

GREAT TORRINGTON SCHOOL
Academy Trust
 Company Number 769819.
 A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England
Full Governing Board Committee Meeting
Thursday 8th December 2022 at 3.30pm in E5



Attendees	Initials	Position	Comments
Beer, Emma	EB	Member Appointed	Present
Bloodworth, Andy	ABL	Headteacher	Present
Major, David	DM	Parent Governor	Not Present
Newberry, Ian	IN	Member Appointed (Committee Chair)	Present
Rhymer, Matt	MAR	Staff Governor	Present
Smith, Doug	DS	Co-opted Governor	Apologies
Sparrow, Annie	ASP	Staff Governor	Present
Stevens, Jo-Anne	JSA	Parent Governor	Present
Wall, Lesley	LW	Co-opted Governor (Vice Chair)	Present
Wynne, Colin	CW	Co-opted Governor	Present
Pateman, Jo	JMP	Clerk to the Governing body	Present

MINUTES

Agenda Reference	Agenda Item		
2022/23/ FGB/ 16	Apologies	Apologies were received and sanctioned from DS. DM was not present.	I, D
2022/23/ FGB/ 17	Conflicts of Interest	No changes to declaration of business interests from those present. DM is still to update his declaration of business interests, outstanding since the summer. MAR and ASP declared a conflict of interest with agenda item 2022/23/FGB/27	I I
2022/23/ FGB/18	Minutes and Matters Arising	The minutes of the meeting held on the 29 th September 2022 were agreed as a true reflection of the meeting and the minutes were approved to be signed.	I, D

		Matters arising – CW reminded the board that it had been agreed to hold an open FGB meeting and advertise to attract potential governors. The board agreed that the meeting on 09/02/23 would be advertised to all, advising that spaces were limited and must be pre-booked. The Clerk to advertise via the school website, The Crier, Facebook, feeder primary schools and parish newsletters. The Clerk to meet with the Chair to put wording together for an advert. JAS joined at 3.46pm	I D
		Matters arising – DM outstanding AUP and cyber security training. DS outstanding cyber security training.	I
2022/23/ FGB/19	Committee Matters	The Safeguarding policy had been approved at resources. The board confirmed that all had read the policy and the policy was ratified by the full board. The resources committee had agreed to reduce the number of internal audits from 3 to 2 per year. This decision was ratified by the board. LW advised that the T&L meeting had been very productive with excellent presentations from JS on TLAC and from JSR on DDI.	I, D I, D I
2022/23/ FGB/ 20	Accounts	The accounts had been circulated to the board following the meeting with auditors on Friday 2 nd December 2022. The board agreed to adopt the accounts.	I, D
2022/23/ FGB/ 21	Staffing	CW had undertaken 8 exit interviews since the summer term and had provided feedback to the resources committee. Further exit interviews were scheduled before Christmas.	I
2022/23/ FGB/22	Safeguarding	ABL advised that as previously discussed at T&L and Resources, there are concerns around vaping and anti-social behaviour. Since the committees had met, ABL had received a Devon wide report relating to exclusion and behaviour, and GTS are currently third from the bottom out of North Devon schools. The patterns between schools clearly show a doubling of exclusions would which suggest all schools are having an increase in behaviour issues. The board discussed the role of the safeguarding governor. It was noted that DM had not attended several resources and FGB meetings, nor had he been into school recently. There were concerns that the role of the safeguarding governor is an integral role, and needs to be undertaken by somebody who can dedicate time to the role. In the interim, IN agreed to check the single central register, and to attend the fortnightly safeguarding meetings in school. IN will attempt to contact DM again to discuss this further. The board made the decision that if by the next FGB meeting i.e., 9th February 2023, DM had not been in contact and in school, the role of safeguarding governor would be passed to another governor.	I D
2022/23/ FGB/ 23	SIP	The board discussed and agreed monitoring responsibilities of the SIP. ABL advised that he had spread out sections and was aware that governor numbers were low. ABL reminded governors to contact the member of staff leading the specific strand on the SIP they are monitoring, and arrange to meet. Governors to provide a visit report back to the board.	I, D

		<p>advised that she thought CW was unable to attend the first appraisal date suggested, and that it was felt important to hold the appraisal as soon as possible. The Clerk advised she would check back through emails. IN apologised again.</p> <p>IN discussed the schedule of meetings and the possibility of re-organising meetings as the resources agendas are particularly long, resulting in meetings ending very late. The board discussed and agreed to keep the meeting schedule as it is this academic year, but this will be added to the final FGB agenda in the summer to discuss how to proceed next academic year.</p> <p>ABL informed the board that the school has very high levels of scarlet fever/ Strep A and that he has been reporting numbers to the Southwest Hub. MAR and ASP left at 4.45pm.</p>	I D I
2022/23/ FGB/27	Staff Governors	The board agreed, following advice from the auditors, that the benefit of having staff governors outweighs the EFSA guidance. This will be added to the annual cycle, discussed and agreed each academic year.	I, D
2022/23/ FGB/ 28	Final Point	<p>Improved monitoring by the governors.</p> <p>Trained governors, an agreement to retain staff governors on the board.</p> <p>A new audit schedule agreed.</p>	I
2022/23/ FGB/29	Date of next meeting	<p>Teaching & Learning – 26th January 2023</p> <p>Resources – 2nd February 2023</p> <p>FGB – 9th February 2023</p>	I

The meeting ended at 4.50pm