



Date: Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 5:00pm

Present:

Neil McKinlay (NM)-Chair
George Hughes (GH)
Jayne Chapman (JC)-arrived at 5:15pm
Rebecca Lumsden (RL)
Andy Martin (AM)
Martin North (MN)
Julie Brinnand (JB)

In attendance:

Caroline Lowe (CL)-Headteacher
Sue Pomeroy (SP)-Clerk

Apologies

Tom Hollingsbee (TH)

Absent:

n/a

	Governance and Administration	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, Quorum, Apologies and Declarations</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting and confirmed that it was quorate. He welcomed Julie Brinnand to her first meeting of the LGB and thanked her for taking on the role of SEND link governor. Apologies were received and accepted from Tom Hollingsbee. There were no conflicts of interest declared with the business of the meeting.</p> <p>Unless otherwise stated, all papers referred to had been uploaded to Governor Hub prior to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p>a) The Minutes of the Egerton LGB meeting held on 23rd October 2024 were accepted as an accurate record and would be uploaded to Governor Hub and marked as signed.</p> <p>b) Matters Arising</p> <p>Governors reviewed the action log, and the following matters were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All but one link governor monitoring visit had been carried out in the autumn term 2024. The clerk would check with AH regarding the establishment of a governor SEND network. <p>It was confirmed that all other actions had been met and closed or would be addressed on this agenda.</p>	
3.	<p>Membership Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie Brinnand had been appointed as a governor 11.11.24-31.08.28. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebecca Lumsden would be moved from appointed governor to fill the vacant parent governor position on the LGB. Her term of office would be unchanged. This would leave a vacant position for an appointed governor. Governors commented that the LGB is functioning efficiently with eight members and the Chair would contact the Director of Quality at the Trust to discuss continuing to operate with eight members. ACTION 	NM
	Strategic Direction and Progress Against Priorities	
4.	<p>Update on SIP Priorities 2024-25 The Headteacher provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 1-Enhance the Quality of Teaching and Learning through Adaptive Teaching Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This is a Trust-wide priority. ➤ The Deputy Headteacher is leading on this. ➤ Staff training would take place during the spring term 2025. ➤ The Trust SENCO is supporting on this priority and would visit school. Priority 2-Strengthen Curriculum Progression and Assessment across all Subjects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This priority had been carried forward from last year and was a focus from Ofsted. ➤ There has been a significant improvement in terms of children's retention of knowledge. ➤ The school has moved from topic books to bespoke books for each subject. The children are clear on what they are learning, and it has helped subject leaders with monitoring their subject. ➤ The school changed from DC Pro to Insight for its assessment system to align with the Trust. This was challenging at first for staff but is now working well. Priority 3- Maintain and Improve Pupil Outcomes in Writing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Pathways to Write programme has been in place for a year. The focus is now on teachers choosing their own high-quality texts to match the school topics and the needs and interests of the children, rather than using the suggested texts from the scheme. A focus has been on selecting texts to appeal particularly to reluctant boy writers. Priority 4-Embed Nursery into Whole School Policies and Strengthen Early Years Provision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This priority has proven to be the most challenging as there is a significant amount of work involved to align the Nursery with school in terms of policies, procedures, staffing and systems. ➤ Sally Earl from the Trust has been working with the school's EYFS lead to assist in the development of the Nursery. ➤ Resources have been reviewed and replaced where necessary and the building has been decorated and is looking brighter and more attractive. <p>Climate Action Plan December 2024 CL delivered a short presentation to governors which had been prepared by the Deputy Headteacher. CL would upload the slides to Governor Hub following this meeting. ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DfE expects all schools to have a Climate Action Plan in place by 2025. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This aligns with the school's ethos of "Global Awareness-Local Responsibility." • The plan highlights initiatives at school and the timeline over the next three years. • The school is looking to further develop its links with local companies. • The action plan links with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. • Governors were asked to monitor progress and allocate resources effectively and to engage with sustainability initiatives at the school. <p>JC offered to become the link governor for sustainability and AM offered his support.</p>	
	Education	
5.	<p>Admissions and Pupil Numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 228 pupils on roll including Nursery (198 in main school). • Eight pupils had left the school. This equates to 4 families; 3 moved out of the area and one moved to a local school. • Requests had been received for places for pupils with SEND. The school has responded to the SEND team with reasons why the school is not an appropriate setting. <p>Attendance</p> <p>6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole school attendance stands at 95.8% which is above the 95% target. • Two classes have attendance below 95%. Lots of holidays have been taken in term time. No fines have been issued. • Lates-4.95%. It tends to be the same children who are regularly late. Attendance meetings are held, and parents made aware of what their child is missing when they are late. For example, this could be a phonics session which is very important. Families would receive a letter from the LA following the LA attendance team's visit next term if their children's punctuality had not improved. • Attendance for children with EHCPs stands at 65.8%. This data is skewed by two children who are on part-time tables. <p>Governors asked how the attendance data compared with other schools in the Trust. CL responded that this information was not available but that the school does receive information from FFT on similar schools.</p> <p>Governors also queried whether the earlier start to then school day (8:45 am) had had an impact on punctuality. CL explained that the main issue was that Nursery starts at 9:00 am and this can be difficult for parents if they have children in both settings.</p> <p>Rewards and Behaviour</p> <p>7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been two suspensions, both relating to the same child with an EHCP. • There had been no instances of bullying. • The school had been made aware of some issues over the Christmas holiday involving what's app and Year 6 pupils. Parents had addressed this and informed school. • There had been three instances since the last LGB where staff had had to team teach a child. This is a reduction from the summer term 2024. <p>8. Update on progress and attainment-Autumn term data analysis</p>	

