

Governors in attendance:	Mary Massey	(MM)	Chair of LGB
	Lisa Hodgkison	(LH)	Appointed Governor
	Sam Kay	(SK)	Parent Governor
	Sharon Yates	(SY)	Appointed Governor (joined the meeting at 4:43pm)
Others in attendance:	Liz Robinson	(LR)	Headteacher
	Allan Howells	(AH)	Director of Quality, TLP
	Sarah Lomas		Clerk

Part One – Non-confidential Business

The meeting commenced at 4:33pm.

ITEM NO.		ACTION
NB – The items listed are numbered in line with the agenda. Where agenda items are missing, these have been allocated Part 2 status and have been included within the Part 2 minutes.		
	GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	
1.	<p>Welcome, Quoracy, Apologies and Declarations</p> <p>Governors were welcomed to the meeting. The meeting was quorate.</p> <p>Apologies were received from the following governors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SH • PS <p>There were no declarations made or conflicts of interest with the business of the meeting raised by governors.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p>1. The minutes from the previous meeting on 12.02.25 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings. Governors approved the minutes. ACTION: Upload the approved minutes to Governor Hub and mark as signed.</p> <p>2. The action log from the previous meeting was reviewed and the following items were noted:</p> <p>Item 14 – It was noted that the SEND report had not yet been updated and was therefore not compliant. The school confirmed that they were liaising with Helen Holland, SENCO at The Oaks who is visiting the school once a week to work with SWS SENCO. ACTION: Request that HH reviews the SEND report and updates the required sections.</p> <p>Item 2 – The school confirmed that student voice is currently being repeated over the course of the next two weeks. ACTION: Upload student voice data once completed.</p> <p>Q: Did the school feedback to parents on student voice? A: Yes, written communication was issued to parents. ACTION: Circulate parent communications on student voice to governors.</p> <p>Q: Has a parent forum taken place? A: This has been considered and a morning session would not be feasible for working parents, so a bingo/quiz evening has been proposed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>LR</p> <p>LR</p> <p>LR</p>

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	<p>Item 3 – The decision has been taken to relaunch the school library in September 2025 and the school is currently in discussions with the Trust about progressing this project. A member of staff is required to deliver reading interventions and also run the library.</p> <p>Q: Are the accelerated reading resources set up in the library? A: Yes, but the resources need reviewing and organising for use. It is anticipated that a staff appointment will be made for September which will then allow time to plan the relaunch in line with the open evenings for prospective Year 6 students.</p> <p><i>SY joined the meeting at 4:43pm.</i></p> <p>The school also confirmed that Lexonik training, for literacy interventions, for three members of staff had been completed.</p>	
	STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND PROGRESS AGAINST PRIORITIES (Part 2)	
3.	<p>a) Accelerated Improvement Plan (AIP) (to receive an update on progress). The AIP had been circulated to governors prior to the meeting for review. Governors communicated that the document was difficult to read due to the format.</p> <p>LR proceeded to summarise the report. Governors noted that the majority of actions were up to date except for Teaching and Learning.</p> <p>Governors were informed that the decision had been taken not to proceed to the 'Getting to Good' plan in the summer term due to the work required. A new AIP will be in place for the summer term with weekly reviews in place.</p> <p>The majority of actions have been completed with the exception of reading as there have been delays with the implementation of the Lexonik programme, but the school does not have concerns about this area.</p> <p>Additional discussions took place under Part 2 of this meeting.</p>	
	EDUCATION	
4.	<p>Pupil Numbers Pupil numbers were reported as stable at the present time.</p>	
5.	<p>Attendance Attendance was reported as positive with the highest attendance rates in three years. Year 11 attendance is a current challenge, but the school have significantly improved the processes in place and these have been effective across the school.</p> <p>Rewards have been issued with a trip to Alton Towers for pupils with 95% or above attendance and 495 students have qualified for this trip.</p> <p>Governors requested that graphical data be provided to illustrate the trends over time and that data on persistent absence be included going forward. ACTION: Use graphs to illustrate attendance data. ACTION: Include data on persistent absence, including key groups, going forward.</p> <p>Q: Will the move to Arbor provide a breakdown of attendance for key groups?</p>	<p>LR LR</p>

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	<p>A: Yes. It is anticipated that the move to Arbor will make attendance reporting easier.</p> <p>The school confirmed that attendance for Pupil Premium (PP) students is improving but is still currently below non-PP students.</p>	
7.	<p>To receive an update on progress and attainment for Year 11 including groups (pupil premium, SEND, disadvantaged, gender)</p> <p>Governors thanked the Headteacher for the data shared prior to the meeting on progress and attainment.</p> <p>It was noted that if the 23-24 mock data is compared with 24-25 there is an improvement on predictions. The mock results were low in comparison to previous years. The current predictions are higher which may mean that staff are more accurate or that students are performing better. It was highlighted that LR has not been in post long enough to make an informed judgement on staff accuracy in terms of predictions.</p> <p>There is no Key Stage 2 data available for the current Year 11 and this cohort is weaker than previous years. The school confirmed that the Trust have been alerted to the issues identified.</p> <p>Q: When does the next data drop take place?</p> <p>A: There will not be a further data drop for Year 11 as they commence exams straight after Easter.</p>	
8.	<p>Link Governor Monitoring (to note any link visit reports and discuss any matters arising)</p> <p><u>Careers</u></p> <p>SY summarised the recent careers link visit which followed on from an introductory meeting. Governors noted that an action plan is in development. Unfortunately, Stacey Rutter from the Careers Hub was unable to attend but the meeting went ahead as planned. Jess Sheridan, Careers Lead, is very impressive in her role and enthusiastic about the direction of the development for careers. Stacey and SY have reviewed the immediate actions for Year 10.</p> <p>Year 12 do not currently have work experience placements, so consideration has been given to potential placements with two students now assigned a place at Reaseheath College for work experience.</p> <p>There is a significant amount of work required on the school website in terms of careers content. A review is currently underway to ensure compliance. An update will be provided on the website review at the next meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Feedback on the website review for careers content at the next LGB meeting.</p> <p>Additional work is being undertaken including the Future Skills Questionnaire (FSQ) and other areas of data collection to ensure that the right provision is in place. This work can then be used to feed into lessons and build in visits from employers for example.</p> <p>The DT department was discussed, and this is being reviewed to consider how project work can be undertaken. There is a significant amount of funding for construction within education and the government are keen to drive the growth of the construction sector. The school could potentially engage local businesses or experts who could visit school and provide masterclasses</p>	SY

