

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Minutes of the Student and Community Committee Meeting
Monday 30th April 2018

Time: 6 pm
Place: The Hub
Present: Debbie Youngs (chair), Jo Trigg, Pamela Raymond-Heath, Pete Gear, Mike Gunston
 Eleanor Shergold (Clerk)
Advisers: Eugene Spiers
Apologies: Jordan Mockett, Andy Williams, Helen Kerr

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
46/18	SNI to invite governors to relevant school events	DY
46/18	JT to follow up on school communications for governors with DCO	JT
46/18	Governors to be updated on the 3 year trend re behaviour in term 6	ESP
46/18	To look into the possible use of burns gel by first aiders	HKE
46/18	Uniform policy to be reviewed in October - MGU to discuss PE hoodies with HKE	MGU
46/18	MPE to get in touch with PG re healthy schools	ESP
47/18	Feedback on website pages most visited to be requested	SNI
48/18	SLA to be picked up by S&C and Resources in the autumn	S&C/Res

44/18 Apologies

Apologies were agreed and accepted.

45/18 Declaration of Business Interests

Governors were reminded to declare business interests as necessary.

46/18 Minutes and Matters Arising

- 9/18 - Governor attendance at school events - DY will email SNI to request that we return to the previous arrangement of invitations being issued by SNI
- 30/18 - School communications - JT will discuss further with DCO
- 37/18 - Planners - Student and staff voice has been sought, decision will be made in the next few weeks
- 40/18 - 3 year trend re behaviour - governors to be updated in term 6
- 42/18 - HKE is looking into the possible use of burns gel by first aiders
- 42/18 - Uniform policy will be reviewed in October. MGU will discuss possibility of PE hoodies with HKE
- 43/18 - ESP will ask MPE to contact PG re health schools

The minutes of 12th March were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

47/18 Marketing, the Website and Communication

Prospectus packs - the prospectus is now three years old. This was future proofed at the time of printing but will need to be updated. PSK will need a steer from governors whether the school will continue to provide physical copies or if an eBook is sufficient. Governors asked about the numbers of copies that are given out throughout the year. There were no objections from governors about changing to an electronic version.

Newsletter - continues to be produced and copies are sent to primary schools.

Wiltshire Times - some reports are published and some do not feature. Recent stories include grant funding for Ten Tors and PSK's appointment.

Marketing - MGU acknowledged that this could be improved but that there is no capacity in school.

Communication - School Gateway has been successful. 97% of parents receive school emails. 86% are on School Gateway itself and 63% use the app. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

Parents booking system - is well received and has been adjusted to make improvements for teachers.

Primary Schools - there is an academic mentor reading programme at two local primary schools. Maths sessions take place at one primary school.

Primary school visits to JoG - this has taken place less than last year to due capacity. There has been a number of PE events, science master classes and workshops for a KS3 show.

There are three Y5 days planned for July. This is built in by collaborative schools and receives really positive feedback, particularly from TAs. The aim is to give students a genuine curriculum experience.

Y7 intake for September discussed.

Website - governors asked if Oakford host the website. MGU - this is currently hosted offsite by another company. To look at bringing it in house the next time that it needs to be rebuilt. Governors asked if the school gets feedback on what people are viewing on the website so that these pages can be given priority.

Action - to request feedback

SNI

48/18 Alternative Provision

Larkrise - several Y11 students spend one morning a fortnight at Larkrise. This will be phased out due to the cost.

College - there will be no pre-16 students at college going forward. Around 10% of Y10/11 students have attended in the past. The college is phasing these courses out.

Include - the five places that JoG purchased are full. There are more students waiting for places.

Service Level Agreement - is in place until August 2019. Limitations and benefits discussed. The LA is going to draft a three pronged scenario model which will allow for a more informed discussion. This will come back to Headteachers before the end of the summer.

Opting out of the SLA would have a financial impact of £180k - half of this covers staffing and provision in school and the other half purchases Include places.

MGU said that there needs to be a conversation around what inclusion means to JoG. There is an increasing number of students with complex needs. Lack of LA SEN funding is putting pressure on the system.

