

**GREAT TORRINGTON SCHOOL**  
**Academy Trust**  
 Company Number 769819.  
 A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England  
**Full Governing Board Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 3.30pm in E5**



Attendees	Initials	Position	Comments
Bloodworth, Andy	ABL	Headteacher	Present
Hemsworth, Robert	RH	Parent Governor	Not Present
Major, David	DM	Parent Governor	Present
Newberry, Ian	IN	Member Appointed (Committee Chair)	Present
Rhymer, Matt	MAR	Staff Governor	Present
Smith, Doug	DS	Co-opted Governor	Present
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	Governance Professional	Present

### Minutes

Agenda Reference	Agenda Item	Minutes	Action
2021/22/ FGB/ 70	<b>Apologies</b>	RH was not present.	I
2021/22/ FGB/ 71	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b>	ASP and MAR declared a conflict of interest with agenda item 2021/22/FGB/83 and will leave when the committee reach this agenda item.  IN completed a declaration of business interest forms and LW completed a related parties form, there were no other updates.	I  I
2021/22/ FGB/72	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising</b>	DA joined the meeting at 3.40pm. From the matters arising from the meeting on the 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022: Q – what progress has been made regarding safeguarding, training and issues raised by the Babcock check i.e., staff training and staff understanding of training? This relates to Babcock's comment that there was a lack of curiosity from	I Q

		<p>staff and a lack of depth to their knowledge. DA has provided additional training to staff; he feels there has been a level of complacency around ownership. We have a good culture of safeguarding, but it is the finer details we now need to concentrate on. DA advised that since CPOMS has been opened to all staff, they are more invested than previously. Q – are staff adding incidents accurately, i.e., using the correct headings? Yes, overall, this is very good. CPOMS is also a good way of measuring how staff are identifying safeguarding concerns.</p>	Q
2021/22/ FGB/ 73	<b>Safeguarding</b>	<p>DA has provided the spring safeguarding report to the committee prior to the meeting. DA advised that there was nothing alarming to report, MASH enquiries are consistent term on term and overall, numbers are slightly down. This may be as staff now have access to CPOMS and are therefore possibly not raising instant safeguarding issues as they were logging information on CPOMS instead. This is a more efficient process; DA still receives flags from CPOMS.</p> <p>The staff survey was disappointing with only 32 staff out of 100 completing the survey. In addition, 12% of those completing the survey stated that they had never made a safeguarding referral.</p> <p>Governors discussed safeguarding training, reading policies, and completing surveys and whether this should be allocated to directed time, or whether it should fall under professional duties. The committee also discussed the possibility of linking safeguarding professional duties to the staff PDPM process.</p> <p>The recent Babcock audit and Ofsted visit went well. Ofsted were happy with the DSL leads i.e., split between strategic and operational. DA left at 3.59pm.</p>	<p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>
2021/22/ FGB/72	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising</b>	<b>The minutes of the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were agreed as a true reflection of the meeting and approved to be signed.</b>	I, D
2021/22/ FGB/74	<b>Committee Matters</b>	<p>T&amp;L on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 had been cancelled.</p> <p>IN reported that the Members had agreed to reappoint Bishop Fleming as the school auditors until the new build is complete. Once the build is complete, the Members will insist the school go to tender with the view of appointing new auditors.</p> <p>Budget – the resources committee had approved the budget and forwarded this to FGB to be ratified. The governors confirmed they had reviewed the budget and the assumptions on pupils' numbers. <b><u>The budget was ratified.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>The governor expenses and capability policies were ratified by FGB after being approved at the last resources meeting.</u></b></p>	<p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p>

