

# IMPACT STATEMENTS 2019 - 20

Full Governing Body (Hazel Cole)

## Impact Statement Sept 2019

- Much of the Governor activity in this meeting was based around ensuring the governing body is in a position for the next year to remain compliant and be as effective as possible as well as understanding the outcomes of the previous year.
- Governance positions appointed and committee members agreed. Now the LiFE Mat is in a more mature position a couple of governors resigned from their Director positions in order to concentrate on their local governor roles and removed potential conflicts of interests.
- The chair's first term of office expired and so was appointed as an interim position to allow some more time for succession planning within the governing body.
- A parent letter looking for assistance brought the travel policy to governor attention and this was delegated to the P&S committee to assess if the processes are robust and the policy matches the ethos of the school and is fit for purpose.
- Governors challenged the Head of School to account for lower than normal GCSE results and accepted the evidence provided that, due to change of age range circumstances, the cohort that came through this year was not the typical demographics that BA have seen. This situation was also affected by the larger than normal mobility of pupils joining this year group between year 7 to 11 due to the school not being at full capacity which again distorted the demographics of the year group.
- Governors also challenged the performance of individual subjects and how rigorous interventions by staff made significant positive contributions to this year groups results.
- The Post 16 results were excellent with a third of the students getting A or A\*.
- Governors made plans to base all agendas around the soon to be shared SEF and SIDP to make the Governor activity as relevant as possible to school requirements.

### Autumn Term December Meeting

- Succession planning discussed as CoGs term of office has ended. Chair to remain in place for a couple of terms whilst a successor is appointed. The local board of governors has become more established in its members and understanding of its role since becoming part of a MAT and this is now an opportunity for a new person to take over the role and shape the governing board going forward. New governors are being supported to complement the current skills
- Committee memberships agreed
- Transport costs considered leading to an amendment to the transport policy to ensure it remains fit for purpose
- Summer results discussed to understand the unusual KS4 cohort, the staffing challenges and how BA will move forward from these results
- Excellent A level results - best ever
- Investors in People renewed with “exceptional progress”
- New classrooms are progressing
- Some Governors attended the Strategic Planning day held by the MAT/BA in June 2019

### Spring Term 12 March 2020

- Many items in this meeting provided evidence that BA is working within the collaborative spirit of the LiFE MAT and is working hard to maintain the ethos of the MAT.
- Governors heard from a senior leader how BA are supporting the growth of the MAT by supporting teachers in other school and participating in coaching training and that this is bringing benefits back into the school by allowing staff to experience different environments.
- Governors learnt:
  - about 3D learning which encourages staff to take responsibility for their work that needs most improvement
  - that whilst there are still some behavioural challenges, it is still possible for teachers to focus on high quality teaching and that they have many opportunities to plan for excellent lessons
  - The house system has been introduced
  - The curriculum journey is being reassessed to ensure it still provides student with a great experience, especially now there is a 3 year GCSE approach and to check that BA has not become an “exam factory”
  - Attendance is high and although it is above national average BA is still working to improve this even more
  - The latest challenge partners report provided external endorsement of the great achievements happening within BA, with the area of excellence being Post 16 which enables BA to provide leadership days and generate revenue from it
  - That the cost of supporting work experience isn't sustainable and agreed to look into this further via the MAT finance committee
- The new fundraising group created out of parent stakeholders is now set up and is working with the school to develop fund raising ideas.
- The BA governing body is linked to the Directors via Hazel Cole who has been appointed within the Directors as the BA Link Governor.

- Governors added Post 16 recruitment to the risk register and also considered GDS' 8 Development steps for governing bodies as part of their self-assessment

#### Summer Term

- Specific focus on Covid related provision including remote and blended learning, safeguarding and pupil wellbeing - 2 targeted meetings

#### **People and Stakeholders** (Rosalind Goldson)

##### Autumn Term

- Presentation on the coaching systems available to all staff
- Discussed the committee remit
- Added agenda items for future meetings
- In depth discussion on costs of student transport and how these can best be managed.
- Decision reached following complaint from a parent
- Discussion of the Fourth Way Award and agreement reached as to how it could be more widely publicised and nominations made

##### Spring Term

- The policy remit was reviewed and agreed
- Previously circulated Policies discussed and agreed
- Presentation of SEND provision by SEND coordinator, questions and answers followed to give a full understanding
- Brief oral report on visit made to the SEND department previously
- Update of House system
- Overview of student wellbeing leading up to exams and support offered to minimise stress and anxiety

##### Summer Term

Governor meetings were suspended due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Agenda items viewed as less urgent in current circumstances were suspended and a video link meeting was conducted to discuss the most relevant points. Chiefly these were related to safeguarding in the widest sense and planning in the ever changing climate how to best advance students' learning and wellbeing. Consideration was given to new responsibilities that staff may have had to take on. Time was taken to recognise the different ways that students would respond to the new challenges and how best to support them.

#### **Learning and Teaching** (Kate Grocock)

##### Autumn Term

- Full and frank discussion in order to fully understand the circumstances and factors influencing the 2019 student outcomes, plus the adding of EBacc entry V Progress 8 to the risk register for further monitoring
- Clarity reached on PP spending: L&T committee will seek a simple overview of PP spending allocations and impact as part of the budget standing item. There is no expectation from governors for an item-by-item breakdown of PP spending.
- The committee raised suggestions for increasing parental engagement and accountability through the L&T policy document.

### Spring Term

- Presentation by SMO and discussion on home learning, assessment protocols and the QA cycle led to request for audit of demands on staff (wellbeing concern)
- Identified risk: high EBac entry rate and lower performance in MFL possibly leading to lower Progress 8. HPA progress also identified as a risk.
- Feedback given on two governor visits and one agreed for summer term.

### Summer Term

Committee meetings suspended due to Covid-19 however, learning and teaching items were fully explored at a replacement video-link FBG meeting in June and an additional extraordinary meeting in the final week of term:

- Governors asked questions to understand the school's interpretation of the 2020 system for centre-assessed grades in place of cancelled exams., and were satisfied these procedures were carried out with rigour and fairness.
- SB shared comments and resources demonstrating the quality of remote learning provision during partial school closure. Governors asked questions to monitor the procedures, variety and challenges of remote teaching and learning.
- Governors ascertained how students unable/unwilling to engage in remote learning from home were being supported to minimise lost learning.
- The provision for Year 10, Year 12 and key worker/vulnerable students was explored.
- Several governors contributed to the school's Strategic Planning Day which includes setting learning and teaching priorities for 2020-21 and beyond.