



**BOLDER ACADEMY
FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING MINUTES**

Company Registered Number: 8932893

Chair: Victoria Eadie

Clerk: Rebecca Wilson (**RW**)

Date of meeting: 3rd October 2023 at 8:00am

Venue: Meeting in school

Attendance:

Name	Governor	Other	Present / Apologies / Absent
Rajiv Chandra (RC)	Co-opted Governor		Present
Victoria Eadie (VE)	Appointed by Trust	Also a Member	Present
Fran Heaphy (FH)	Staff Governor		Present
Andrew McCaffer (AM)	Appointed by Trust		Present
Wendy Smith (WS)	Appointed by Trust		Present
Heidi Swidenbank (HS)	Ex-officio	Headteacher	Present
Eileen Sheedy (ES)	Appointed by Trust		Apologies
Carin Thakrar (CT)	Parent Governor		Present
Kate Biant (KB)		School Business Manager	Apologies
Greg George (GG)		Finance Director	Present

The meeting was declared quorate.

Agenda item	Action
<p>1. Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from ES. KB also sent apologies.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of interest</p> <p>No one declared an interest that may conflict with the meeting agenda.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of previous meeting (27 Jun 23)</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising/actions</p> <p>The following point was highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports Academy. HS confirmed that cricket is being offered through the Sports Academy for eight students. - School data. <u>HS confirmed that she will share school data at the next FGB meeting.</u> - Governor recruitment. <u>RW confirmed that she will continue to manage Governor recruitment.</u> 	<p>HS RW</p>
<p>5. Governance structure</p> <p>It was agreed that AM will join the Pay Committee, noting that ES Is not available this term.</p>	
<p>6. Headteacher's update</p> <p>HS referred to her report, which includes a whole school exam analysis for the first set of results for Bolder. Data will be validated in early October and Progress 8 also needs to be confirmed. The process of remarking has also been initiated for a few students. HS confirmed that she was pleased with the predictions, and it is hoped that the Progress 8 score will hold. Referring to subject results, she confirmed that science and French were strong, English has been questioned, and re-marks have moved up. The focus going forward will be on drama and PE, and controlled assessments will be closely managed this year. Within the cohort, fourteen students affected the results either through non-attendance, alternative provision or low attendance, and if these students were taken out of the data the Progress 8 score would be +0.46.</p> <p>Q: A Governor queried the variation across the maths score, acknowledging that progress was good.</p> <p>A: HS confirmed that all departments were supported by detailed analysis and confirmed that maths and English data was average and the school will push for improvement. VE highlighted that these subjects are double counted and must have done well to have secured the current Progress 8 score.</p> <p><u>HS confirmed that she will share more detailed subject analysis for English and maths.</u> It was also acknowledged that Governors would benefit from <u>training in 4 Matrix, which could be built into an FGB meeting.</u> HS highlighted that attainment data can be misleading, conscious that the student cohort will impact on this.</p>	<p>HS RW (Agenda)</p>

Referring to **Quality of Education**, HS confirmed that reviews are planned, and all teachers will be visited. Pupil Premium is a key focus, and pupil voice is also an element of this process. The reviews will be used to inform CPD as well as planning for the year.

Q: A Governor queried the focus on staff wellbeing.

A: HF confirmed that she is the lead for staff wellbeing, the aim being to build a targeted approach that is effective.

HS highlighted that SEND provision is slightly different for this year, noting that Hub support is more focused on younger children in Years 7 and 8. She also confirmed that EAL pupils now have a teacher to support them. It is recommended that Governors talk to staff and students regarding the new SEND provision; WS confirmed that she will engage with this.

