



**MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
OF BRYMORE ACADEMY
HELD ON
TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2020 AT 5.00P.M.
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Actions from Brymore LGB Meeting held on 16 June 2020

Item Reference	Action	Person Responsible	Due Raised
2.0	JG to write to Vicky Davis wishing a speedy recovery from the LGB	JG	16/06/2020



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FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
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HELD ON
TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2020 AT 5.00PM.
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Members

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

**In
Attendance**

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|------|---------|
| ✓ | Fran Davis | (FD) | (Clerk) |
| ✓ | Stuart Bacon | (SB) | |
| ✓ | April Lee | (AL) | |
| ✓ | Bryony Sadler | (BS) | |

✓ 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.

JG welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given as three new potential parent governors were attending the meeting.

1.1 Apologies for absence and acceptance/non-acceptance

Eve Watt sent apologies which was accepted.

1.2 Declarations of Interest

None

Signed.....

1.3 Minutes from the last meeting on 14 May 2020

Agreed as accurate

1.4 Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

JG to write to AB thanking him for his service to Brymore LGB - **Completed.**

MT to follow up on Parent Governor applications with PLE
Completed – S Bacon, A Lee and B Sadler are attending the meeting this evening.

JG to formally invite Shane Plowright on to the LGB as a new Governor - **Completed.**

2 **Head teacher update**

- Staffing – we have appointed Charlotte Young to cover Claire Popham, to teach English, whilst on maternity leave.
- Vicky Davis is currently away ill from work until September.


Action JG to write to Vicky wishing her a speedy recovery.

- Yr 10 boys returned yesterday and it was good to have them in and the boys were pleased to be back. In line with other secondary schools they are in for one afternoon a week.
- We are open to keyworker children, vulnerable pupils and year 10 students.
- Pupils are not undertaking academic work whilst here but having time devoted to sport and being outside, carrying out duties etc as we want to look after their mental wellbeing.
- Online teaching through Teams is carrying on. Year 10 have 3 lessons a day, Year 9 have 2/3 lessons a day and Years 7 and 8 have one tutorial period a week.
- We are keeping in regular contact with our vulnerable pupils and ones we have safeguarding concerns with. Although it has been noted safeguarding concerns have escalated.

JG

It was asked if Year 10 boarders were coming in or was it just out boarders attending school
We are open to all but pupils cannot stay. It is up to the parents if their son attends.

- Exam results – we are concerned our P8 predictions are too high, however they will be moderated down. It has been a difficult process grading students but the data was submitted for the 12 June deadline. Boys will receive their results in August.
- Induction days – we are starting these on Monday 22 June. Families will be invited into school in tutor groups

Signed.....

and we will hold two separate sessions over 8 days. We are very keen to have Year 6 boys in, as for many of them, they will have had 5-6 months out of school and so what is already an incredibly difficult process for boys and parents will be much more so this year.

It was asked if there was an opportunity to offer online resources to support year 6 induction
Yes the senior boys, led by the Year 10 deputy head boy, are putting together a virtual tour and information from the SSLT.

It was asked if there had been any further support from the Trust with online teaching through Teams.
Brymore adopted Teams very quickly and were the first to start teaching online straight away. In fact we have helped others in the Trust.

There is likely to be increased pressure on families and students, do you have sufficient resources or is there a whole Trust approach to these likely problems.
We have appointed our own school counsellor to assist with matters such as mental health and family support. However our biggest concern is for the current Year 7 students who have not had the Brymore experience and with 73/74 new Year 6 students coming in, a huge amount of support will be needed. We do have 3 TA's for September but there is a big increase in High Needs support and the Care Report on SCC has put an enormous strain on County.

It was suggested it might be useful for the video to include a look around a dorm and where things like the laundry are situated; knowing the small details can make a huge difference to boys settling in.
Yes good idea this will be incorporated.

MT explained he wished to give an update on the proposal to open boarding safely from September; the paper had been circulated to the LGB prior to the meeting.

There has been little guidance from the Government for boarding and the proposal of having boys in on a rota basis would not work for us. Brymore is a boarding school and MT is determined it will remain so. The other factor to consider is revenue and we are mindful we have lost £450,000 and with a loss of £115,000 per month we are approaching £1m and we cannot continue with those losses. Therefore we have to come up with a solution.

MT outlined the Plan which gives a detailed look at how boarding would be safely managed on a day to day basis, what safeguards have been put in place and what mechanisms would be adopted should anyone have symptoms or contract Covid19. We would also need immediate access to testing facilities.

Signed.....

It was commented that this was a good piece of work and it was asked if the State Boarding Association had been involved with this or independent boarding.
MT advised these two bodies have joined up and there is no guidance available from them; their biggest concern is international students. No-one has plans in place who can assist, however we suspect if this is approved and published we will have requests to share our thinking. We have made this proposal very much a whole school consultation to check and challenge everything.

A Governor noted this was a work in progress paper and was pleased it had been shared with the LGB. It was asked how resilient can you make plans if staff fall ill.

MT agreed staffing is the most difficult aspect, more so than space and the boys. We are looking at temperature checking twice a day so we can react quickly if needed. We have also been talking to BP, Trust H&S Lead and the Trust and Risk assessments will be in place. A main concern will be our houseparent's wellbeing. However we are aware of the risks and will be monitoring it.

It was asked whether there was sufficient PPE equipment for First aiders

MT advised we have received supplies from EDF and being part of the Trust has helped as there is supplies available from them.

One of the challenges is our matrons are on furlough and we are not able to consult with them. We also have some staff who are vulnerable as well.

Our other concern is keeping the 'Brymore stuff' like Chad's activity etc but we will make things safe and get them going.

The Chair thanked MT for this tremendous piece of work. MT advised the next step will be to let parents know of our plans and feel confident in sending their boys back to us.

It was asked about friendships in the dorm and what plans were in place to help boys be placed with others they felt comfortable with

Dorm planning has been looked into and as risk assessments are done on every boy, careful consideration is given to who goes where and with whom. We do try where possible to ensure needs and preferences are matched as it makes the boys feel more happy and settled.

It was asked if the dorm preferences already given could still be accessed by staff.

MT will look into this tomorrow but felt it could easily be completed online if not.

It was asked how close to normal is school likely to be in September.

We do not have a plan in place yet for day pupils as we had to secure boarding first. There will be detailed plans for day pupils but we are safer for days as anywhere else, if not more so.

It was asked about pupils falling behind with progress. We are confident we can get them back up but as yet there is no guidance about next year 11 exams.

It was asked about the practicality of daily washing of the uniforms. MT agreed this was probably was unrealistic and we will be advising parents as quickly as possible about the plans for uniform as we do not want parents paying out unnecessarily for a uniform that is not going to be used.

It was suggested the induction video should be rolled out for all students to see as the blogs and videos on the school Facebook page had been very well received. MT to look into this.

The Chair thanked MT and the staff for all their hard work. As this will be our last meeting for the academic year The Chair wished everyone a safe and happy summer and looks forward to seeing everyone in September.

4 **Date of next meeting**

September – procedural matters and GSCE results update.

Signed.....