

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL

Minutes of a meeting of the

Governing Body

held on 8 September 2016 at 5.30pm

Membership			
Abdi Ahmed	A	Pandora Kay-Kreizman	IA
Richard Ault	A	Huw Meyrick	IA
Laura Concannon	IA	Fiona Millar - Chair	IA
Ronke Coote	IA	Daniel Monk	IA
Karen Dunnell	IA	Claire Ozkaya	IA
Julia Eccleshare	IA	Imogen Sharp	IA
Professor Conor Gearty	IA	Paul Tiffen	IA
Dr. Lee Elliot Major	IA	Sam White – Head Teacher	IA
Georgia Gould	A	Jonny Woolf	A
Omar Harmon	A		
Also in attendance			
Matthew Scott			
Izzy Jones			
Clerk			
Elaine Peers			

IA – In Attendance, A – Apologies received, N – not in attendance, no apologies received

The meeting was quorate and started at 5.30pm.

1. **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from: Abdi Ahmed, Richard Ault, Georgia Gould, Omar Harmon, Jonny Woolf.

Resolved: to accept apologies received for absence

2. **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Membership of the Governing Body

Huw Meyrick was thanked for his contribution to the School in his role as a Governor, noting that this would be his last meeting.

3.1 Governing Body Vacancies

There will be 3 governor vacancies following the meeting. Governors agreed that they would be looking for the following skills and experience in candidates to fill the governor vacancies:

- links to local business
- procurement
- finance
- performing arts background

3.2 Terms of Office

Noted that the term of office of 3 governors was coming to an end:

- Abdi Ahmed, Foundation Governor, on 4 November 2016. Noted that Foundation Governor appointments are agreed by the Foundation.
- Georgia Gould, Local Authority Governor on 28 October 2016. Noted that nominations are made by the Local Authority but appointments must be agreed by the Governing Body.
- Omar Harmon, Associate Governor, 19 September 2016. Associate Governor appointments are agreed by the Governing Body.

Resolved: to reappoint Omar Harmon as an Associate Governor.

3.3 National Database of Governors

There is a new requirement for maintained school Governing Bodies to provide information to a national database of school governors. The required information will be uploaded to Edubase with part of the information publicly available.

Action: Governors to complete the part-populated template circulated and return to the Clerk.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2016 were agreed subject to one amendment that Daniel Monk had given his apologies for absence and was not in attendance at the meeting.

5. Matters arising

Governors agreed that it would be useful to have a future discussion on maximizing the use of The Mill.

Action: Omar Harmon to be invited to give a business presentation on The Mill to a future Governing Body meeting

6. Chair's Notices and Actions

There were no actions or notices to report.

7. Headteacher's Report

7.1 Student Rolls

Year 7

- Noted that the School is not full in Year 7 with 116 starting on the first day of term (125 capacity). The School is contacting families to understand why students did not start.
- There is a greater proportion of higher level needs in the current year 7 cohort. WES is carrying out reading tests to provide a comparison with previous cohorts (KS2 SATs do not provide a like for like comparison).

Year 12

- There are similar numbers to last year on roll in the sixth form, but fewer Year 11s are returning. The consortium will need to consider and agree a sustainable number for future years.

7.2 A Level and GCSE Results

Papers: Two documents setting out an initial analysis of A levels and GCSE results were circulated in advance of the meeting.

Matthew Scott was thanked for pulling the analysis together within such a short timeframe.

Noted that the papers circulated are provisional and further detailed analysis will be provided as data is finalised. Progress 8 will be discussed further at the next School Improvement Committee.

Key points discussed:

GCSE Results

- The headline attainment figures for Ebacc, % achieving C+ in English and maths and Attainment 8 have improved. These measures will be available to parents.
- Progress measures are a 'best estimate' and the final validated measure won't be known until January 2017 when national figures are published.
- Progress in Ebacc subjects is strong, but progress in some open element subjects is disappointing, particularly ICT and DT.
- Noted that a small number of students can have a significant impact on results. This year's results include data for a small number of students who were either educated off-site or transferred to WES as a managed move but did not attend.
- The middle prior attainment band who also have pupil premium have been identified as a cohort of students requiring additional focus..
- Higher prior attainers did not make as much progress as anticipated.
- Governors questioned how performance related to the quality of teaching. Further discussion to be had on how to shape improvements in teaching and learning to ensure that provision serves the needs of different groups of students.

A Level Results

- The pass rate and retention is positive.
- The key message from A level results is the insufficient proportion of middle prior attaining students who gained B or C grades. The low prior attainment cohort have done relatively well.
- Prediction accuracy is inconsistent and it will be important to improve this. Noted that the final prediction is made in April for comparison with results. It is important that predictions are accurate to ensure that students are given the feedback they need to make progress.

- More analysis of AS results is required as too much data is unknown, particularly in relation to reformed and unreformed subjects.

8. School Development Plan

A revised draft of the School Development Plan (SDP) was provided for comment with amendments highlighted in blue.

Discussion focused on how teaching and learning are being addressed in the SDP. Noted that:

- SLT are thinking through progression and what it means lower down the school.
- Teaching and learning and behavior management need to be considered together as classroom relationships are central to effective learning.
- More structure is being built into professional development time which will be divided into three elements:
 - All teachers will engage in development of consistency and collaboration to build classroom relationships
 - Projects being introduced in Year 7 including the Oracy Project, the Mindfulness Project and Outdoor Education will be specific to certain teachers.
 - Time will be given to faculty subjects and teams.
- A more detailed report and discussion about teaching and learning will come to a future School Improvement Committee.
- Leadership and management will be a subject area in improvement plans and reflected back through the appraisal system.

9. Keeping Children Safe in Education

The updated statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and a summary briefing note were circulated to Governors in advance of the meeting noting the changes relevant to the Governing Body.

Noted that:

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead would be meeting with the Governing Body Lead on safeguarding to review the child protection policy.

10. Reports from Committees

Minutes of the School Improvement Committee held on 16 June 2016 and the Personnel and Resources Committee held on 15 June 2016 were circulated in advance of the meeting.

Noted that:

- School Improvement Committee Governors were very impressed by the presentation from City Year.
- The School will be drawing on consultant support to help understand, model and plan for the expected resource issues in 2017/18 and 2018/19.

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Governing Body will be Thursday 1 December 2016 at 5.30pm.

13. Confidential Business

13.1 Headteacher's Report on Complaints

Governors received a report on complaints from the Headteacher. This is recorded as a confidential item and will be circulated to Governors as a hard copy at the meeting on 1 December 2016.

Signed.....

Date:.....

Chair of the Governing Body