

SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY (SWA) – GOVERNING BODY MEETING – PUBLISHED MINUTES - Thursday 5th February 2026

No.	Item
1	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>The Chair confirmed the running order for the agenda.</p> <p>Attending the meeting in addition to the governors were Clerk (JW), Head Students (IN/RR), Principal (NM), Assistant Principal (RG), Assistant Principal (AO) and Assistant Principal (LH).</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> –Three Governors sent apologies in advance. Apologies received were accepted.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u> - There were no declarations of interest declared regarding the agenda.</p>
2	<p>SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE</p> <p>The Head Students (IN/RR) introduced themselves and presented on the proposed change to the Sixth Form Dress Code regarding allowing blue jeans and denim. Governors asked questions about the definitions used and sanctions. Governors agreed the change could be implemented for a trial period.</p>
3	<p>DISCRIMINATORY DECISION FLOW CHART</p> <p>The Assistant Principal (AO) discussed the new Discriminatory Behaviour Decision Flow Chart and further information included in the updated Behaviour Management inc Exclusions & Physical Intervention Policy and Equality Guidance. He stated the policies were strengthened based around protected characteristics and included further information on reporting incidents and a standardised investigation process.</p>
4	<p>CAREERS AND STUDENT DESTINATIONS</p> <p>The Assistant Principal (LH) highlighted from his report the 2025 Leavers Destinations for Y11 and Y13. He confirmed for three consecutive years SWA students are entering sustained education, employment or training significantly above the national average. The Assistant Principal (LH) discussed the Careers Programme and focus on eight Gatsby benchmark performance and in all career elements the school meet at least 70% of the requirements, exceeding the national average of 60%. He discussed further actions for 2026. Governors asked questions about careers social media, work with feeder schools and disadvantaged data.</p>
5	<p>ATTENDANCE & SAFEGUARDING</p> <p>The Vice Principal (CK) delivered a pre-recorded presentation on attendance and safeguarding. The Chair discussed her Safeguarding Governor/SLT Link meeting and actions from this. The Principal confirmed that Assistant Principal (AO) will cover the Vice Principal's safeguarding role and Assistant Principal (RG) will cover attendance role whilst she is on leave. The Assistant Principal (AO) feedback further information on suspension data following a Governor question at the last meeting.</p>
6	<p>EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE - Mock Results</p>

	The Assistant Principal (RG) highlighted from his report the mock results and answered Governor questions on this. He discussed the improvement measures in place including running P6 sessions and Easter and May half term schools. He discussed Y12 tutoring younger students.
7	<p>PRINCIPALS REPORT</p> <p>The Principal gave a verbal update highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vice Principal maternity leave cover. ● Y11 Mocks went well. ● Model UN student event held last week. ● Addams Family summer production in rehearsals. ● Visit from MP Alistair Strathern arranged by student. ● In top schools for sport – SWA 73rd for Sport School and 10th for selective state schools. ● International Day on Friday and Girls STEM Coding day this week. ● Girls Netball in regional finals and in quarter finals for nationals. ● Three teams in national cups for football. ● Girl’s rugby Rosslyn Park event. ● Three to two tier meeting. ● AI work - will ask for parent support with working group. <p>There were no questions.</p>
8	<p>POLICIES</p> <p>Governors discussed the policy changes and agreed they were happy to adopt the Behaviour Management inc Exclusions & Physical Intervention Policy, Assessment Policy, Marking & Feedback Policy, High Attaining Policy and Damage to Academic Property Policy.</p>
9	<p>MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>Governors confirmed they had read the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes from the LGB meeting on the 16th December 2025 were agreed.</p>
10	<p>AOB</p> <p>Governors asked about changes to the Curriculum Review and what this means. The Principal advised that the Vice Principal (IB) would be updating Governors on this.</p>
11	<p>NEXT MEETING DATE</p> <p>Thursday 19th March, 7pm. Virtual Meeting.</p>