



MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
OF BRYMORE ACADEMY
HELD ON
TUESDAY 16 MARCH 2021 AT 5.30pm
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Actions from Brymore LGB Meeting held on 16 March 2021

Item Reference	Action	Person Responsible	Due Raised
2.5	Covid Catch up funding updated report to be on the agenda for the next LGB meeting	FD	16/03/21
3.1	LW to share impact of the strategies being used to avoid issuing FTE's.	LW	16/03/21
5.0	The two points raised, concerning the SEN budget and catch up learning would be addressed by MT by email and shared with Governors at the next LGB meeting.	MT	16/03/21



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FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
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Members

- ✓ Ann Dyer (AD)
- ✓ Richard Graydon (RG)
- ✓ Jason Gunningham (JG) (Chair)
- ✓ Mark Thomas (MT) (Headteacher)
- ✓ Eve Watt (EW)
- ✓ Shane Plowright (SP)
- ✓ Stuart Bacon (SB)
- ✓ April Lee (AL)
- ✓ Bryony Sadler (BS)

In Attendance

- ✓ Fran Davis (FD) (Clerk)
- ✓ Luke Winter (LW)
- ✓ Vicky Davis (VD)
- ✓ Beth Parker (BP)
- ✓ Kerry Marks (KM)
- ✓ Michelle Craig (MC)

✓ those present

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Apologies for absence and acceptance/non-acceptance
None – all governors were in attendance
- 1.2 Declarations of Interest
None

Signed.....

1.3 Minutes from the last meeting on 24 November 2020

Agreed as accurate

1.4 Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

FD to contact AD and request completion of Declaration of Interest form - **Completed**

The Chair will provide named contact details to MT/MC for them to connect with at the LA – **Completed** MT has the necessary contact details.

2 **CEO Reporting Requirements**

2.1 **Plans to sell milk direct to the public**

KM and BP shared the plans to market Pasteurised milk to the school and wider community using an onsite state of the art vending machine. Highlights from the report covered were:

- Rationale
- Cost and repayment forecast
- Educational benefits
- Marketing

Governors were very supportive of the project and felt it was an exceptional opportunity for the academy. Points raised were:

- Block calving
- Source for startup capital
- Fundraising and advertising
- Practicality of diversifying into other products such as ice cream

2.2 **Discussion topic: Changes to our admissions policy/admitting girls**

MT advised there were two issues to be looked at regarding changes to the admissions policy.

1. Transitioning – which will need to be discussed at a later date as more work is required on this.
2. Admitting girls to the academy.

MT shared his thoughts and the practicalities of changing the admission policy with Governors. Following a full and frank discussion the following points raised were:

- No financial pressure as we are oversubscribed
- There is no legal reason to change.
- Co-Ed can work quite successfully.
- Accommodation modifications and potential cost
- Unconscious bias –only boys can gain employment in farming.
- The benefit of boys learning how to interact and understand a different viewpoint.
- Importance of positive female role models

Signed.....

- Safeguarding
- Increasing the size of the academy

Governors felt on balance there were sufficient opportunities for the boys to interact on a social basis and that there were good female role models in the academy. They shared the concerns raised but unanimously agreed, at this time, for Brymore to remain an all boys' school.

2.3 Head Teacher Report

MT went through the report highlighting:

- Covid update
- GCSE predications
- Building updates
- Staffing
- Admissions
- Open day

2.3.1 Trust Proposed Timeline for assessing and standardising exam grades

V Davis shared the draft proposal for the rationale and timeline highlighting:

- How moderating and collaborating in departments and across the Trust would work
- The fair and robust procedures put in place
- Evidence based grades
- Appeals

2.4 Reopening update + Lateral Flow Testing

Governors noted the plans that have been put in place.

2.5 Covid Catch up Funding Report

MT advised this plan needs updating due to staff changes. This will be brought to the LGB for the next meeting

Action – Covid Catch up funding updated report to be on the agenda for the next LGB meeting

FD

3 Brymore Statutory Reports

3.1 Attendance, Behaviour & Exclusion

LW explained the difficulties of comparing data for this year and last year.

- Analysis of recorded behaviour incidents by year was discussed. Level 3 shows 265 incidents which is above national.
- Exclusion data shows this dropped to 0.29.
- LW shared the risk assessment being undertaken before implementing a FTE

Signed.....

- Attendance - shows most vulnerable pupils were in school however all students who could have attended school during lockdown and didn't counted against the attendance figures.
- Persistent absence information was discussed.

Governors would be keen to see the impact of the strategies being used to avoid issuing FTE's.

Action LW to share impact of the strategies being used to avoid issuing FTE's.

LW

3.3 SEN

The SEN governor and MC shared the report highlighting:

- 135 pupils on the SEN register
- EHCP's up to 38
- Cognition & Learning is the highest need with 71 pupils
- Funding breakdown shows 19 pupils in year 7 received a total amount of £66,751. Three pupils in Year 11 received £40,226, the reason for this higher amount is one pupil is from Bristol and comes with significantly higher funding.

MC shared how funding was being spent to meet pupils' needs and outlined the three school priorities for SEND. It was noted the role of the keyworker for all high need pupils had been very successful.

P8 data –

- English Lit - 1.24
- English Lang - 1.27
- Maths - 0.66
- Science (combined) - 1.51

It was noted by Governors there was a rise in year 7 pupils with an EHCP
 MT advised we have raised concerns with County that Brymore is becoming the school of choice for SEN pupils with parents now requesting Brymore is named on the EHCP which means they have to accept the application.

Governors were pleased to see SEN pupils were performing above the average for their predicted GCSE grades.

Governors thanked MC for a clear and detailed report and were pleased to see part of the catch up funding was being used to support SEN pupils.

3.4 Safeguarding

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Annual safeguarding report highlighted one issue concerning online safety which has now been resolved with the E-safety policy being rewritten to show acceptable use of devices.

- Seeing an increase in domestic violence incidents
- Number of Mental Health/Self Harm/Suicidal Thoughts Related concerns have increased since last year
- More incidents are being recorded on MyConcern and we have very robust processes in place to follow through on incidents.

Governors were pleased with the clarity of the reports and that the boys were settling back into school.

3.5 H&S Report

This report was noted by the Governors.

4 **RSE Policy + Appendix 1**

This is a Trust policy which has been slightly adapted to reflect the school's needs.

It was asked whether Black Lives Matter is covered in the curriculum.
Yes it is

Approval of the policy was proposed by RG seconded by AD.

5 **AOB**

Two questions were raised and it was decided due to the length of time the meeting had taken, the following points would be addressed by MT by email and shared at the next LGB meeting.

1 - Do you have an update, with regards to the SEN budget? (Following on from the concerns raised with regards to the low SEN budget per SEN child, in comparison to other schools).

2- What are the plans for catch up of learning, for Sex education, to ensure the boys leave school with no gaps in this area? The current year 7's, are of particular concern, as they likely would have missed their year 6 sex education, which they would usually have had before entering secondary school.

Action the two points raised, concerning SEN budget and catch up learning would be addressed by MT by email and shared with Governors at the next LGB meeting.

MT

6 **Date of next meeting – 22 June 2021**

Signed.....