

Cowes Enterprise College

Local Governing Body

Date:	Thursday 2 nd May 2024
Time:	3.10pm
Location:	Cowes Enterprise College, Crossfield Avenue, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 8HB and Teams

Governors	Initials	Role	Apologies	Initials	Role
Rachel Richards	RR	Chair – OAT Governor	Cheryl Buggy	CB	Community Governor
John Irvine	Jl	Vice Chair – Community Governor	Will Burns	WB	Community Governor
Rachel Kitley	RK	Principal	Rob Pritchard (no apols)	RP	Community Governor
Helen Davis	HD	Staff Governor	Attendees		
Monique Gallop	MG	Parent Governor	Lynda Blenkinsop	LB	Assistant clerk
James Lucas (Teams)	JL	Parent Governor	David Sanchez- Brown	DSB	Assistant Principal
			Jill Wareham	JW	Interim clerk
			Vicky Wells	VW	Vice Principal

Minutes

Part	Key: Decisions, Actions, Support, Q: Governor questions, AP: Action Point	Actions
1.	Welcome and apologies for absence	
1.1	RR introduced LB, who works in the admin team, and is taking on the new role of assistant clerk. LB was attending in an observational capacity.	
1.2	Apologies were received and accepted from CB and WB.	
2.	Declarations of interest (for items on this agenda)	
2.1	RR declared an interest in agenda item 6.3 as her husband works for school.	
3.	Curriculum presentation on MFL from Luke Mills	
3.1	LM reported the curriculum developments happening in each key stage. KS3 had recently moved to a three-pillar approach with phonics, grammar and vocabulary, this is a long-term piece of work aimed at the new GCSE in 2026. Phonics is mapped across KS3 as is grammar. Phonics is helpful in second language acquisition. KS3 vocabulary from now on will reduce enormously to 1500 words for foundation and 1750 for higher. Students read aloud to each other and to the class. KS4 is split into two with current GCSE for one more year and current year 9s doing new GCSEs. LM is looking at grammar and students being more spontaneous and more confident in longer responses. There has been an increase in percentage of students in French and Spanish doing higher tier from 23 to 32 in French and 20 to 39 in Spanish. Q: Does CEC choose the exam board? A: Yes, CEC is changing from AQA to Pearson. Q: CEC has a big disparity between those choosing French and Spanish, is this a national trend?	

	<p>A: There is a huge push towards Spanish, what you see is how you say it. The order of most needed spoken language now is German, French then Spanish. One of the most challenging issues now is AI, students believe that if google says it, it is true.</p> <p>Governors thanked LM for his informative presentation which showed CEC students were given more practical use of the languages.</p>	
6. 6.2	<p>Reports & strategy. Careers IAG.</p> <p>DSB advised that CEC had been re-accredited during a whole day of inspection scrutiny and had gone up a tier of excellence. 100% of Gatsby Benchmarks had consistently been reached. 6th Formers have individual meetings with external careers adviser and DSB talks to a lot of students particularly Year 10, to make sure they are taking the right courses. Students get individualised support so they can track themselves.</p> <p>Q: What are Wight Careers? A: They are independent Careers Advisers (CEC previously used the LA).</p> <p>Q: Do children carry on with career path? A: Yes, they often do after they have analysed what skills they have, whether they want to help people, make money, what motivates them, then advise what skills set they need for particular careers.</p> <p>Q: Do students still go to work experience? A: Yes, they also see videos on a variety of careers e.g. watching physiotherapists throughout the year. Certain subjects have careers week e.g. Drama where they look at different aspects including acting, make up, stage management, etc.</p> <p>Q: How can governors help with work experience? A: DSB now gets employers in to talk to students, usually in July, and would appreciate governors coming in. Students used to go for a week on work experience but that was not always beneficial. Governors thanked DSB for his presentation and great report.</p>	
4. 4.1 4.2 4.2.1 4.2.2 4.2.3 4.2.4 4.2.5 4.2.6 4.2.7 4.2.8	<p>Minutes and matters arising</p> <p>Minutes from 21st March 2024 were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>Action log / update:</p> <p>4.2.1 AP1: <i>No apologies received from CB, JW to contact her:</i> CB did not have in her diary.</p> <p>4.2.2 AP2: <i>RR will remind governors to report back on visits made:</i> Completed, keep reminding.</p> <p>4.2.3 AP3: <i>JW to produce individual training plans and include a column for governors to insert dates of planned visits for the year:</i> See agenda item 5.3 and 5.4 below.</p> <p>4.2.4 AP4: <i>WB suggested RK writes to BA to request funding as they want to support building island talent:</i> Completed.</p> <p>4.2.5 AP5: WB to arrange to meet with DG just after Easter and spend a morning in school.</p> <p>4.2.6 AP6: <i>JW to contact the Governance team to clarify in writing whether the policy needs to state the feeder school names or whether it can just say OAT primary schools:</i> OAT advised the primary schools have to be named in the Admissions Policy.</p> <p>4.2.7 AP7: <i>JW to check to see if Biometric Policy needs to be on the website as not used at CEC:</i> Has to be on website with note saying not in use.</p> <p>4.2.8 AP8: <i>Provider Access. JW to send to governors for noting:</i> Completed.</p>	WB
5. 5.1 5.2	<p>Governance tasks</p> <p>Review membership and any vacancies or plans for recruitment.</p> <p>Suggestions to recruit new governors including contacting local councillors, advertising in local newsletters and attending transition evening for new Year 7 families.</p> <p>Clerk recruitment.</p>	Govs

