

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHITCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY HELD  
AT THE SCHOOL ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Sian Hopkins	Partnership (Chair)
	Joyce Slack	Partnership
	Ian Mcilquham	Partnership
	David Collins	Partnership
	Paul Bulpin	Community
	Denise Kelland	Community
	Hayley Jeans	Parent
	Ceri Reed	Parent
	David Revill	Parent
	Lisa Williams	Parent
	David Greaves	Parent
	Maria Boffey	Parent
	Mark Powell	Headteacher
	Nick John	Teacher
	Noreen Linforth	Teacher
	Richard Burge	Staff
	Scott Britt	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Steve Williams	Estates Manager (Observer)
	Gareth Coombs	Clerk to the Governors

**51 APOLOGIES**

Ashley Collins.

**52 MINUTES**

The minutes of the following meetings were confirmed as a correct record:-

- (i) 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022**
- (ii) April 2022 via email**
- (iii) 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

There were no matters arising.

**53 FOUR TEST BATTERY ASSESSMENT- Ceri Garland**

A presentation was given by Ceri Garland regarding four test batteries which were introduced in Years 7 and 8 to test the ability of students and identify any gaps in knowledge following the disruption caused by Covid 19 and was supported by a handout to all Governors.

The four test batteries were Verbal Reasoning Battery; Quantitative Reasoning Battery; Nonverbal Reasoning Battery and Spatial Ability Battery. The battery tests would identify those students who were at risk of under-achievement and would

provide benchmarks and allow analysis of performance and potential performance. Comparisons would be made with national statistics and achievement.

Governors were very impressed with this initiative and the Chair, on behalf of the Governors thanked Kelly for her most informative presentation and the handout which explained in detail how the battery test system worked. A copy of the presentation would be sent to all Governors.

#### **54 HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE – Mark Powell**

Pupil attendance up to June 2022 for years 7 to 11 was provided. Attendance had been creeping up but was still a little below where the school would want it to be. The trend was encouraging. The Headteacher hoped that the Welsh Government would again allow schools to issue fines for non-attendance where appropriate.

Staffing updates were provided and the many staff changes were noted. Some staff were undertaking a staged return to work.

TLR re-structuring had been completed with everyone in post. The process had been much smoother than anticipated. Indeed it had been a very busy year as far as staff changes and re-structuring was concerned.

There had been an increase in student behavioural problems between the Spring term 2019 and Spring term 2022. This situation was replicated across Wales and could be attributed in no small part to the effects of Covid. It was felt that staff had done extremely well in the face of adversity caused by Covid but had struggled at times. The school was investing greatly in pastoral support.

The GCSE and A Level examinations had run smoothly. The work of all staff involved in supporting the exams was commended. Of particular note was the work of Miles Warner, Exams officer and his assistant Ceri Lane, both of who had worked 12 hour days to ensure that the examinations would run smoothly. It was a brilliant effort and resulted in the provision of the examinations being a huge success.

#### **55 SPECIALIST RESOURCE BASE PROVISION: CONSULTATION UPDATE**

A consultation paper was circulated to Governors regarding the proposed expansion of Specialist Resource Base Provision at Whitchurch High School.

The Governing Body of Whitchurch High School in partnership with Cardiff County Council had recently consulted on the proposal to increase the designated number at the Specialist Resource Base for learners with complex needs from 70 to 100 with effect from September 2022.

The consultation process was clearly set out in the paper and was explained by Joyce Slack.

Following discussion the full Governing Body

**AGREED** To formally accept the proposal and to proceed with the publication of a statutory notice. Following publication of the statutory notice, the full Governing Body would meet again to determine the proposal.

## **56 POLICIES**

The Governing Body agreed to formally adopt the following policies:-

- Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE Policy)
- Complaints Policy
- Young Carers Policy

Following a query the Headteacher confirmed that the school had a Whistleblowing Policy.

## **57 COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Curriculum Committee had met in June 2022 and a verbal report was provided by Nick John and Scott Britt. Written notes of the Committee would be available if requested.

Of particular note was the intention to set up Focus Teams. Also the possibility of providing the teaching of German was being considered.

## **58 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The following changes were approved:-

- **Staff Disciplinary & Dismissal Committee**  
Include Paul Bulpin and Andrew Davies.
- **Staff Disciplinary & Dismissal Appeals Committee**  
Include David Collins.
- **Determining Committee**  
Include David Collins.
- **Grievance Committee**  
Include David Collins.
- **Grievance Appeals Committee**  
Include Ian McIlquham.

- **Pupil Discipline & Exclusion Committee**  
Include David Collins; David Roylance; Denise Kelland.
- **Pay Review appeals Committee**  
Include David Roylance.

**59 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

None.

**60 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that dates for all full Governing Body meetings for the school year 2022-2023 would be sent to Governors prior to the start of the Autumn Term.

Meeting Concluded.

SRHopkins

Chair of Governors