



**MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
OF BRYMORE ACADEMY
HELD ON
THURSDAY 14 MAY 2020 AT 2.30 P.M.
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Actions from Brymore LGB Meeting held on 14 May 2020

Item Reference	Action	Person Responsible	Due Raised
1.4	JG to write to AB thanking him for his service to Brymore LGB.	JG	14/05/2020
1.4	MT to follow up on Parent Governor applications with PLE.	MT	14/05/2020
2.0	JG to formally invite Shane Plowright on to the LGB as a new Governor.	JG	14/05/2020



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Members

✓	Helen Bradford	(HB)	
✓	Ann Dyer	(AD)	
✓	Richard Graydon	(RG)	
✓	Jason Gunningham	(JG)	(Chair)
✓	Mark Thomas	(MT)	(Headteacher)
✓	Eve Watt	(EW)	

**In
Attendance**

✓	Fran Davis	(FD)	(Clerk)
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✓ those present

1. Procedural Matters

It was noted the meeting was to be recorded and there were no objections to this. Protocols for recording meetings had been forwarded out prior to the meeting.

1.1 Apologies for absence and acceptance/non-acceptance

None – AD arrived at 15.05pm

1.2 Declarations of Interest

None

1.3 Minutes from the last meeting on 26 November 2019

Agreed as accurate

1.4 Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

FD to contact GJ, Company secretary, to ascertain if AB intends to remain on the LGB – **Completed**. AB has resigned from the

LGB and Trust Board due to work commitments. The Chair will formally write to AB thanking him for his service to the LGB.

Action – JG to write to AB thanking him for his service to Brymore LGB.

JG

NM to arrange for KJ to visit Brymore – **Postponed** due to Covid19.

MT to speak to BP and ascertain whether as a collective need, the outstanding actions from the H&S meetings, should be included on the risk register - **Postponed**. It was agreed that this and Covid19 will be discussed across the Trust and filtered down to LGB's.

MT to speak to RW and ascertain exact issues and plan for improving RI grade on Reid House – **Completed** this was an in house peer review and the HT feels there is consistent standard across all the boarding houses.

MT to review presenting of information on statutory reports - **Completed**.

MT to arrange a presentation on Curriculum for Governors at the next LGB meeting - **Completed**.

MT to update Governors on parent governor elections. HT advised there were 3 applicants and 2 vacancies but had been put on hold with Covid19. HT to follow up with PLE.

Action MT to follow up on Parent Governor applications with PLE.

MT

MT to contact Governors to invite them to the opening of the new farm building on 10 January **Completed**. The Chair commented that at the ceremony the speeches from the HT and the Head boy were very powerful.

2 **Head Teacher report**

The HT advised the staff had been great, stepping up and undertaking all the extra work. Thanks was given to VCD and LW who had been instrumental in driving the Teaching & Learning and support for the boys.

- We have introduced a good online programme for the boys.
- We originally started with 20 boys attending school. Due to further communication from us highlighting the need to be safe and their own wellbeing this quickly dropped to a maximum of 2 now.
- Feedback from parents there was too much work set. This has been revised and we have also set challenges for the boys to undertake at home as a family.
- It has been very disappointing that the Year 11 boys have left without the usual ceremonies. We have decided that when possible there will be a combined event for them leaving us and their presentation evening.
- Results – we can predict quite strong results as we have the evidence to back them up.

- The events posted onto Social Media has been well received.
- Laptops for year 10 boys have been distributed by the Trust. It was noted the Trust had been very supportive and have given also given unlimited internet access to boys who needed it.
- Boarding is the biggest concern. Parents have been refunded, which amounts to approx. £480,000. Some boarding staff have been furloughed, they are receiving 100% salary as the Trust is topping up the 20% and 80% from the Government. We are looking into possible solutions for the future which could include boys staying with us for 6 weeks.
- Plans for 1 June – boys will be in for one afternoon a week. Online learning and teaching on Teams is going well and we will stick with this.
- Staffing – we have a lot of meetings on Teams and this is going well for staff. There is also quiz nights for staff which is well supported and there is to be a boys' vs staff quiz.
- There is small group intervention support available online as well as Teaching and Learning.

The Chair wished it to be noted the clear communication to parents had been outstanding.

VCD gave a PowerPoint presentation on Teaching and Learning, which was available on Trust Governor.

- Trust launch of Teams at the start of the Summer Term
- Year's 7, 8 and 9 are using Showmyhomework and although there were some initial challenges it is working.
- Code of conduct was drawn up for live lessons and this has been relayed to the boys, who have been very receptive.
- The boys have chosen to use Teams to chat to each other even though this platform is the most regulated and monitored which is really pleasing.
- Online learning is 9.10am-11.10am as it is not good for the boys to be online all day.
- Although a full survey has not been carried yet positive feedback has been received about online teaching.
- We will remain with Teams for teaching and learning as we have had nearly 100% attendance and can account for the ones not attending.

The Chair and Governors gave their thanks and congratulations on the huge amount of work undertaken in this project.

AD arrived at 15.05pm.

Safeguarding

- Our biggest concern was maintaining communication with our most vulnerable boys who would have a level 4 rating. LW devised a contact sheet to record all the communication with the boys.
- All year 10 boys are to be contacted weekly.
- Key staff to contact other vulnerable pupils

- 106 pupils have been contacted by phone within the last two weeks.
- Wellness check has had 190 replies.
- Boys who have been finding it difficult have been added to contact sheet.
- Regular check ins have been organised on a regular weekly basis for the boys. Video conferencing is available for our most vulnerable students.
- We are maintaining our weekly safeguarding meetings.
- Staff have been very supportive.

The Chair noted the track, monitor and intervene showed outstanding practice and should be shared across the Trust perhaps via TG, Director of Education.

Somerset Governors Safeguarding audit – this document will be available for Governors to view on Trust Governor. LW explained the audit highlighting:

- 97% adhering to County Standards.
- 2 areas on amber - 1 student on a part time timetable and the use of mobile phones on site – boys do have access to 3G/4G but we have a number of procedures in place to monitor this.

LW explained the dashboard information on Myconcern.

- Lessons learnt – this function allows us to monitor and track improvements in processes. Ofsted was very impressed with this when they visited. It is showing 2 lessons learnt this year compared to 12 last year.
- Concerns by month breakdown have reduced slightly.
- LW discussed the breakdown of concerns.

The Chair and Governors thanked LW for a highly detailed report.

It was asked if staff are being furloughed will you be able to maintain live teaching and home contacting
MT advised possibly not as much, as house parents are doing a lot of calling however they will probably carry on even without being asked.
LW advised there are 22 phone calls per fortnight per houseparent being carried out.

It was asked if the support from the LA is working.
LW advised it is frustrating at the moment as we have to maintain this level of checks but support workers are not. Also we are finding that requests are not being followed up or supported externally. We are having to do home visits as they are not. CAMHS are not holding assessment meetings which means they come back to us.

It was asked if there is any CPD being offered to the staff via TG
VCD advised there was no indication of other platforms being used however Praestantia will be working with the Trust for the next year and we will be able to drop in/out as much as we want. Although we are feeling more confident in using teams and really the best CPD is just using it.

Thanks was given to the MT and the staff for the tremendous amount of work undertaken and asked for their thanks to be passed on to the whole team. The LGB are greatly appreciative of the efforts of everyone at the school.

Action JG to formally invite Shane Plowright on to the LGB as a new Governor.

JG

3 **Date of next meeting**

16 June 2020