



**Governing Body of the Winchcombe School  
Minutes of the Governing Board  
Monday 20 September 2021 at 5.00pm**

**Present:** Rachel Redgwell LA governor (CoG) (RR), Neil Pilsworth (NP) Head teacher, Derek Peaple (DP) (Vice Chair) co-opted governor, Natasha Grove (NG) (elected staff governor), Regina Kosa (RK) (elected parent governor)

**Apologies:** Nida Ahmed (NA) (co-opted governor)

**Absent:**

**In attendance:** Harriet Skinner (HS), Clerk, Sheilagh Peacock (SP), School Business Manager (SBM),

**Key:** Strategic direction/Challenge or Question/Answer/Action/Extract

**1.Apologies**

Nida Ahmed (NA) (co-opted governor)

*The meeting was quorate*

RA welcomed governors back into school for face to face meetings after almost 18 months of virtual meetings.

RR advised that Roy Wood has stepped down due to ill-health.

**2.Declaration of any other business**

(i) Photocopiers (SP)

**3.Declaration of interests**

None

**4.Election of Chair (re-appointment of Rachel Redgwell)**

RR was re-elected for another 2- year term with effect from 20.09.2021

*Clerk to update Governor Hub and website by end of September 2021.*

**5.Minutes of the meeting of 5 July 2021**

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting. RR signed the minutes.

**6.Matters arising**

**(i)Student Council**

Governors to attend a student council meeting once council elected and meeting dates set.

**7.Governor Update**

Code of Conduct and Register of Business Interests forms were passed around and signed.

*NA to complete*

DP offered to stand as Chair of the Finance & Human Resources Committee at the first meeting of this academic year.

The clerk and RR have contacted potential co-opted governor.

*Clerk to arrange parent governor elections Autumn Term 1, clerk to ask at staff briefing for teacher recommendations, advertise in newsletter and school Facebook page.*

DP to be on HT PM panel with RR.  
Clerk to forward link to HT PM training.

### **8. Head teacher update and School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

NP reported that return to school had gone well for pupils and staff, although the effect of COVID restrictions are still being felt. The school is awaiting Ofsted inspection during this academic year. RR asked if the school is in a good position, NP believed The Winchcombe School would be judged 'Good' based on the intended curriculum and its implementation in the classroom. DP agreed that this view was upheld by the Local Authority's endorsement of the curriculum.

NG asserted that good routines have been established and RR commented on the exemplary behaviour of children returning to class from assembly witnessed on a recent visit to school.

NP advised that the improved behaviour during transition times optimised learning time by 5 to 7 minutes a day. RR commented that one of the areas for improvement in the 2016 Ofsted was that governors should have access to the right tools to challenge, and asked DP as a governor in post during the 2016 inspection if he felt this had been addressed. DP counselled that there was a much clearer brief in terms of governor engagement, in particular link governors given responsibility for strands of the SIP and the Chair and individuals had the confidence to challenge with greater rigour.

RR questioned if the school was confident in other areas of the Ofsted framework such as safeguarding. NG pointed out that the use of CPOMS (online child protection system) made the recording of incidents more efficient. RR asked about sexual harassment (peer on peer) and NG advised that children are taught what is appropriate behaviour.

The discussion moved onto the SIP, governors learnt that all staff including support had input and the SIP is an ongoing document. DP asked if the school priorities drilled down further to appropriate staff groups, NP concurred that the document circulated to governors was streamlined and staff groups had greater detail. DP noted that key actions were date stamped.

NP pointed out that during Autumn term extra-curricular activities were being outsourced to enable teachers to concentrate on the key priorities. RR asked about extra-curricular clubs for SEND and disadvantaged children, NG drew attention to recent music recitals attended and dance club.

RR asked how do we judge success and if any trends have been identified through pupil voice; NP advised through student council, learning walks, parent and teacher forums and made the point that staff celebrate improvement, removing the emphasis on 'right or wrong'.

A discussion took place about responsive teaching and therapeutic thinking.

RR advised that an accreditation is available for trauma informed scheme, NP felt it important to further embed the practice in school.

SIP link governors were allocated, DP to continue to support on curriculum and RR and RK to focus on priorities 3 & 4.

### **9. Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy**

WBC model policy (adapted to The Winchcombe School) was adopted.

Clerk to upload to website.

### **10. Early Years Foundation Stage Policy**

Approved.

Clerk to upload to website.

### **11. Safeguarding Report**

RR reported on meeting with Family Support Workers (FSW) on 17.9.2021.

Audit of CPOMS was satisfactory, cases are being tracked correctly and data entry is accurate.

RR asked FSWs a number of questions for an Ofsted inspection, all were answered confidently and correctly. RR noted that it was unusual that there are so few referrals for a school of this

size but acknowledged that a lot of support is given to families just on the cusp of meeting the threshold for an intervention.

### **12. Health & Safety Report**

SP reported that all staff attended fire awareness training, and all support staff attended working at height and manual handling training on INSET day. All staff have attended safeguarding training and have read (and signed) Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021. Roof works due to start this month.

RK agreed to take on H&S role.

*SP and RK to arrange school walk around date during Autumn term.*

### **AOB**

- (i) Governors noted and approved new photocopier contract

### **Date and time of next meeting**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 at 5.00pm

*The meeting closed at 6.00pm*

	<b>Supporting documents</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>
<b>1.</b>	Agenda for this meeting	<b>1.</b>
<b>2.</b>	Minutes of the meeting of 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	<b>5.</b>
<b>3.</b>	SIP	<b>8.</b>
<b>4.</b>	Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy	<b>9.</b>
<b>5.</b>	EYFS Policy	<b>10.</b>