9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 data is strong and shows consistent improvements across all subjects in the autumn term 2024. • Other year groups show a decline in EXP+ percentages in Maths, Reading, Writing and Combined from the summer term 2024. This is common in the autumn term and adaptive teaching practices are being employed to ensure that gaps in learning are filled. Data usually then improves in the spring term. • Years 3 and 4 are of most concern. These cohorts have the highest SEND needs and additional TAs are deployed to address these needs. • The school has changed its approach to children identified on First Concerns. Pupils would now stay at First Concerns for just one term and then either be removed or escalated to SEN support. • Three more needs assessments had been submitted to the Local Authority. • Passion for Learning are working with the lowest 20% of readers in Year 4 and other volunteers are listening to readers in both Year 3 and Year 4. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, girls are out-performing boys. • There is a significant gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils. • Four pupils with SEND are on a bespoke curriculum and are making limited progress. • High prior attainers are doing well. • Low prior attainers are struggling and the school needs to consider how to adapt teaching to address their needs. • Pupils with EAL are performing well. <p>Governors challenged if the school's SIP priorities are having an impact on addressing the trends identified above. CL explained that Priorities 1 and 3 are linked and are matched to the identified needs of the pupils.</p> <p>Link Governor Monitoring</p> <p>The following link governor monitoring visit reports had been circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIP Priority 2-23.10.24 (GH) • SIP Priority 3 03.12.24 ((RL, AM) • Safeguarding 04.12.24 (NM, RL) • SIP Priority 4 12.12.24 (MN, TH) <p>SIP Priority 2-23.10.24 (GH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GH had met with the Deputy Headteacher in October 2024 and had been involved in four "voice of the pupil" sessions. • He had noted a significant increase in knowledge retention and use of subject specific vocabulary. • All foundation end point assessments are now in place. <p>SIP Priority 3 03.12.24 ((RL, AM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pathways to Write scheme has been in place for a year. • Staff are looking at high quality texts to match the school topics and needs and interest of the pupils. • The school is addressing the underperformance of boys; boy friendly texts would be purchased, and adaptive teaching used to fill gaps. The school has a lack of support staff available to support interventions. • A new spelling scheme is being considered. 	
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10.	<p>Safeguarding 04.12.24 (NM, RL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The visit had focussed on Year 3 and was used to introduce RL to the role of Safeguarding governor. • The SCiES audit and S175 audit were considered. • Pupil voice sessions were carried out. Pupils responded well and all reported that they feel safe in school and knew what to do if something was worrying them. • Safeguarding procedures in Lions Club were examined. • A further in-depth visit would be carried out in February 2025. <p>SIP Priority 4 12.12.24 (MN, TH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The integration of the Nursery into the main school was proving to be more challenging than initially expected. There is a significant amount of work required to align curriculum, processes, systems and staffing. • The aim is to ensure a continuous learning journey for the children. • Resources are being renewed/replaced. • The funds from Nursery had recently been transferred. This amounted to £64k and is ring-fenced for Nursery. The old bank accounts would be closed. <p>AM discussed the Forest School provision. He explained that this is working well and is providing additional opportunities, especially for pupils who do not excel academically. Sport Premium is being used to fund the provision.</p> <p>Pupil Premium</p> <p>CL informed governors that the Pupil Premium Strategy had been published online. She circulated a copy to governors at the meeting and would also upload it to Governor Hub. ACTION</p>	CL
	Welfare	
11	<p>Safeguarding Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New staff had received an induction by the DSL and have undertaken Basic Awareness training. • NM and RL carried out a governor link monitoring visit. They met the DSL and spoke to pupils. • Phase 1 of the fence installation project had been completed. Phase 2 would take place in the next financial year. <p>Presentation on Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE)</p> <p>CL delivered a short presentation to governors and provided a handout on KCSiE 2024. She outlined the changes to the document and their implications. She highlighted the need for schools to be aware of the potential need for Early Help for pupils who have experienced multiple suspensions/are at risk of permanent exclusion. One child in school is subject to an Early Help plan due to receiving some suspensions.</p> <p>Governors asked for further information on Early Help and how parents respond and engage with the process. CL explained that some parents refuse to be involved as they have negative perceptions regarding social care involvement. The school is trying to move away from this and change perceptions, Early Help involves looking at the needs of the child/family and how school and other agencies can offer support. If parents refuse to be involved the school would monitor the situation and refer to Cheshire East if they had concerns.</p>	