Action - to be picked up by S&C and Resources in the autumn

S&C/Resources

49/18 Focus on Bullying

Results of student survey circulated at meeting. The survey had 200 replies and is similar to last year's in terms of feedback.

Racist/sexist/homophobic incidents - ESP said that the nature of this year's Y7 means that some students do not understand what is appropriate. This is reflected in the number of reported incidents.

Governors asked how bullying is recorded. ESP explained that the system was changed two years ago and that only SLT, year leaders and the pastoral team can record incidents. ESP has asked for feedback on the SIMS report to see if those involved consider it to be an accurate reflection of the overall picture.

Year leaders and pastoral leaders have followed up on the reported incidents to check how things are.

Feedback has been sought from student focus groups and case studies have taken place.

Cyber bullying - governors were surprised at the low numbers of students saying that they were victims of cyber bullying. MGU - JoG is dealing with more cyber bullying incidents than this per week.

44% said that JoG dealt with it well, quite well or very well, 14% did not know. ESP - this is partly linked to student perception - students will say they think bullying is taking place but are unable to give examples. Students also do not get informed about what action is taken in response.

Governors challenge - anything less than 50%, struggle to see in a positive light. Governors asked how students can have increased confidence that school will deal with bullying. ESP - ensuring that expectations are clarified, although this is difficult when the situation is emotional/raw. The pastoral team are brilliant.

ESP included a link to the recent national bullying survey - JoG seems to be doing okay in comparison.

50/18 PP Review Update

Update on January review. S&C related actions from the review focus mainly on attendance, the review stating that attendance is improving, needs to have a sharper focus and to be smarter around what is working.

MGU - Overall attendance currently 94.3%, half a % up on last year, this is a good step forward. Until December this was 95%. Persistent absence is lower at 13% - still above the national average, but progress is being made. Figures are more impressive if outliers are not included.

Girls and SEN have improved.

Governors observed that with plans and interventions in place DS attendance seems odd. MGU - this is proving difficult, although it is improving. Y10/Y11 are an issue, perhaps not so ingrained in the lower years. Governors asked about NGR's caution re the danger of reasons for poor attendance being 'normalised'. MGU agreed that it is possible to be too understanding of some families' context. ESP - the school has done worked hard in the last 18-24 months to challenge and build processes - staff, tutors, teachers are challenging attendance more than ever. Return to school interviews have been positive. There is a definite link with DS poor attendance where parents are not supportive.

MGU will explore why plans for the minibus to pick students up have not been followed up.

Attendance action plan - the only item still to be actioned is a breakfast club. This is around staffing capacity. The school has tried to apply for funding for this.

Barriers to learning/multiple deprivation - the spending plan has been revised in order to reflect layers of complexity.

Academic mentoring - governors asked for clarification on NGR's comments. NGR had no concerns about the purpose of this role. Protocols have been tightened up and expectations raised in response to observations made.

51/18 SIP and Safeguarding Update

Increase whole school attendance, including Post-16, so that learning time is maximised

Attendance - see above.

DY reported on the recent LA Safeguarding QA visit. Feedback on procedures and recording was very positive. Single Central Record - EBA was able to get clarification on recent changes. There was a robust conversation re student confidentiality - safeguarding is always treated at the highest level of confidentiality in the school. It is possible that procedures are too tight, staff needing a certain degree of information to look after students' welfare - particularly around being able to escalate concerns. This will be given further consideration. A very positive visit.

52/18 Policies

Lockdown procedure - governors asked for an update. MGU said that Resources had discussed having a focus on procedures rather than lockdown. This is yet to be actioned. The layout of the site means that lockdown would be difficult to achieve.

53/18 AOB

Student leadership - governors asked how ESP foresees that this will work going forwards. ESP/MGU - although students are great it will need continued involvement from a member of staff who is able to attend regularly and take ownership. This has been better with students getting involved on a voluntary basis than previously with the school council. It is also helpful to have strong links with the 6th from, the head boy/head girl attending meetings.

DY informed the committee that she will not be continuing as chair in September, is willing to be vice chair.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm. Date of next S&C meeting Monday 11th June 2018.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____