

**Tring School
Local Governing Body Committee Minutes
Tuesday 10 March 2020, 6.30pm**



Present: Mr A Kent
Rev Huw Bellis ex-officio
Mr S Bladen
Mr J Foskett
Mrs C James
Mr G Tuckwell
Mrs S Collings (CEO/Headteacher) - ex-officio
Mrs P Brash
Mr P Walter

In Attendance: Mrs S Ambrose (Head of School)
Mrs H Golla (Assistant Headteacher)
Mrs R Georgiades (Deputy Headteacher)
Mr N Barlow (Assistant Headteacher)
Mr R Wall (Director of Data Services)
Mrs V Wilson (Clerk)

Opening Prayer - Read by SC

Item	
1.	Welcome, apologies and absences. Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs E Ayling, Mrs C Hodgson, Miss E Hicks, Mrs E Munro .

Item	
2.	Confirmation that the meeting is quorate The Clerk confirmed the meeting was quorate.

Item	
3.	Notification of Any Other Business It was agreed that the following items be tabled under Any Other Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coronavirus ● Employment Legislation ● Tring Tornadoes Football Foundation Funding

Item	
4.	Declarations of Interests There were no declarations of interest.

Item	
5.	Minutes of Previous Meeting held The minutes of the meeting held on, previously circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record. A copy was signed and would be filed.

Item	
6.	Matters Arising Wording to Sex & relationships policy - SAA SAA confirmed that this had been amended but suggested this policy be brought back to the next LGB meeting to approve amendments.

Signed 

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Item	
7.	<p>Teacher Predictions and Cohort Progress; HPA, PP, SEN - IGR (RW)</p> <p>Mr R Wall took Governors through the document which was previously shared in Mr I Rogers' absence and invited questions.</p> <p>GT - How does this set of data set the school up for the P8 score? RW - Would take up to within the top 5 schools nationally.</p> <p>HB - Why is it a different group of disadvantaged students than what DfE use? RW - Doesn't include service children or students whose FSM's discontinue when they are in Year 11. These students are discounted in the summer exams figures.</p> <p>PW - There is a lot of information here. Are we doing anything differently in any areas as a result of what has come out of this data? SAA - At subject level we would refer back to the exam review meetings which take place every September. We would see where the focus has been and if the most recent data is pleasing in these areas. If it isn't, we would certainly ask the questions. Sometimes, subjects show really positive results now and then in the summer it is not reflected.</p> <p>RW - Some of this can be pinned down by individual student circumstances. SAA - The work we have done on disadvantaged students and PP has greatly increased and also the Horsforth Quadrant - giving different messages to different student groups at mock results. We have also been able to maintain communication with individual students in the groups to refine practise.</p> <p>PW - The document doesn't have any outcomes? RW - No, there are 3 data captures per year and this will drive the accountability per subject. We won't change track mid-year but if this throws up something, it would certainly be looked at.</p> <p>SAA - This is more of a cross-reference exercise. JF - Predictions are consistent with last year. Is this consistent with the different cohorts. SAA - Targets are derived from KS2 results. AK thanked RW for his report and the work presented. RW left the meeting at 18.30.</p>

Item	
8.	<p>Chair's Business - AK</p> <p>Feedback from strategy day and next steps</p> <p>AK thanked governors for attending the strategy afternoon and reminded governors that he will be following up on the governance document which he has shared. SAA's document will be ready for the next governor meeting. SC - Vision and Ethos actions will kick into action from September.</p> <p>Complaints and exclusion panels - appointment of Drugs governor</p> <p>AK informed governors that following the exclusion panel hearings, all decisions were upheld by the panel. An IRP for one of the cases will be taking place with AK, SAA and SKY in attendance. DPD - Following the third DPD, the school received one parental issue which HGO has responded to. PW suggested that the detail of the day could be shared in slightly more detail so that the explanation is clearer. HGO agreed to incorporate this into the next DPD. PB - It would be really useful to point parents in the direction of the policies at the open morning and induction days. This was agreed and will be incorporated at the time. HB will act as the school's 'Drugs' governor.</p> <p>AK communicated that there is one ongoing complaint with respect to the MFL decision.</p> <p>Governor Hub changes - knowledge portal and training</p> <p>This site has been through some quite big changes.</p>

Signed 

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Ofsted Training reminder - 23rd March

TS Standing Orders will be brought back to a future meeting.

Michelmores health check will be taking place on 18 March.