<p>5.3 & 5.4</p>	<p>See agenda item 1.1 above.</p> <p>Skills audit & Present Training and Development Plan, review training log, and update on governor visits through written or verbal reports govs to look at training module before next meeting.</p> <p>JW had sent out the anonymised skills audit to governors and suggested that a time slot on the next agenda be allocated to discuss the results, training needs identified and then develop a training plan for next year and schedule visits in for the year. RR will also have one to one discussion with all governors.</p> <p>Governors are welcome to attend assemblies which are on every day and MG will schedule a SCR and Attendance visit this term.</p>	<p>RR</p> <p>Govs</p>
<p>5.5</p> <p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.1.1</p> <p>6.1.2</p> <p>6.1.3</p> <p>6.1.4</p> <p>6.1.5</p> <p>6.1.6</p> <p>6.1.7</p> <p>6.1.8</p>	<p>Any matter for escalation to the Trust. There were none.</p> <p>Reports & strategy</p> <p>Principal's report</p> <p>RK reported that the budget process had meant a significant amount of work. The budget is built from bottom up and is very tight this year, RK is hoping for final sign off by OAT tomorrow. Not confirmed yet is OAT maritime funding although Ormiston Trust will put money in. RK/RM has submitted balanced budget with a couple of anomalous areas including Art AP which OAT has agreed to fund but has not given CEC the money; it will be pre-agreed as a deficit.</p> <p>Q: Is there anything more governors could do e.g. more finance meetings? A: RM does month end summary at the end of every month.</p> <p>RM to send MG (finance link) the monthly budget monitoring summary for MG to review and challenge where necessary.</p> <p>GCSEs start next Thursday. There have been challenging staff absences including DoL of English and Head of Year 11, which will impact outcomes. Staff are making sure students turn up and keep calm.</p> <p>There has been lots of support and visits from OAT for Teaching & Learning and Attendance & Behaviour which have been very useful. Yesterday four OAT staff carried out a detailed visit to look at Inclusion, SEND and Behaviour and meet with lots of students; verbal feedback was very helpful, and they reported that there was no evidence of bullying, but they heard small pockets of derogatory language.</p> <p>6th Form have had a Year 12 parents evening, university trips, Year 12 went en masse to Bournemouth national event and went to see health courses at Southampton University. Year 9 CEC students visited CECAMM which was funded by the Royal Yacht Squadron.</p> <p>HW continues to work with Education Scotland on maritime work.</p> <p>RK spoke at Portsmouth yesterday about the school's work, the Duke of Edinburgh was there so RK invited him to CEC.</p> <p>RK has been invited by the Ministry of Defence to work on delivering the ship building stage of maritime. The MoD would support with sponsorship for school. RK to discuss with OAT CEO tomorrow.</p> <p>Personnel news. Tom Harding leaves on 7th June and James Milligan will step into the KS3 role.</p>	