WS

Referring to **Behaviour, Attendance and Safeguarding**, HS confirmed that key information has been shared, including the KCSiE update. She acknowledged that attendance was a national issue and expanded on national concerns. HS highlighted that all Governors must read Part 1 and 2 of KCSiE, and it was agreed that all Governors must complete safeguarding training. WS confirmed that she will also look at monitoring and filtering training. HS explained that the Governor disciplinary panels had been of mixed success, noting that a couple of students were at risk of PEX. VE acknowledged that the school had some challenging students, and Governors will not be able to turn students. This is a process that offers a check and balance and ensures that every effort is being made to avoid permanent exclusion. HS also highlighted the importance of ensuring that parents understand the level of support being provided by the school. VE acknowledged that Governors find this engagement rewarding and AM highlighted the value of parents understanding the support that is in place. HS confirmed that she will share dates for future discipline meetings, for Governors to confirm their availability. VA also recommended that Governors attend the PEX and IRP training offered through HEP. HS acknowledged the scope of the wider provision offered by Bolder and expressed her gratitude to staff for their level of commitment. Referring to destinations, HS explained that these have yet to be finalised, noting that most students who left Bolder went to Richmond College and the most able moved to grammar schools. Gold Duke of Edinburgh is offered at Sixth Form, and students are encouraged to take part.

Govs

WS

HS
Govs

Referring to **Leadership and Management**, HS confirmed that the INSET days had gone well. Accenture has completed a session on visioning and one to one training has been offered to staff. HS also thanked Sky for their coaching support. FH highlighted that she had undertaken a staff survey and received nearly 60 responses. The vast majority highlighted that their wellbeing was well supported, and they have positive wellbeing at work. She explained that personal space is becoming limited as the school grows. Wider social engagement is positive, and staff appreciate the Friday programme. HS highlighted that the SLT provided breakfast on a Friday with scope to also build in a cake bake; activities will be forecast throughout the year. A free, confidential support service is also available for staff and a small room has also been provided as a silent workspace.

HS outlined student numbers and confirmed a total of 924 students on roll, outlining vacancies by year group. VE highlighted that she was surprised that SEND numbers had dropped, and HS explained that numbers are likely to increase as information is received from primary schools. Referring to Sixth Form, HS confirmed that it was good to have older students within the school. The majority have remained with Bolder, and the cricketers add a really positive dynamic. HS also confirmed that the Sixth Form offer was retention positive for staff. VE confirmed that the subject offer at Sixth Form was reflective of a single school.

Q: A Governor queried the approach to sport going forward.

A: HS confirmed that she was thinking about the marketing of Sixth Form for next year and queried the appetite for football.

7. Safeguarding

HS highlighted that WS was due to complete a safeguarding visit and confirmed that the annual safeguarding audit has been completed by the Local Authority (LA). Liz Green has checked the SCR, with a Governor check scheduled for January. VE highlighted that the red in the audit related to the transfer of files, which is being addressed, asked that WS confirm this when she next visits. HS confirmed that she will check the grades for 7.1 and 7.2. VE also highlighted the value of looking at the use of CPOMS at some point in the year, conscious of the quality of information being captured. HS explained that she is currently happy with the approach and confirmed that information is effectively managed. Governors confirmed that they will all move to school email addresses.

WS
WS

Govs

8. Chair's Report

VE highlighted that she had met with HS twice and confirmed that it was a joy to see the Sixth Form in school. Year 7 also had a settling in evening, which was well attended.

9. Finance paperwork

RW confirmed that Governors have seen the finance paperwork up to July.

10. Policies

Governors ratified the following policies:

- Attendance Policy, HS will confirm that first and second day of absence procedures are included.
- Fire Safety Policy, updates linked to personnel changes.
- H&S Policy, minimal changes.
- Protection of biometric data, minimal changes.
- Complaints procedure, RW will confirm that if a complainant escalates to Stage 2 they must clearly state the reasons why and the outcome they seek. She will also confirm that no further information is shared three days before the date of the complaint.

HS

RW
RW

Policies already agreed by email:

- Behaviour
- Child Protection
- Exclusions and Suspensions
- Staff expectations and code of conduct

VE asked if the Admissions Policy needed to go to consultation. HS confirmed that it would not because there are no changes; the policy will go to the next FGB. It was agreed that where possible, policies will be split between the June and October FGBs, to avoid ratification by email over the summer.

RW
(Agenda)

11. AOB

No points were raised.

Next meeting date

- Tue 5 Dec 23 at 8am, via Teams (AGM & FGB)

Confidential minutes have been filed separately.

Meeting ended at 9:45 am.

Signature:

**Name of
Chair:**

Date:
