



**MINUTES**  
**FROM THE MEETING OF THE**  
**LOCAL GOVERNING BODY**  
**OF THE BRIDGWATER COLLEGE ACADEMY**  
**HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2022**  
**AT 5.30pm at THE ACADEMY**

**Actions from BCA LGB on 20 September 2022**

<b>Item Reference</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Date Raised</b>
<b>1.4</b>	FD to ask BH if he wishes to continue with the SEND Link Governor role	FD	20/09/2022
<b>1.6</b>	FD to arrange for Ofsted training session to be added to agenda for next meeting	FD	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	Standing item - FD to add pupil/parent survey responses and pupil destinations to the agenda in the autumn term each year	FD	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	Standing item - Update on Gatsby Benchmarks to be added to the agenda in Nov, and June of each academic year	FD	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	FD to remind PLE of request for Governors to view APEX west and south	FD	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	ZS to pull all relevant Ofsted information together and report back to Governors in November	ZS	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	ZS to arrange for a reminder of the Carefirst telephone number to be sent to all staff.	ZS	20/09/2022
<b>1.7</b>	ZS to provide Governors with details of the new homework/behaviour/Reward programme in November.	ZS	20/09/2022
<b>1.8</b>	ZS to email parents about Governor vacancies	ZS	20/09/2022
	FD to enquire about having two staff governors on the LGB.	FD	
<b>2.1</b>	ZS to arrange for persistent absenteeism year on year to be shown in the report.	ZS	20/09/2022



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**HELD ON**  
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*Chair: Sam Reilly; Head teacher: Zoe Stucki;*

**Members**

✓	Mike Hodson	(MH)	Left at 5.45pm
✓	Doug Bamsey	(DB)	
✓	Jonathan Cridge	(JC)	
-	Ben Hambelton	(BH)	
✓	Sam Lewin	(SL)	
✓	Sarita Alagha	(AL)	
✓	Zoe Stucki	(ZS)	(Head Teacher)

**In Attendance**

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

**1. Procedural matters**

**1.1 Apologies for absence and acceptance/non-acceptance**

BH did not attend.

MH advised he was standing down to join the Trust Board. He commenced the meeting to introduce SR as the new Chair. MH added he was sad that most of his time as Chair was during Covid but wished SR and the LGB all the best.

Governors thanked MH for a sterling job and ZS acknowledged the support she had received from him.

SR thanked MH and introduced himself to the LGB.

SA also gave her resignation which was due to personal reasons and gave her apologies for leaving after such a short time. SA was thanked for her time.

## 1.2 Declarations of Interest – new forms to be completed

DB and SL completed. SR, JC, ZS and BH outstanding.

## 1.3 Election of Vice Chair

DB agreed to take this on. SL proposed and SR seconded the proposal.

## 1.4 Appointment of Officers

### 1.4.1 Safeguarding

SL was proposed by SR and DB seconded the appointment.

### 1.4.2 SEND

BH is the current SEND link and it was felt best to postpone this until BH had had the opportunity to decide if he wished to continue.

**Action** - FD to ask BH if he wishes to continue with the SEND Link Governor role

**FD**

### 1.4.3 H&S

JC agreed to take this role on. SL proposed and DB seconded the appointment.

### 1.4.4 CEIAG Governor

DB agreed to take this on. SL proposed and JC seconded the proposal.

### 1.4.5 SSQ and curriculum

It was felt monitoring of Pupil Premium sits best under this role as recovery funding is linked to improving outcomes for these pupils. SR agreed to take this role on. DB proposed and SA seconded the proposal.

### 1.4.6 teaching and learning

JC agreed to continue with role. DB proposed and SA seconded the proposal.

## 1.5 Keeping Children in Education 2022 (Part 2)

Most of the Governors confirmed they have read and understood their responsibilities

JC to read and confirm at the next meeting.

**JC**

## 1.6 Training

Governors felt the following training sessions would be useful

- Monitoring ADP, Safeguarding, Pupil Premium for SR, and Ofsted preparation.

It was raised a more in-depth Ofsted session would be useful rather than the basic session offered as it did not give guidance on moving up aspirations.  
ZS advised SEF and ADP would give a clear picture of the school and where the focus was which would help Governors understand where support and challenge needs to be.  
ZS offered Governors a session on Ofsted prior to the start of the next LGB meeting

It was felt useful for Governors to have training sessions together as this would facilitate discussion.  
ZS suggested BCA could be used for the sessions.

**Action** - FD to arrange for Ofsted training session to be added to agenda for next meeting.

FD

## 1.7 Minutes from the last meeting on 24 June 2022

Minutes were agreed as accurate.

Actions outstanding:

- FD to add pupil/parent survey responses and pupil destinations to the agenda in Sept each year – **Standing item**
- Update on Gatsby Benchmarks to be added to the agenda in Nov, and June of each academic year – Standing item.
- Chair to update LGB with details of potential visit to the APEX centre – **Outstanding** - FD to remind PLE of request to view APRX west and south
- ZS to pull all relevant Ofsted information together and report back to Governors in September – **Outstanding** this will be ready and available to Governors before the next meeting in Nov.
- ZS to arrange for website SSCL certificate to be reviewed. **Completed**
- ZS to forward a summary of the Green paper to Governors. **Completed**
- ZS to arrange for the Carefirst telephone number to be circulated for all staff. **Completed** However it was suggested a reminder be sent out to all staff again.
- ZS to provide Governors with a new homework/behaviour/Reward programme for September **Outstanding** this will be brought to the November meeting
- ZS to consider/review how this information is communicated to parents – **Completed** this has been reviewed and the

FD

FD

FD

ZS

feedback has been positive with parents being contacted within the 48 hrs period

- ZS to look into reception transition process and report to Governors in Sept. **Completed**
- ZS to share the idea for Cradle to career opportunity. We have not had capacity to pursue this therefore it is on pause at the moment but we will be working towards this for Sept 23.

