they should let NG know. c. There are currently two governor vacancies. Sherilyn Pereira and Parin Chouhan have applied to fill these vacancies. SP was asked to leave the meeting whilst a vote took place, which unanimously elected her as a																											

	<p>Community Governor. Due to the absence of PC, the vote was deferred until the next LGB meeting.</p> <p>d. It was noted that no terms of office were due to cease before the next meeting.</p> <p>e. To ensure all Governors have completed the Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and confirmations, including KCSIE via Governor Hub</p> <p>f. It was noted that no governor visits had taken place since the last meeting.</p> <p>g. No governor training has taken place since the last meeting. A reminder of the required governor training was given.</p>		
9.	<p>DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE.</p> <p>The objective of this item was outlined as a refresher on the governor's role on Winstanley LGB and how to develop this.</p> <p>The governor's job description and details of the four key governance roles were shared, including the importance of being strategic and not operational when considering the school's focus areas.</p> <p>It was clarified that Support and challenge are done through questioning and monitoring and through stakeholder voices.</p> <p>We discussed Endurio, the nationally benchmarked trust survey system, and the frequency with which surveys will be undertaken.</p> <p>The action plan, was outlined as a working document that is periodically updated and shared.</p> <p>The Governance Calendar, provides an overview of the year to help governors with planning. It was advised that governor monitoring visits should take place in the first half-term and then be considered by the LGB in the 2nd half of the term.</p> <p>The Strategic Wheel supports the school in improving performance and effectiveness. An overview of the quadrants and spokes was given. It was explained how governors support the school with the strategic wheel by leading on an area.</p> <p>Strategic Action Plan. It gives more details of the improvement plan behind the wheel and can be used as a tool to determine the focus of monitoring visits.</p> <p>Governor monitoring visits. The purpose of different governor visit forms and an example of a completed form were explained. Before attending school, monitoring visits and focus should be prearranged with the linked staff member.</p> <p>The status of Continuum improvement was explained as a tool for evaluating the school's current performance in conjunction with the school improvement plan and areas monitored.</p> <p>Bespoke NGA Training, to take place on 19th May 2025 3.30-4.40. Training themes were discussed as AOB</p>		

10.	<p>SAFEGUARDING</p> <p>An update was given advising that there are no new trends or emerging issues. The number of issues reported continues to be high; staff are continually educated on the process for logging reported concerns so that appropriate follow-up actions can be taken.</p> <p>The safeguarding lead governor has completed the termly check of the SCR. It was noted that the trust maintains the SCR centrally.</p>		
11.	<p>HEADTEACHER VERBAL UPDATE</p> <p>A selection of good news stories were shared with the LGB, including an ex-student who was performing at The Curve who returned to the school and was filmed by the local news.</p> <p>Four Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors were runners-up in the Blaby District Council community awards.</p> <p>The professional learning programme for developing teaching was discussed, and how this supports teachers in developing good classroom practices.</p> <p>How TWS supports other schools as part of the cross-MAT professional pathways was outlined.</p> <p>Details of challenges were highlighted as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 11 performance. The details of how underperforming students are being supported were given. • Student attendance is below the national average. The difference between the outcomes for attending and non-attending students was provided • A staffing absence overview was given • Maintaining behaviour standards whilst reducing suspensions and improving behaviour for learning • Balancing budget <p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise year 11 grades and increase engagement of disengaged pupils. <p>Q. How have the 15 disengaged students been communicated with, as a group or as individuals?</p> <p>A. We try to do it individually, but often, a few of them are together. It is felt that progress has been made in getting them to work with the school</p> <p>Q. Do they have linked staff mentors?</p> <p>A. It's part of the plan to support underperforming year 11s. SLT needs to ensure that resources are deployed where they will have the most impact. Tutor time will be used to support students' improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch attendance strategy – Everyday Matters <p>Q. Do parents understand how different attendance percentages can impact education/outcomes?</p> <p>A. This is being worked on to ensure a clear message is given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Tier Blundell to reduce suspensions and capture the student voice of regularly suspended students. • To balance the budget, the curriculum and offer for next year should be agreed 		

12.	DATES FOR GOVERNORS' DIARIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls Shine Brighter – 7th March 9 am – 11.30 am Winstanley's Got Talent – 10th April 3 pm Stephen Lawrence Ambassador Day – 29th April 		
13.	POLICIES The trust-approved policies were noted by the LGB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Code of Conduct 2024 Modern Slavery Act Statement 24-24 Trustee and Governor Allowances Policy- no changes review date extended to 2027 		
14.	AOB Training themes for the NGA Bespoke session were discussed, with the following idea being put forward: Learning how to be an effective LGB: What strategies does effective governance use to triangulate information and challenge accordingly? With a focus on stakeholders' voices and effective policy monitoring.		

The meeting finished 5.25 pm