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	<p>in trades for students. It is essential that there is a focus on the skills gaps in the employment market.</p> <p>Work with students on reviewing applications to identify the skills needed and develop their CV writing skills is also planned. SY confirmed that student visits to Reaseheath are welcome. Consideration would need to be given to how children can be transported to different venues.</p> <p>During the recent Post-16 Strategy Group meeting, Sarah Ramsey from CE Youth Support Services discussed the focus of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) and specific projects are being considered. SY suggested to CE that SWS are included in the projects and if the school was accepted, funding would be provided. Five other schools are already part of this project.</p> <p>There is also the potential to implement a data sharing agreement which would enable data to be shared with schools about student destination after leaving school.</p> <p>A Year 10 career experience day is taking place at Reaseheath College and details will be sent to JS. Year 10 students will take part in animal sciences, engineering and construction. There will be 4-5 different experiences children can choose from on the day.</p> <p>ACTION: Send details of Reaseheath College Year 10 careers day to LR and JS.</p> <p>Governors thanked SY for her summary and the work being done to support careers development.</p> <p>ACTION: Complete a summary report for careers link visits to be uploaded to Governor Hub.</p> <p><u>SEND</u></p> <p>LH raised the issue of being unsure about her role. LH undertook a SEND review on Thursday as requested by the Trust. It was confirmed that this review was not part of the governor role. Clarity was requested about this cross over for LH and it was confirmed that it was expected that this would be clarified following the Trust Board meeting on 27.03.25.</p> <p>Governors thanked LH for the SEND Review.</p> <p>MM confirmed that a safeguarding visit will take place early in the summer term.</p>	<p>SY</p> <p>SY</p>
9.	<p>Pupil Premium</p> <p>a) The school confirmed that the PP report has been published on the school website which details any changes on how funding will be spent. Financial discussions are continuing and currently finances are managed centrally by the Trust.</p> <p>ACTION: Review PP funding in September when all financial information is available.</p> <p>Q: How have staff responded to the school opening for the first week of the Easter holidays?</p> <p>A: There has been positive uptake from staff for this initiative. It was clarified that this was entirely voluntary and not an expectation.</p> <p>ACTION: Provide MM with a list of staff contacts for thank you emails to be issued.</p> <p>ACTION: Send personal emails to thank the members of staff who volunteered their support during the holidays.</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR MM</p>

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	WELFARE	
10.	Safeguarding Data on safeguarding had been circulated to governors prior to the meeting. The school confirmed that the number of child protection cases had increased by 2 this week.	
11.	Welfare and Wellbeing – Students The school confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the Director of Education for CE and the LA want to use SWS as a project school with social workers and police to minimise issues arising. There will be a meeting in the summer term with CE and the Trust to review what the current offer is and what changes can be made along with how the need of children in the school can be met. Q: Is this part of the Cradle to Careers project? A: Not specifically but it is borne out of some of this work. The LA recognise that SWS is one of the most vulnerable schools. Q: Has the school done any work with Thrive? A: This would be linked to the mental health coordinator. Training for this role is underway but this will take approximately 18 months.	
	LOCAL MATTERS	
13.	Policies Governors confirmed receipt of the following Trust Policy: a) Pupil Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy Statement	
14.	AOB Q: What engagement is there for students transitioning in September? A: Welcome letters have been issued to parents welcoming students to the school. Transition work has commenced with days planned for students to visit and communications to parents. Q: How has the Year 9 options process gone? A: Very well. There is only one subject with insufficient student numbers. Some subjects have over-recruited such as art and photography and there are only two part time members of staff in these subjects at present. The minimum viable number for classes is 15. Music has only recruited 7 students but the decision has been taken that if this number be grown to 10, the subject will be run as a niche subject. Peripatetic teaching will still take place for students having individual lessons. SY commented that Reaseheath could support on various areas of photography. The school confirmed that it is not yet known how many students will apply to Crewe UTC so numbers may reduce. Governors noted that in terms of buildings, the balcony area of school has not yet been repaired. This work will be completed during the summer holidays along with the sports hall floor. Governors noted that once the building budget has been spent any further alteration/repair costs would have to be met by the school. Governors highlighted that the school website needs updating with staff photos and a reminder of the staff dress code.	

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	ACTION: Update the school website with staff photos.	LR

The meeting moved to Part 2.