<p>6.1.9</p>	<p>The Alternative provision bid was unsuccessful, but OAT is considering doing a bigger project here as there is not enough provision on the island. RK is asking for money to get the boiler fixed and refurbishment. Two primaries are planning to join the Trust. Eco Futures work on layering a new strand on top of Maritime Futures continues.</p> <p>Q: Is RK disappointed about the Alternative Provision?</p> <p>A: RK understands the reasoning behind the decision.</p> <p>Q: When will the primaries become part of OAT?</p> <p>A: RK thinks the earliest would be the Spring term. If three schools join OAT they would get a big grant.</p> <p>Q: If the LA do school closures, could the primaries wanting to join OAT still close?</p> <p>A: Yes.</p>	
<p>6.3</p>	<p>Review results of Edurio employee survey.</p> <p>The results have only been shared verbally. Most areas are green and there were no surprises. Student behaviour and career opportunities were orange and there were some ambers below the greens. There was criticism, particular from teachers, about communication and workload. There appeared to be an appetite for all communication to go back to in person but when feeding back to staff this was going to happen, they said they didn't want it that way.</p> <p>Q: Might these results be slightly skewed as only just over half of staff responded?</p> <p>A: RK said the whole thing had been interesting activity and now want to move forward. Teachers were not very positive, non-teaching staff were very positive, TAs were really happy, most negative comments came from staff who had been with school more than 8 years.</p> <p>Q: Would a rolling survey over the year rather than an annual one be more productive?</p> <p>A: This could be looked at.</p> <p>Yesterday, OAT staff visited and said they had seen lots of good practice, SLT are doing what they should be doing but there is a massive disconnect with teachers and behaviour of students; it is up to the teachers to manage behaviour. Next year all CPD will be on behaviour and relationships. SLT have made rapid changes and done all the things that have been asked for in a positive way. The staff governor did not feel the results were a true reflection of all the staff.</p>	
<p>7. 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.6 7.7 7.1</p>	<p>Policies</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy was noted by governors.</p> <p>Behaviour Policy was noted by governors.</p> <p>Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was noted by governors.</p> <p>Management of off-site visits Policy was noted by governors.</p> <p>Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy was approved by governors.</p> <p>SEND Policy was noted by governors.</p> <p>Admissions Policy for AY 2026-27 proposed changes – to discuss.</p> <p>OAT confirmed individual feeder schools will need to be named on the policy. Consultation begins on 1st October, so will not know by then which primary schools will be part of OAT. There had been 11 admission appeals this year, the vast majority are from Hunnyhill Primary School. CEC wants to develop a cradle to career continuum.</p> <p>Q: Are the East Cowes primary schools considered feeder schools?</p>	

	A: No, it is more about OAT schools being feeder schools. If CEC does not look at a wider catchment area than Cowes, it is likely to mean reducing CEC's PAN which may result in reducing staffing. Governors agreed to add Hunnyhill Primary School and Cowes Primary School as feeder schools to the 2026-27 Admissions Policy.	JW
8.	Committees - receive committee minutes/notes:-	
8.1	Finance working group on 28 th March 2024. See agenda item 6.1.1 above.	
8.2	SPB on 2 nd May 2024. Minutes will be sent out in due course.	
9.	Any other business None notified	
10.	Future meetings	
10.1	27 th June 2024 (SPB & LGB) all governors welcome to come to SPB.	
10.2	2024-25 meeting schedule. Awaiting dates for SPB meetings.	
11.	Confidential business There was none.	

Action Log 2nd May 2024

Agenda Item	Action	Person(s) Responsible	Status
4.2.5	WB to arrange to meet with DG just after Easter and spend a morning in school.	WB	
5.1	Suggestions to recruit new governors including contacting local councillors, advertising in local newsletters and attending transition evening for new Year 7 families.	Govs	
5.3 & 5.4	JW had sent out the anonymised skills audit to governors and suggested that a time slot on the next agenda be allocated to discuss the results, training needs identified and then develop a training plan for next year and schedule visits in for the year. RR will also have one to one discussion with all governors. Governors are welcome to attend assemblies which are on every day and MG will schedule a SCR and Attendance visit this term.	RR Govs	
6.1.1	RM to send MG (finance link) the monthly budget monitoring summary for MG to review and challenge where necessary.	RM/MG	
7.1	Governors agreed to add Hunnyhill Primary School and Cowes Primary School as feeder schools to the 2026-27 Admissions Policy.	JW	