Item	
9.	<p>Curriculum Update & Governor Curriculum Exercise - NB NB took governors through document previously shared and invited questions. From CH (received prior to the meeting) I have a question regarding new Y7 intake and choice of MFL. Will parents/pupils be able to have a strong preference noted - for example if a pupil has a Spanish speaking parent, could they request to be in the half of the year group that take Spanish? NB - Unfortunately, this will not be possible as it would be very difficult to manage. SAA presented the position to Governors with the rationale and workings of the proposal to Governors when this was approved previously.</p> <p>My second question regards the blocks for GCSE. Are all pupils taking the full course PRS. In that case, wouldn't that fulfil the need for a humanities subject at GCSE? Hence does the option block A give preference to history and geography over, say music and drama - which may have a further knock-on effect for A Levels? NB - PRS does not count as a Humanities subject in the EBACC calculations - hence why we still need the restrictions to Block A.</p> <p>I also wondered about linguists - wouldn't pupils who want to study languages at university have a problem only having studied one MFL throughout their secondary schooling? NB - Again, part of the rationale to move to the new model was to strengthen a students knowledge in a language. We have not had dual linguists for a long time at the school but have had no feedback from ex-students to say that getting into a university in this area is an issue.</p> <p>AK - What is the financial impact? NB - 49 classes were running now 43, so have made a saving. AK - This is not a driver? NB - No but Ofsted would want to see that we are viable. AK - Block A? These are the EBACC subjects? NB - Yes. AK - If we have to drop a class this year due to uptake, are we able to add a class next year? NB - yes. CJ - How many students does it take to make a class viable? SAA - 17 is the average across all subjects to break even. SB - If students apply to do a subject that doesn't run, what happens? NB - They are spoken to very quickly so that they can choose another subject or they may decide to go elsewhere for Sixth Form. GT - Year 9 into Year 10, what percentage got their first choice? NB - Around 99%. GT - Who was offered the opportunity to study the separate sciences? NB - There will be a class of 29. 32 were offered but they chose to do the double. There is a set criteria which students have to meet to be offered in the first place. CJ - Will Drama run? NB - Yes.</p> <p>Governors then took part in an exercise on curriculum.</p> <p>AK thanked NB for the report.</p>

Signed 

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Item	
10.	<p>Tring School Charter - RGS</p> <p>From CH: This looks like a useful process, How has it been received or viewed by parents and tutors? Is the form filling used as the basis of a conversation? or would it be better completed after a conversation?</p> <p>RGS - We have not yet sought feedback from parents on the Charter, we could look at adding a question on it on our Parents' Eve questionnaires. It is being embraced by most tutors and JHY and I are working on consistency with tutors and also how the House Team can support with this. I think that it makes sense for the tutors to complete the boxes as they have the conversation, otherwise we are giving them extra admin.</p> <p>HGO - We could bring this to the meet the tutor evening so that it can be discussed then. SAA - There has been a good buy-in from students. SC - Really good for gathering information on pp/disadvantaged students so that we can be more inclusive and supportive. SAA - We have introduced extended tutor time every now and again to support the completion of the charter. PB - Are students monitored as to what clubs they do? RGS - There does need to be improved monitoring on attendance at clubs. Staff run clubs purely voluntarily so we have to be careful what we are asking them to do and by taking a register, this adds to the workload. AK thanked RGS/JHY for the work completed so far.</p>


Item	
11.	<p>CEO Report - SAA It was agreed to put this item onto the next agenda.</p>

Item	
12.	<p>Update on Underperforming Departments - SAA</p> <p>SAA took governors through documents previously shared and explained that subjects are reviewed depending on performance, some not needing a full review. Staff vacancies were also communicated to governors.</p>

Item	
13.	<p>Parental Engagement Review - HGO</p> <p>HGO took governors through the previously shared document and asked for assistance for ideas to increase parental engagement.</p>

Item	
14.	<p>Review of LGB meeting timings for 2020/21 - AK</p> <p>AK asked for feedback on how the new meeting timings are working out for governors. The timings won't change for the remainder of this year.</p>

Item	
15.	<p>Standing Agenda Items Visits log form for completion Safeguarding - AD/NB - KKSIE is in review at the moment. NB will adjust to our training and intranet site. Updates will be given to staff.</p>

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<p>Governor Training - please book on to relevant courses via the HfL Training portal.</p> <p>Build Committee update - AK - Friday meeting is taking place. Parent meeting on Monday.</p> <p>Fundraising Committee Update - AK - Our first event went well.</p> <p>Upcoming events. AK will be asking for some governor assistance around fundraising events.</p>
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Item	
16.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>a) Changes to employment legislation - LA. There have been some changes around minimum wage and others. MHN is aware.</p> <p>b) Tring Tornadoes/Football Foundation Funding - AK. TT have requested pitch improvements works on the field which would be funded by the FA but require a certain level of commitment by local football clubs. RG has responded explaining the difficulties in meeting these and that it didn't look appropriate to sign. CoG from GRPS has also been approached. AK still in communication with RG about the legalities involved. Application made without any school involvement which has created some difficulties. Please email any comments.</p> <p>c) Coronavirus - AK updated governors on processes. SAA explained what we would do in the event of a closure. Where possible, learning can continue on google classroom/hangouts. SAA assured governors that we are following Local authority/government guidance. No clear announcement on exams just yet.</p>

Item	
14.	<p>Conduct of meeting Governors to confirm that the meeting has been conducted in an open manner, that all Governors have been able to participate and contribute to discussions and that all members of the Governing Body will have access to these minutes.</p>

The meeting closed at 20:40

Signed 

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