

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHTCURCH HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING  
BODY HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Sian Hopkins	Partnership
	Joyce Slack	Partnership
	Max Vine	Partnership
	David Collins	Partnership
	Maria Boffey	Community
	David Roylance	Community
	Dr Tessa Bailey	Parent
	Dr Catherine Bushell	Parent
	Jayne Catherall	Parent
	Paul Lloyd Davies	Parent
	Lisa Williams	Parent
	Stephen O'Hare	Parent
	Naomi Pearson	Parent
	Andrew Davies	Local Authority
	Nick John	Headteacher
	Jonathan Davies	Teacher
	Noreen Linforth	Teacher
	Richard Burge	Staff
	Fae Sullivan	Associate Pupil
	Tomos Walker	Associate Pupil
	Scott Britt	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Ceri Garland	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Wayne Lilly	Business Manager (Observer)
	Steve Williams	Estates (Observer)
	Lauren Sharpe	Assistant Head (Observer)
	Caroline Robson	Assistant Head (Observer)
	Claire Hollings	Assistant Head (Observer)
	Gareth Coombs	Clerk to the Governors

(Gareth Coombs in the Chair)

**1 APOLOGIES**

Dr Paul Bulpin.

**2 ELECTION OF CHAIR 2024-2025**

Sian Hopkins was the only nomination and was duly elected as Chair.

(Sian Hopkins in the Chair)

**3 APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNOR**

Joyce Slack was re-appointed as a Partnership Governor.

**4 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR 2024-2025**

Joyce Slack was the only nomination and was duly elected as Vice Chair.

**5 MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were confirmed as a correct record.

**6 GOVERNING BODY MEMBERSHIP**

It was noted that there was a Partnership Governor vacancy and a Local Authority Governor vacancy. Efforts were being made to fill these vacancies.

**7 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Naomi Pearson would be a member of the Appeals Committee.

Lisa Williams would be a member of the Finance Committee.

Scott Britt and Ceri Garland would be members of the Curriculum and Achievement Committee.

An updated Committee membership would be circulated to all Governors before the next Full Governing Body Meeting.

Governors were informed that Sian Hopkins and Joyce Slack would look at producing a brief terms of reference of each Committee by the next FGB meeting.

**10 LEVEL 1 SAFEGUARDING TRAINING – Caroline Robson and Claire Hollings**

A Power Point presentation was given to Governors covering the following areas:-

- Level 1 Training: Given to all staff
- Child Protection Training: Given to all staff
- Neglect
- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Psychological Abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Contextualised Safeguarding
- Prevent Training: Given to all staff
- My Concern and how it is used to report concerns with the LEA
- Safeguarding Data
- Dealing with disclosures
- Safeguarding and Professional Conduct

## **11 RIGHTS RESPECTFUL SCHOOLS AWARD – Caroline Robson and Claire Hollings**

The Governors were informed that Whitchurch High School is intending to become a UNICEF UK Rights Respectful School and was aiming for a Bronze Award.

The RRSA journey was explained to Governors by Caroline and Claire and the requirements which needed to be met together with the School's Action Plan were also gone through. It was hoped to achieve the award by the end of the Autumn Term and to then progress to the Silver and Gold awards. Governors were very impressed with this initiative and commended the school on the work it was doing to achieve the award.

## **12 STANDARDS – Ceri Garland and Lauren Sharpe**

A presentation was given by Ceri and Lauren regarding standards which covered the following areas:-

### **STANDARDS**

- A guide to the terminology
- Key Performance Indicators (KPI)
- Level 2+: 5 GCSE grades at C grade and above including English and Maths
- Level 2: 5 GCSE grades at C and above with a maximum of 2 vocational qualifications
- Level 1: 5 GCSE grades at G and above
- Capped 9 : This was explained in detail.

### **ALPS**

- Score 1 – 3: Places school/faculties in the top 25% of schools
- Score 4 – 6: Places school/faculties in the middle 50% of schools
- Score 7 – 9: Places school/faculties in the bottom 25% of schools

An analysis of the outcomes at Whitchurch High School in 2024 as compared with 2019 showed an increase in attainment and standards. This was also the case with AS Levels

The way that the school supports disadvantaged learners was also explained and a paper on this was circulated with the agenda and noted by Governors.

