

ST HELENS COUNCIL

COWLEY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Minutes of the meeting of the Full Governing Body
Cowley International College
held on Thursday 9th February 2023 at 5pm

Members:

Co-opted Governors

*Mr G Anders
*Mr I Arnold
*Mrs M Bellis
*Mr R Cormack
*Mr R Foster
Mrs J Kellett
*Mr N Rouch
*Mr P Worthington
Vacancy 1
Vacancy 2
Vacancy 3
Vacancy 4

Parent Governors

Miss S Begum
*Mr Ross Foster

Staff Governors

*Mr C Sheeran (Headteacher)
Mrs L Sayle

Local Authority Governor

Cllr M Uddin

*Denotes Members Present

Also Present:

Mrs H Quinn Governor Support Services
Acting as Clerk to the Governing Body

1. Apologies and Consideration of Consent to Absence

Apologies had been received from Justine Kellett, Mancyia Uddin and Lynne Sayle.
Lynne Sayle is leaving the Governing Body due to resigning from her role at the school.
Justine Kellett's apologies were accepted.

Mancyia Uddin's apologies were not accepted and Governors did not consent to the absence.

Kath Campbell is resigning after 16 years of service to the School. All Governors wished her well and. It was noted that Kath had made a tremendous impact to the school, in particular the Curriculum and she would be greatly missed.

2. Declarations of Interest

Ross Foster declared that he worked with Teach First.

The chair advised all governors to please update any declarations on GovernorHub if not already up to date.

3. Governor Membership

Upcoming appointments, vacancies and expiring terms of office were reviewed.

It was noted that Shana Begum's term of office expires on the 14th February 2023. Any further appointment would need to be of benefit to the College.

An advertisement has been made for a new Parent Governor. The Chair and Vice Chair will arrange to meet any prospective Governors to explain and discuss the role.

A point was raised by Mrs Bellis for the Governing Body to ensure that any prospective Governor is aware of the time commitment the role has and that the Governing Body is looking for people able to commit to hard work that this involves.

Mr Arnold raised that his son a former Deputy Head Boy at Cowley, and would be willing to join the Governing Body. The Chair explained that if anyone is interested in supporting the school in this way then this would of course be considered.

ACTION- Chair and Vice Chair to arrange a meeting with the prospective Governor.

It was noted that the school is facing Academisation this year, and the Governing Body may be re-constituted.

ACTION- Clerk to contact Governor Services regarding whether DBS's needed to be renewed for Governors.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 15th December 2022

There were several amendments to be made to the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th December 2022:

1. Mrs Bellis did attend the meeting and was not absent.
2. Page 17, Item 26 relates to the fundraising event. These funds were raised for Young Carers.
3. The trip to New York was not an A level trip to New York. It was for years 7 to 11.

5. Matters arising from the above minutes

There were no matters arising.

6. Minutes from Pupil Behaviour and Wellbeing Committee meeting held on the 19th January 2023

These were held to be a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

7. Matters Arising from the above Minutes

A summary of what was discussed in this meeting was provided by Mr Cormack. Attendance remains a significant issue across the Local Authority and across the Country and there are some students who are severely absent. The reasons for this can vary and because of both physical and non-physical barriers to attendance. The mechanisms for addressing this are being examined.

A question was asked as to whether the school buses could be revived to support with transport. Mr Cormack explained that there are 2 Family Liaison Officers working within School who support with transport for children. Staff members are proactive at looking at barriers to attendance such as uniform, bass pass issues etc and are working to overcome them to improve attendance.

8. Recommendations from Pupil Behaviour and Wellbeing Committee Meeting

This was addressed in the previous agenda item.

9. Minutes from the Quality of Education Committee Meeting held on the 19th January 2023

Mr Arnold covered this item. It was discussed that the Minutes did not give a full explanation of the problem. While there is confidence in the data, this data indicates that the performance isn't successful. Maths is an area of concern with consistency of teaching Maths due to staff absence and vacancies being identified as issues.

Q) What does the data tell you?

A) Some of this is in the pack. There is a lot of red data.

10. Matters Arising Quality of Education Committee Meeting

There were no matters arising. Governors were made aware of the School Book swap that they were welcome to join.

11. Recommendations from Quality of Education Meeting

There were no recommendations to agree.

12. Minutes from Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee Meeting held on 26th January 2023

The minutes of the meeting were shared with the Governing Body.

13. Matters arising from Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee Meeting

There were no matters arising.

14. Recommendations from Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee Meeting

The Committee Chair provided a summary of the recommendations which were on pg. 70 of the agenda document.

All recommendations were agreed and approved unanimously.

15. Local Authority Standard Items

The current Clerking arrangements were discussed by the Governing Body. It was agreed that the current arrangements would continue into the 2023/24 academic year. It was mentioned that when the College becomes an Academy these arrangements may change.

It was noted that Karen Joinson has been attending a clerking course and this could be considered for future arrangements.

16. Policy Review

The below policies were reviewed.

- Relationships, sex, and health Policy (RSHE)
- Children with health needs who cannot attend school Policy
- Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Exclusion Policy

It was noted that the Children with Health Needs who cannot attend; School Policy needed a name and a contact number.

Supporting Pupils at school with medical conditions policy needed to appendix names changing.

17. School Newsletter

An update regarding the newsletter was delivered. The newsletter is produced weekly, and staff ensure that the most vulnerable students have access to it. The producers of the newsletter were thanked for their time and effort.

It was noted that there is a wide range of activities available for students to be involved in. Staff were thanked for giving up so much of their time. Cowley frequently send 3 or 4 teams to play in sporting events.

Gatsby the school dog is owned by the school. Governors were advised that he is fully chipped and registered and they are following all guidance provided to them by the Local Authority.

18. International Trips

There were no new trips to make the Governing Body aware of.

19. Well-being

It was noted that the students had a tough and busy half term, particularly those in exam years of 11, 12 and 13. There has been interventions and 1-2-1 sessions for pupils and the

vast majority of students responded extremely well, although there are still some difficult cases. Most children are thoroughly immersed in life at Cowley and making the most of the opportunities that are on offer.

20. Governor Development

Training had taken place on sexual assault and violence in school. Governors were advised they need to treat this as if sexual assault and violence is happening in Cowley, regardless of whether there is any evidence of this.

Q) Is there specific training for staff on this issue?

A) All staff have received training in relation to this. It also forms part of the curriculum for all students. There is targeted support and intervention for those students where it is needed. This is also a key thread for Ofsted.

On Monday 6th February there was a Section 175 safeguarding audit. Students have been complimentary about care and support from staff and the PHSE curriculum.

21. Date and time of the next meeting

Governors were advised to make a note of the next three meetings:

Thursday 30th March 2023 at 5pm

Thursday 25th May 2023 at 5pm

Thursday 13th July 2023 at 5pm

22. Urgent Matters

Strike action had taken place on the 1st February. The Governors received an update on the strike action that had taken place, and the plans that had been put in place for the next strike dates should they go ahead.

There were no further items for discussion under Part 1 and the meeting continued to consider the confidential items under Part 2.

Signed Dated
Chairperson