#### 1.8 Matters arising not contained elsewhere on this agenda.

- More Governors required to join the LGB.
- SL to retain staff governor position.

**Action** - ZS to email parents about Governor vacancies

**ZS**

**Action** – FD to enquire about having two staff governors on the LGB.

**FD**

## 2 Head Teacher Update

ZS gave a brief update

- Staffing – new colleagues have joined us, but ND's post is still outstanding.

Priorities

- Progress & Achievement of our PP/SEND/Boys
- Teaching & Curriculum
- Phonics & Reading
- Trauma informed culture- "The BCA Way"

Results

- Reading gap reduced by 50%
- BCA's achievements in relation to phonics is outstanding. National Data not yet released but predictions are encouraging.
- EYFS – amazing job. At Dec 21 One third of reception pupils required Speech and Language plans. By year end 61% had achieved GLD
- KS1 results have exceeded in every measure when compared to the BCA KS1 2019.
- KS2 - Maths is disappointing however there were fundamental issues with this subject especially during the pandemic. Significant gaps in learning were identified but a lot of intervention outcomes have been achieved
- Reading is a key focus and various initiatives have been introduced, i.e. mixed ability groups working together however it does not seem a natural way of teaching but the evidence does predict good results and we will monitoring it.

It was asked what is mixed ability  
ZS advised pupils are not separated by prior attainment but all taught together. SL outlined in more detail what happens now and what will happen.

It was raised that it is not just about improving the lower set but taking into account the impact on the top set. SL advised that higher level pupils can build knowledge by teaching and recounting information for a second time.

- KS4 vast majority of subjects improved – There are a number of subjects that have not performed better than 2019 and these are areas that we need to ensure improve outcomes for Y11 in 2022-23. This will be done via enhanced line management and monitoring.

There was some slight disappointment that Spanish had not been very successful as this had been changed from French because of proposed better results. ZS agreed but advised she will be line managing this now and pupils will be exposed to Spanish in the curriculum. Also in conversation with TG and Stanchester as they are particularly strong in this area.

#### Attendance

- holidays being taken during term time has impacted on data however hoping this will settle down this academic year.

It was noted the figures are not far off national. ZS agreed we are lower but broadly in line.

It was suggested reminding parents there could be fines imposed if holidays are taken in term time. ZS to send out Attendance policy and reiterate the steps that will be taken if attendance is a concern.

It was noted that primary attendance tends to be around national however it slips in secondary. Is that because parents have more control over children's attendance when they are younger.

Yes, we have a large number of children with mental health challenges and other issues that impact on secondary attendance.

It was asked if data could be produced to show whether it is a lot of children with a small number of days off or a smaller number of pupils taking significant time off.

**Action** - ZS to arrange for persistent absenteeism year on year to be shown in the report.

There was a discussion on low attendance levels and what measures were in place to combat this.

ZS shared that KS4 is a challenge.

It was asked if problems are connected with County Lines

ZS agreed there is involvement however a big mapping exercise with police and other agencies has been undertaken with intelligence being shared and a strategy formed.

It was suggested asking for an increased police presence at the school

ZS

Unfortunately not, they are only able to attend in a crisis. It was suggested encouraging parents to volunteer at pick up and drop off times might show a larger adult presence. A governor did feel that as a parent the school was doing as much as possible.

It was also suggested pupils and parents are reminded that attendance impacts on achievement.

Governors found the data very useful and thanked ZS for the detail and background given.

- Using the STOP Provision prevented 36 suspensions totalling 54.4 days in the first half of the summer term
- 65% of students on the trial have engaged in the provision

Governors congratulated ZS on a brilliant initiative. It was suggested that it was important to understand what is being offered is good and pupils can access it. Parental support also needs to be considered. However, Governors noted the Trust and school should be proud of the digital success even if there are still some problems to sort out. ZS shared the Trust is looking further into a digital strategy with all trust and academy senior leaders visiting Scotland in November.

There was a discussion on the maths strategies and whether introducing something new will impact on outcomes. SL outlined the primary structure for EYFS and KS1 and confirmed that standards for this year has been amazing and will continue.

### 3 **Policies**

#### 3.1 Anti Bullying Policy

ZS advised the policy had been written with pupils as well as staff, Governors approved this policy.

#### 3.2 CP and Safeguarding Policy

Policy was approved by all Governors

#### 3.3 Screening, searching and confiscation Policy

Policy was approved by all Governors

### 4 **AOB**

Upcoming pay ballot for teacher's and support staff

SL advised there have been national and union discussions about teacher's pay.

- Initial ballot taken place in Sept with another again in November.
- Recommendations by Unions is teachers should strike but this is more of a response to the Government as they have not provided any additional help with funding this pay award, instead schools are expected to take this from pupil funding.

It was asked how parents can help  
SL advised letters, in support of teachers, sent to MP's and sharing of any relevant posts on social media.  
The Chair would also take this matter to the Trust Board.  
A parent governor felt teachers at the school go above and beyond in their jobs.

It was asked what the Trust position is on pay  
ZS advised PLE works with the unions on pay agreements.  
Are the Trust still working with national pay scales  
The Trust has own pay scales and are consistent with pay across all academies. The Trust has also gone above national pay guidelines.

**5 Date of next meeting: - 8 November 2022 at BCA**

**Chair**