2021/22/ FGB/ 75	<b>Governor Roles</b>	Following the recent resignation of SM, the committee discussed and agreed the following allocation of governor roles:	I
		<u><b>JAS has kindly offered to become the link governor for pupil premium and children in care, the committee ratified this decision.</b></u>	D
		<u><b>The committee approved DS and CW joining the Headteacher Appraisal panel, along with IN. LW will re-join the pay committee.</b></u>	D D
2021/22/ FGB/ 76	<b>Governor meeting dates</b>	The governor meeting dates for 2022-23 were approved.	D
2021/22/ FGB/77	<b>Polices</b>	<u><b>29 – Careers Policy and 14 – SEN Policy were adopted by the committee.</b></u>	D
		50 – EC Policy will be presented at the first T&L in September.	D
2021/22/ FGB/ 78	<b>Ofsted</b>	ABL provided feedback to the board on the recent Ofsted inspection. The school had been expecting Ofsted this term and had done a lot of work preparing for an inspection. It quickly became evident that we had focused on the right areas and were in a good position at the beginning of the inspection.	I
		Ofsted named 2 departments they wanted to look at and SLT chose 1, these departments were maths, MFL and PE. The initial phone conversation went well, and it was evident that the recent work to the website was very good, and Ofsted found no areas of concern to focus on during their inspection.	I
		There was a good conversation about the intent and how this flowed through into the school vision and curriculum design. ABL raised straight away areas that may be questioned i.e., GTS having an INCo, not a SENCO, and the 2 different roles of the DSLs, however it quickly became evident that Ofsted had already seen this from the information provided on the website.	I
		SLT met with all staff on the Monday afternoon and then met separately with the 3 departments identified above. On Tuesday there were 2 inspectors, plus 1 person shadowing. The deep dives went well and the assumptions the school had made to Ofsted were validated by all they saw, which made the visit very positive and strong. The pupil voice went very well too.	I
		The second day continued to be positive and ABL felt that if we had the results to back it up, we could have been looking at outstanding if this had been a full stage 5 visit. The closing statement provided by Ofsted had almost mirrored the GTS vision statement and the whole inspection had been a positive experience and this had happened in the week when we had high staff numbers off due to Covid and interviews taking place too.	I

		MAR advised that he had felt proud to be a member of GTS staff and felt that the staff efficacy had been brilliant, everyone pulled together. Having already gone through the GTS QA cycle and deep dive, his department felt confident in what they needed to demonstrate.	I
		ABL thanked IN, CW and LW, who had all met with Ofsted on the second day and IN passed on his thanks again to ABL and the whole staff.	I
2021/22/ FGB/ 79	<b>Covid-19</b>	ABL reported the Covid had been affecting the school again with staff absence increasing. Some staff have now had Covid 3 times! Pupil numbers did not look to be rising significantly, however as tests are no longer provided, we are unsure exactly how many pupils are testing. Staff have responded well and covered absent colleagues etc.	I
2021/22/ FGB/ 80	<b>Kitchen</b>	ABL brought a request to FGB for the kitchen, as the resources meeting had not been quorate to agree. The school need to spend £5000.00, which has not been budgeted for, due to issues with the extraction in the kitchen. We had previously applied for a CIF bid to replace the extraction but had been unsuccessful. <b><u>Governors discussed and agreed to this spend but requested the KLH provide a long-term plan for the kitchen at the next resources meeting.</u></b>	I D
2021/22/ FGB/81	<b>Governor Visits</b>	LW had provided visit reports prior to the meeting, following 2 visits with JS. LW was pleased to report that what she had been told by JS has been backed up by Ofsted during their inspection. LW was also pleased to report that the QA cycle was working well and that there was more consistency of praise than there has been in previous years.	I
		LW's second visit focused on homework, which will be looked at closely in the next year, homework needs to have a greater uptake with minimal workload.	I
2021/22/ FGB/82	<b>Items Through the Chair</b>	CW suggested having an open day to attract new governors and invite interested people to attend meetings. The committee agreed to this and suggested advertising in the autumn term.	I, D
2021/22/ FGB/ 83	<b>Personnel</b>	MAR and ASP left at 4.54pm due to a conflict of interest with this agenda item. <u>Interviews</u> Geography interviews are being held on the last day of term. Finance and Letting Assistant interviews are being held on Monday with 4 candidates. School Games Organiser is being readvertised.	I
		CW informed the committee that he had undertaken exit meetings with all the staff leaving this term. CW will meet with Andy as soon as possible in September and feedback to governors at the next resources meeting.	I
		The meeting moved to part 2.	I
2021/22/ FGB/ 84	<b>Final Point</b>	The committee had focused on feedback from Ofsted and action points moving forward, ensured that the kitchen was in a working condition to provide food for pupils and staff and had reviewed staffing ready for the new academic year.	I

		IN passed on his thanks to the entire board for the work during the last 12 months.	I
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The meeting closed at 5.18pm