

Eardisley C E Primary School Governors

FULL GOVERNORS

Minutes – Tuesday 3rd February 2025

5pm - IN SCHOOL

Phillip Whittall - Chair Co Opted Governor	✓	Susan Mealand Head of School Associate Governor	AP	Doug Mundford Parent Governor	✓
Caroline Morris – Vice Chair Co Opted Governor	✓	Chris Malone LA Governor	✓	Juliet Clark Clerk	✓
Stewart Debenham Headteacher	✓	Lucy Blake Co-Opted Governor	NOT PRESENT		
Annabelle Griffiths Staff Governor	✓	Suzanne Raymond Parent Governor	AP		
Marcus Small Ex-Officio	✓	Angharad Blandford Parent Governor	✓		
Susan Brown Foundation Governor	✓	Mike Browning Parent Governor	✓		

The GB members introduced themselves to SD

- 1) **To receive and if agreed, accept apologies.**
Apologies were received and accepted from S Raymond and S Mealand.
- 2) **Governors absent with no submitted apology.**
L Blake not present. PW to contact.
- 3) **To receive declarations of interest.**
All governors reminded to complete the declaration of interest form previously circulated.
- 4) **GB were reminded of Governor Responsibilities and Confidentiality.**
- 5) **Governing Body formally accepted new Staff Governor and Associate Governor**
All in favour
- 6) **To approve minutes of last meetings held on 19th November 2024**
Minutes from the meeting held on 19th November 2024 were signed and agreed.
Matters arising – None

7) Headteacher's Report to Governors. Previously circulated. Includes:

- Staffing
- Attendance
- Attainment data 2023-2024

Questions:-

- Q. Some information about the 8 students working below age group and some of the consequences for the whole board to be aware of please?
- A. The LA are not concerned but SD explained that he needed to look in depth at this. It is down to HT discretion but the implications from keeping a pupil down a year could mean there are issues for students who then go through high school, either straight into year 8 or potentially being able to leave at the end of year 10 with no GCSE's. Explained that not in favour of the practice but all looked at individually.

Q. Are parents aware they are in a different year group to age?

A. Yes

Q. Should the GB express their view on this practice?

A. Noted in minutes that the HT wishes to encourage pupils to remain in age related year groups. Correct curriculum for age related year group to be used.

Q. When looking at attainment, what does EXS+ mean please?

A. Expected Standard or more.

There was a discussion on absence and attendance. Raising profile in weekly letter and Attendance Policy. Letters to be sent out each half term to parents/carers with children less than 90% and 95%. LA Attendance Officer visits regularly to track.

Q. What is going well?

A Staff are amazing and show great commitment, feeling welcomed.

CQ. What do you think are the current strategic challenges, and how you plan to address them... Also what do you see as opportunities for the two schools working together, and threats to the success of this?

A Referred to the SDP. Early days yet.

8) School Development Plan

Previously circulated. Ran through with GB and agreed.

9) Leadership Review

Options document previously circulated. PW ran through the options;

1. GB do the review
2. School Improvement Officer has visited and happy to work with GB
3. Independent Review
4. Combination

Agreed to look at Budget and then evaluate. To make a decision based on evidence and need to review financially in the first instance. SB to discuss budget with PA and Jan from LA. Alternative of finding new HT for September very unlikely. SLA to continue in interim. Staff to be briefed after GB meeting;

- 1 Budget
- 2 Review
- 3 Extend SLA
- 4 Solutions

10) Governor Communication

SD discussed Governor communication and GDPR. Moving forward to a simpler system to share documents on TEAMS. Easily accessed by all. Work towards this goal.

11) Governor Committee Structure

Clarify committees. Finance is established. Need Curriculum Committee/Ofsted? Put on Agenda for next time.

12) Curriculum Reports – Gov monitoring Schedule

SD to draft and link to SIP. Impact of monitoring discussed. Ofsted look for evidence of monitoring. Structure needed.

13) Governor Training – links circulated

Those that have not already done the training (links sent) need to do so by 1st March. Whole school staff training in Sept? DSL – CM to attend training on 18th March.

14) Policies for Review - previously circulated

- Whistleblowing policy
 - Antifraud policy
 - Gifts and hospitality policy
 - Finance and procedures policy
 - Pay Policy (added to Agenda)
- All in favour of adopting the above policies.

15) Finance Committee

SB shared the reports with the GB. Toilets to be updated.
Only concern – numbers in September are low.
Financial Skills Audit shared with GB – signed by the Chair.
SD will look at PPG for the next meeting.

16) Further Matters

Wellbeing Charter – Cards have been given out to new staff and governors. No updates.
Highways Issues. Discussion on patrol crossing and the improvement it has made to safety.
20 mph zone is now under consultation
Health & Safety see report - Previously circulated



31.3.2025

AOB

Discussion on school opening times. Gates are opened at 8.30 am.

Supervision/Safeguarding issues. Safety issues and outside of teacher's contracted hours.

New time to open gates 8.40 am with a soft start/staggered entry. Breakfast club is available at BL Pre School for parents that need an early drop off. GB agreed new time.

Attendance Policy needs tweaking – to be sent out for the next meeting to be approved.

Date for next meeting Mon 31st March 2025 5.00 – 7.00pm

Meeting closed 7.25pm