



ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 20th May 2025
 Time: 6.00pm
 Venue: Hazel Grove High School- Library

Clerk: K Warhurst
 Present: M Stewart, E Moroney, B Vickers, C Franklin, M Sackville-Ford, G Vout, J Butler, D Browne, Z Dzhumayeva

Action	Initials
Meet to discuss staff governor recruitment	MS, SB & KW
Governors to complete four mandatory training modules	All
Governors to send training certificates to Clerk	All
Distribute ACM dates for 2025/26	KW

Agenda – Part 1			
Category	Item	Notes	Action
1	Governance Arrangements	PDC training	It was agreed to roll forward this agenda item to ACM1 for 2025/26 when all Governors in attendance
		Apologies	Apologies sent from S Blades and A Bentley. G Vout agreed to Chair the meeting in SB's absence
		AOB items	None received
		Declaration of interest in any of the agenda items	None received
		Register of interests	Governors were asked to check their record on the Register of Business Interests circulated and inform the Clerk of any changes. There were no changes to the Register of Business Interests.
		Part 1 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 25 th February 2025 were <u>approved</u> as an accurate record of the meeting and all actions were completed.
		Membership:	D Browne informed the Academy Committee that MS,SB & KW

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	Recruitment Update/Succession Planning	<p>this would be his last meeting as he was leaving the Laurus Trust for new role and therefore would no longer be the Staff Governor.</p> <p>MS suggested a meeting with SB and KW to discuss recruitment for a new staff governor.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding potential recruitment of one further governor. SB and MS have both received expressions of interest.</p> <p>MSF updated the Academy Committee of the intention for Laurus Grace to start their own Academy Committee from April 2026 when they move into the new building. He advised the committee that he is currently recruiting and would like his governors to shadow another trust's Academy Committee to see how it functions.</p>	to meet to discuss Staff Governor recruitment
	Scheme of Delegation	There were no material changes to the Scheme of Delegation.	Noted
	Trust Board Update	Governors were provided with a Trust Board update from the TB meeting in February 2025 and had no further questions.	

2	School Performance & Accountability	<p>Review of Head of School Report including: Attainment Attendance Behaviour Hazel Grove Sixth form</p>	<p>M Stewart presented the HoS report to the governors.</p> <p>A key focus has been to prepare Year 9, Year 11 and Year 13 students for the exam season with additional revision sessions taking place before and after school as well as during lunchtime and on Saturdays. The uptake for these has been strong.</p> <p>There has been a huge uptake for the Bronze DofE this year and over Easter, there were trust wide sports tours to Malaga and Lisbon.</p> <p>The building work for Laurus Grace is making good progress.</p> <p>School have continued the drive on improving behaviour and standards.</p> <p>Staff recruitment for September draws to a close and school are finalising appointments and will be fully staffed for September.</p> <p>There are lots to look forward to for the remainder of the term with parent meetings for the languages trips, sports day, and the House Cup assembly on the last day of the school year.</p> <p><u>Attainment</u></p> <p>B Vickers informed the governors it was currently a very busy time with 261 Year 11 students sitting exams. They are a third of the way through and the exam team are working hard with these students, along with the year 9 Languages exams, year 13 A levels and Core Maths & Further Maths for year 12.</p> <p>Preparations included mock exams in December/March and in-lesson assessments and the buy in from students had been high.</p> <p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>Attendance trends are the same. It is very positive with the current year 7 both nationally and locally but this can tend to go down as they progress through school. Schools' focus is on transitions as school have access to data that can support with predicting student attendance. This is the first time school has access to this data and it will help to get</p>	
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		<p>ahead of it and stop the dip in attendance from year 8 onwards.</p> <p>There are several areas school are focussing on including the transition from year 7 to 8, year 10 project to get ahead of the dip in attendance by working with key groups to support improving their attendance and a Local Authority review to get guidance and support.</p> <p>Q – Different cohorts can change the pattern with attendance; can you capture this and pick up on it?</p> <p>A – Yes, school can spot patterns before it happens using the data available. It can be very difficult once a student has persistent absence.</p> <p>Q – We assume figures can be affected by just a few students?</p> <p>A – Some students have significant external factors in their life outside school that can affect attendance and school support these students as much as we can.</p> <p>Q – What about internal truancy?</p> <p>A – Some students find it difficult to go to lessons once they are in school. We are working hard on lesson avoidance and one action was to deliver an FPL session to staff on making students experience in lessons a positive one.</p> <p><u>Behaviour</u></p> <p>E Moroney explained a lot of hard work had been put into student behaviour since January and they can see positive outcomes across school. Students are making the right choices and staff are more confident when dealing with situations.</p> <p>Students are reporting behaviour and not allowing it to happen and HOYs and the pastoral team are working hard with students to prevent repeat behaviour.</p> <p>The LA are happy with the work school has done so far and the number of suspensions has already reduced. School continues to maintain high expectations and the next step is to look at reducing lesson avoidance.</p>	
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			<p>Q – Do you think staff have a better understanding of how to apply sanctions?</p> <p>A – Staff have always been clear on issuing sanctions but what has improved is centralising detentions as this has increased student attendance. Also, positive conversations are taking place to resolve behaviour rather than it escalating.</p> <p>Feedback so far has confirmed there is a C code to deal with any interaction and a script to assist teachers for each one.</p> <p>From reviewing the data, you can see the vast majority of students are attending lessons and doing what they should be and for that small minority of students there are plans in place to support them in making the right choices and to ensure they are accessing their education.</p> <p><u>Sixth Form</u></p> <p>The Sixth Form will be holding an Induction morning at the end of June for all our Conditional Offer Holders. The indication of numbers for next year is very positive so far.</p> <p>Our year 13's have worked hard and set a good example for our year 12's. They have been applying to a number of universities for a wide range of courses and firm choices have been confirmed. One student has received a place to read maths at Oxford and another has received an offer to read maths at Cambridge.</p>	
		Review School Development Plan	<p>MS explained the SDP is now a 3-year plan detailing long term aims. Each aim is RAG rated so they know where they are with each aim and they keep re-visiting those that are red and amber.</p>	

