



Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body
Wednesday, 19 March 2025 at 6.30pm at school

Constitution, Membership and Attendance

LOCAL AUTHORITY – 1	PARENTS – 2	CO-OPTED – 9	STAFF – 2
Jonathan Hurn	Nicole Dodsworth	Yusra Ahmad	Dermot Bracken
	Rebecca Mathews	Ryan Buckingham (Chair)	Sam Jeffrey
		Lucinda Holmes (Vice-Chair)	
		John-Paul Gentry	
		Adam Hammond	
Bold = absent		Issy Monckton	
		Alex Willoughby	
		Charles Wolford	
		Herschel Pant	

Also attended:

Josh Chamberlin (Interim Headteacher and Associate Governor), Andrea Fryer (Associate Governor) and Helen Cox (Clerk).

1.0	Apologies – Yusra Ahmad, Adam Hammond, Issy Monckton, Charles Wolford and Herschel Pant	Action
2.0	Declarations of interest – none.	
3.0	Staffing Update – welcome to Josh Chamberlin Ryan explained Dermot is currently away from the school with absence. He expressed his thanks and recognition of the work of the Senior Leadership Team and the staff team during this period. Ryan and Lucinda have been collaborating with the Local Authority to appoint a temporary Interim Headteacher during the period of Dermot’s absence. The school has also had support from a local Executive Headteacher in the interim to support the Deputy Headteacher while he has been acting up in the absence of the Headteacher. Lucinda thanked Ryan, on behalf of the other governors, for all the time he has spent managing the current situation.	

4.0	Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 November 2025 - approved by all present.	
5.0	Matters arising 4.0 Governor pen profiles/bio for the website - ongoing. <i>Helen to send link to Governor page to the governors.</i> 6.0 Dermot to share SDP with governors – ongoing. <i>Josh will share this via Governor Hub.</i> 6.0 Dermot to send the School Evaluation Form alongside the School Development Plans to governors – ongoing. <i>Josh will share this via Governor Hub.</i> <i>How have the Governors actions impacted on outcomes for pupils?</i> Ryan and Lucinda have worked with the Local Authority on the medium-term leadership plan during this period of uncertainty. Thank you to the other governors who have helped behind the scenes too. Nicole conducted a review of Single Central Register with Tina Sandhu. JP provided context about DBS checks and the system, approved by governors, whereby staff would make a self-declaration form after three years and then a new check conducted at five years. All staff will now do a new DBS after three years. Helen asked all the governors to check Governor Hub to ensure all declarations noted. <i>Action all governors.</i>	All Josh Josh All
6.0	Interim Headteacher’s verbal report The three initial priorities have been: Positive presence for the staff. The staff have been very well supported by JP. As Interim Headteacher he would like to be a positive leader in the school for staff, children and parents to give them confidence in the school’s leadership during this time. The Marshgate community was sent a welcome video via YouTube video on Friday and there will be regular newsletters. Ofsted ready – with an OFSTED deferral six weeks prior, it is a priority to ensure that we are ready for inspection when they call again. This initially means ensuring there is an accurate self-evaluation of the school which Ofsted will test when they inspect the school. Discussion took place about areas that have been identified for particular focus which include supporting subject leaders to be confident in the development of their curriculum area. Marshgate has many strengths and it is a priority to ensure staff are confident in evidencing this. Ready for September – Preparing a draft budget and ensuring all teaching posts are filled are also priorities at this time as school leaders look ahead to September.	
7.0	Preparing for Ofsted (virtual presentation from Andy Platt, Associate Director for School Standards and Performance, Education Services, Achieving for Children). Making sense of the Education Inspection Framework and the School Inspection Handbook (SIH) Context - Ofsted called in January, but the Ofsted inspection was deferred due to Dermot’s absence. The six-week deferral period has passed and an inspection is imminent. Pre-inspection analysis will have taken place before the telephone call is made. They will look at website, the IDSR and policies. The Lead Inspector will meet with Governors on day two of the inspection. All governors are invited to the final feedback meeting and governors can attend remotely. Graded inspections have the following judgement areas, plus safeguarding.	

	1. Overall effectiveness. 2. Quality of education. 3. Behaviour and attitudes. 4. Personal development. 5. Leadership and management. 6. Sixth form or Early Years (where appropriate). Governors play a strategic role in an inspection. The governors present had the opportunity to discuss and review the guidance from Andy Platt who will forward his presentation to Helen Cox to share on Governor Hub.	
9.0	Reports from Committees	
9.1	Resourcing Committee – meeting held on 4 March - feedback from Andrea <u>Key updates from meeting</u> • Marshgate Budget Model 2025 was reviewed. • SFVS and financial compliance model was completed and has been submitted to the Local Authority. • The auditor is due to visit Marshgate at the end of April. • Discussion took place at committee level regarding the Year 6 Annex building and air conditioning. • The after-school club move to the new provider is progressing smoothly. • IT project remains on pause pending further discussions. New switches to be installed end of March. • Staffing matters were discussed related to appraisals, positive working arrangements and JP's additional contributions to the school in this period.	
9.2	Curriculum and Progress Committee - meeting scheduled for 7 March was postponed.	
9.3	Children, Families and Community Committee – meeting held on 14 March 2025 feedback from Nicole Dodsworth • Bodet invacuation system discussed. • Home school agreement reviewed and suggestions for update provided. • RSE Policy reviewed and updated. • Data Protection Policy reviewed and updated. • Update about safeguarding provided.	
10.0	Governor Training – assessment and feedback from courses attended. • Alex reported he attended the Health and Safety for governors in January, it was an informative and useful course. • All governors to review CPD schedule.	
11.0	Any other business There has been a successful appointment for the new Clerk, subject to references.	
12.0	Confidential item discussed (not including Marshgate staff).	

The meeting ended at 9.00pm

Signed by the Chair _____ Date _____

Printed name Ryan Buckingham

Summary of Actions – 19 March 2025

	Details	Action
5.0	Governor pen profiles/bio for the website. Governors who have not written this to send to Helen – ongoing.	Governors
5.0	Josh to share SDP with governors onto Governor Hub.	Josh
5.0	Josh to share the School Evaluation Form alongside the School Development Plan to governors.	Josh
5.0	All the governors to check Governor Hub to ensure all declarations noted.	All