Ceri and Lauren were thanked by the Chair for their interesting and informative presentation.

### 13 HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE – Nick John

A full written report had been circulated to Governors with the agenda. It was assumed that the Governors would have had the time to read the report and so the Headteacher would go through the report highlighting the following areas:-

- Consistency and Focus 2024-2025: The headteacher went through this with Governors.
- Respect and RTL: A brief overview of progress made in 2023-2024 was given.
- SIGs: An overview of progress made in 2023-2024 was given.
- Professional Development – Research and Enquiry: A brief overview of progress made in 2023-2024 was given.
- School Improvement Plan: The Headteacher explained the 5 main focus areas contained in the SIP for 2024-2025 which were detailed in the written report already circulated. Governors supported the document and focus areas.
- Estyn Review: The Headteacher felt that all of the improvement priorities contained in the report, along with continued focus on progress and challenge will help the school to get out of Estyn review. Governors shared this view.
- Staff Changes: these were noted.
- Parent/Carer Engagement: A reminder of the main developments over the last academic year was contained in the report. The school will be continuing these initiatives alongside further developments.
- Curriculum Updates: University Applications 2024: These were gone through by Jonathan Davies and Governors noted the high standard of achievement.
- Current School Population: this was noted
- Sixth Form Breakdown: This was noted.
- Curriculum Meetings and Sub-Committee September 2024 Onwards: A reminder was provided in the report that the Curriculum Sub-Committee had been split into 2 separate committees as follows:-  
Curriculum Sub-committee and Self-evaluation and School Improvement Sub-Committee.
- Student Attendance: Information provided in the report by Andrew Miles, Attendance Officer was noted. The headline news for the last academic year is that all year groups overall attendance figures were up on 2022-2023.
- Budget: The request by the school to set a deficit budget for the next financial year had been approved informally by the local finance officer though written confirmation was awaited. A response was also awaited relating to the school's communication outlining what it considered to be fair funding for the split site nature of the school, Governors would be kept informed of developments. In response to a question the Headteacher felt

that the financial situation was challenging but was confident that the school would manage. Staff are putting in a lot of effort and additional time to support educational provision. It was noted that Estyn Had written to the Local Authority on behalf of the Governors regarding concerns over site security.

- Behaviour/Exclusions: A full breakdown of exclusions covering the period 2022-2023 to 2023-2024 to date.
- Estates Updates: Large scale projects continue to be on hold while funding is awaited from the Local Authority. Minor works and repairs alongside planning for site security and wider school developments have been ongoing. No agreement has been reached on the lower school plan as a solution for the exit onto Manor Way. The Headteacher would keep Governors informed of developments.
- Governor DARPL Training: Governor Services have provided a training session for Governors on Diversity and Anti-Racist Professional Learning. It would be good if Governors could follow this training programme if possible. Anyone interested in undertaking this training should contact the Headteacher or Chair of Governors.
- Academic Calendar Term Dates: These were provided in the report.
- Further Updates and Website Links: These were provided in the report.
- Faculty Updates: A report on all Faculties and subjects and year groups was provided in the report.
- Sport and Exercise: An appendix outlining sport and exercise extra-curricular sessions was provided.

#### **14 POLICIES**

The following Policies which had been circulated to Governors prior to the meeting were adopted by the Governing Body:-

- Privacy Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Mobile Phone Electrical Device Policy
- Learning Pathways Policy 11 – 18

#### **15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **(i) Communication and Parent Engagement**

Jayne Catherall introduced this matter and wondered how Governors could support the school in communicating with parents and reducing queries. The Headteacher informed Governors that the school Stakeholder and Improvement Group would be the forum for looking at these matters and informed Jayne that she could attend meetings of this Group as her input would be greatly val

**(ii) Business Interest Forms 2024-2025**

These were distributed to Governors for completion.

**16 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

None.

**17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Meeting concluded.

Signed:   
Chair of Governors