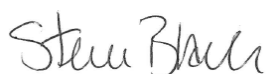
3	Laurus Grace	Review of Head of School Report	<p>M Sackville-Ford provided a verbal update to the governors.</p> <p>The building work is progressing well. He thanked the staff at HGHS for their patience during this time. Most of the noisy work has been done and the remaining work is mainly internal.</p> <p>All 24 places have been filled and they now have a waiting list.</p> <p>They held a parents afternoon tea and it was great to hear from other parents as to how well their young people are doing.</p> <p>MSF confirmed DofE is on the curriculum which will challenge the students at their level.</p> <p>Attendance is not where they want it to be but the school are working closely with families to deal with complex situations.</p> <p>Q – Would HGSF students have an opportunity to work with Laurus Grace students as this would be great experience to add to their university applications?</p> <p>A – Sixth form students work with SEN and disadvantaged students in the main school so there may be scope if they show an interest in this area.</p>	
		Policies (undertake school level reviews of relevant policies)	<p>Clerk advised the governors that the policies below were written last summer in preparation for the opening Ofsted, therefore these were showing for review again. As no changes were needed, the governors were advised the only amendment was the review date to July 2026:</p> <p>Attendance Policy Collective Worship Policy Mobile Device Policy PSHE Policy School Uniform Policy</p>	Noted
4	Governor Monitoring	Finance update including pupil numbers, bench marking and value for money	Governors reviewed the financial accounts for March 2025.	

		Policies – undertake school level reviews of relevant policies	<p>Governors <u>approved</u> the Uniform policy.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Behaviour Policy was <u>approved</u> by the Chair of Governors on behalf of the Academy Committee in between meetings (a copy of which was provided).</p> <p>Clerk advised governors that the Drug & Alcohol policy was now a Trust policy and therefore no longer sat at Academy Committee level.</p>	Noted
		Ensure Curriculum Policies (Religious Education and Relationships, Sex Education), Behaviour and Welfare policies are in line with statutory guidance	MS confirmed all curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance.	
		Safeguarding and SEND Link Governor record of visits	<p>A Bentley submitted a written report on his record of visits as SEND Link Governor.</p> <p>G Vout provided a verbal update on his record of visits as Safeguarding Link Governor</p>	
5	Governor Development	Review Trust Training plan	Governors were reminded to complete the four compulsory training modules.	All
		Minute any training undertaken by governors since the last meeting	Governors were asked to notify the Clerk of any training undertaken and provide certificates.	
6	Community Engagement	Stakeholder engagement – verbal update (Staff/parents/ students/ Governors)	J Butler and G Vout updated the Governors on the Careers sessions they were recently involved with in school.	
	AOB	GDPR overview	It was agreed for this agenda item to be rolled forward to ACM1 for 2025/26.	

	Meeting Dates:		Clerk confirmed dates for 2025/2026 would be communicated prior to the end of term.	
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Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes	
Head of School report for HGHS was reviewed, including attainment, attendance, behaviour, and Sixth Form	
Governors reviewed the School Development Plan	
Head of School provided a verbal update for Laurus Grace, including student numbers, attendance, and progress with building work.	
Governors approved 1 policy for HGHS	
Governors reviewed the Management Accounts for March 2025	
Governors received update from Safeguarding and SEND Link Governors	

Meeting closed at 7.20pm



Steve Blades
Chair of Academy Committee
21.10.2025