12.	Welfare and Wellbeing-Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEN numbers are detailed on slide 14. • The number of children at First Concerns has decreased whilst the number on SEN support has doubled since the start of term. This is due to the new approach adopted by the school. • Three children are on part-time timetables. <p>Governors requested details of part-time timetables. CL explained that they are a time limited measure, are kept under review and vary according to the needs of the children. For example, one child attends school for an hour in the morning and then goes home and engages in on-line activities provided by the Local Authority.</p>	
13.	Welfare and Wellbeing-Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide 15 provides an update. 	
	Local Matters and Stakeholder Engagement	
14.	a) Local Policy Approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EYFS • First Aid <p>Governors approved the policies. NM suggested carrying out governor audits against these policies. ACTION</p> <p>Trust Policies</p> <p>Exclusions Policy-this had not yet been circulated to the schools.</p>	NM
	b) Nursery Draft Proposal-Paper 14b <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NM outlined a three-stage plan to increase the capacity of the Nursery by admitting more two-year olds. • This would help to provide a seamless education for the pupils and would generate additional income for the school. • The plans had been discussed with the DCEO at the Trust. • The proposed date of implementation would be September 2026. • NM would share the plan with the Finance team at the Trust. ACTION • Governors were requested to contact NM if they would be interested in joining a working party. ACTION 	
15.	Governor training <p>Governors who had yet to do so were reminded to complete the NGA Safeguarding course the Prevent Course on Governor Hub. The clerk also asked governors to consider undertaking Exclusions Training to enable them to sit on Governing Board Panel meetings for schools across the Trust.</p>	
16.	Stakeholder engagement-Parents/Carers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of activities are detailed on slide 16. • CL thanked the PTA for their hard work in raising £3k at the Winter Fair. 	
17.	Stakeholder Engagement-Wider Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local MP, Esther McVey, would visit school on 31.01.25. • The school is considering ways to maintain the unique link with its partner school in Kenya. The owner of Multiflex is due to visit the school in February 2025 and has carried out some work in school which he would repeat with the pupils in Kenya. Live calls would also be set up during the visit. NM and JC would visit school following the Multiflex visit to discuss ways to maintain the relationship. ACTION 	
18.	Communication-to Trust	

19. 20.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern regarding the school's ability to deliver intervention programmes and the potential impact on results. Trust Exclusions Policy-when would this be circulated to the schools. <p>Communication-from Trust AH would produce a report for the LGB from the recent EDI Survey.</p> <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New interactive screens had been purchased for Nursery and Year 1. CL shared the new school prospectus which is being issued to new parents for the 2025-26 intake. 	
	<p>Dates and times of LGB meetings 2024-25 Wednesday 23rd April 2025 Wednesday 2nd July 2025 Time-5:00 pm</p>	

The meeting closed at 6:55 pm

Table of Actions – LGB – 14.01.25

Agenda No.	Action	Who?	When?
From the meeting held 23.10.24			
16	To discuss establishing a governor SEND network at Chair's Forum.	AH	Nov-24
18	To arrange to meet staff to discuss ideas to maintain the relationship with Egerton School in Kenya. NM and JC to visit school in March 2025 following the Multiflex visit to Kenya.	NM/JC	Nov-24
From the meeting held 14.01.25			
3	To contact AH regarding the number of governors on the LGB.	NM	Jan-25
4	To upload further documents to Governor Hub following the meeting- Climate action Plan, PP Strategy, Assessment Data, KCSiE Update.	CL	Jan-25
14a)	To organise a governor audit against the First Aid Policy and EYFS policy	NM	Spring term -25
14b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To share the Nursery draft proposal with the Finance team at the Trust. To contact NM if interested in forming a working party to develop the Nursery Proposal. 	NM Governors	Jan-25 Jan-25