

SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY (SWA) – GOVERNING BODY MEETING – PUBLISHED MINUTES - Tuesday 23rd March 2021

No.	Item
1	<p>WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>Attending the online meeting in addition to the governors were BEST Chief Operating Officer, SWA Vice Principal and SWA Associate Principal.</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> – There were no apologies for absence. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> - There were no declarations of interest relating to the agenda.</p>
2	<p>TWO TIER UPDATE</p> <p>BEST’s Chief Operating Officer (COO) gave a verbal update of the information discussed with Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) at the BEST Trustees Meeting on 16th March. Governors discussed options, timescales, operational and financial considerations. The COO confirmed BEST will be sending out a Newsletter with a Two Tier update.</p>
3	<p>PRINCIPALS REPORT</p> <p>The Principal gave a verbal report highlighting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lateral flow testing has finished – an unbelievable achievement with Science Technician coordinating 5000 tests in two weeks with 25 volunteer parent helpers. • School budgets are getting harder as schools are getting the same money but costs are going up. • Lots of work has been done on Teaching & Learning – some big successes from remote learning that will be kept.
4	<p>SAFEGUARDING and SEN</p> <p>The Principal reported an increase in self-harm, eating disorders and mental health concerns, which is reflective of the national picture. He reassured governors that children are being supported.</p> <p>Governors discussed staff well-being and how bereavement is being supported. Governors shared plans for the Remembrance Garden.</p>
5	<p>PUPIL PREMIUM</p> <p>Governors confirmed they had read the Pupil Premium report and had no further questions.</p>
6	<p>TEACHER ASSESSED GRADES (TAGs)</p> <p>The Vice Principal confirmed the school is awaiting further guidance in order to clarify exactly what they are going to do with TAGs.</p>

	This is expected on 31 st March. The Vice Principal reassured governors that the school is well prepared. Plans were discussed for when children can come into school during their Mocks.
7	FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE Governors asked questions regarding the budget, Sixth Form applications and staff pay. The Principal addressed the matter of extra cleaning costs in light of the predicted COVID 3 rd wave.
8	GOVERNOR LINK FEEDBACK FROM VISITS Governors had submitted reports following their monitoring meetings. There were no questions regarding these. The Principal updated governors on some changes to Senior Leadership Team (SLT) roles and informed them there would be a Safeguarding Audit from CBC in April, which the Safeguarding Link Governor has been invited to attend.
9	GOVERNOR TRAINING There were no updates on governors attending training.
10	POLICIES and ADDENDUM/GUIDANCE Governors agreed to adopt the following policies: Attendance Policy, Educational Visits Policy, Misuse of Drugs & Alcohol Policy, Special Educational Needs Policy, SWA Fire Safety Management Plan 2021, Looked after and previously looked after children, High Attainers Policy, Behaviour Policy, Religious Education Collective Worship Policy. Governors confirmed they had read and understood the addendum/guidance documents had been distributed for governor information.
11	MINUTES and ACTIONS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Governors confirmed they had read the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes from the LGB meeting on the 9 th February 2021 were agreed.
12	AOB Governors discussed the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyber attacks – With school cyber attacks in the press, governors asked for reassurance that the school is cyber secure. • Student road accident – following a student being knocked over by a cyclist outside the school, the Principal confirmed that SWA is to lobby the council for a proper crossing and to make it clearer it is a 20mph zone.
13	NEXT MEETING DATE Tuesday 18th May, Virtual Meeting held via Zoom