

Meeting 1403 Minutes							
Date & Time	01 October 2014 18.06		Location		Conference Room		
Attendees		Initials			Attendees		Initials
Peter Rodgers		PR	Parent Gov (Chair)		Helen Salmon		HS
Sharon Samuel		SS	Parent Gov		Julie Stevens		JZS
Jonathan Coupland		JCoup	Co-opted Gov		Alex Jackson		AJ
Nigel Larcombe-Williams		NLW	Co-opted Gov				

Apologies	Initials	Reason for Absence (Category of Governor)

Absent without Apology	Initials

In Attendance	Initials	Capacity	
Aimee Mitchell	AZM	Vice Principal	Item 6
Gary King	GK	Assistant Principal	Item 5
Gareth Smith	GS	Assistant Principal	Item 7
Sally Hubbard	SH	Assistant Principal	Item 8
Jay Hooper	JH	Clerk to Governors	

Minutes to
All Governors
Website
Notice board

	Agenda item	Led by
1	Introduction and apologies	Chair
2	Declarations of interest	Chair
3	Minutes of previous meeting	Chair
4	Matters arising and not on the agenda	Chair
5	Homework Strategy	GK
6	Closing the Gap	AZM
7	Maths Action Plan	GS
8	Transition Plan	SH
9	What Difference?	KP
11	Schools of Tomorrow	HS
13	Next meeting	

Ref	Action or Decision	Owner	Date Raised	Date Due
1403.1	No apologies			
1403.2.	There were no declarations of interest. Reminder issued to make declaration if relevant.			
1403.3.	Minutes of previous meeting 18 June14 agreed as true record and signed.			
1403.4	None arising from minutes.			
	Agenda items were not taken in order of listing.			
1403.5	<p>GK provided overview of Homework Strategy, developed in light of parent concerns and aimed at ensuring that homework is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant, and reinforces and advances classroom teaching • Is held as equal value to classroom learning • Receives due acknowledgement on receipt by teachers, and is marked appropriately <p>Introduction of SIMS gateway enables parents to check on homework set and due date; approx. 37% parents have requested a system password to date and communication with parents continues, in order to increase awareness of this new facility.</p> <p>Governors questioned how monitoring will take place, in order to establish that improvement is happening. GK explained this will be a combination of line manager, HoF and learning walk checks and observations.</p> <p>Impacts on students and views of parents will be sought through student Voice and other forums.</p> <p>Governors challenged some areas, including how barriers to online access will be overcome, and what we are hoping to see through effective implementation of the strategy.</p> <p>Also noted that Ofsted now places more emphasis on the quality of marking and feedback. Item to provide update on January agenda</p> <p>GK left the meeting 18:41</p>	JH/GK	01.10.14	January 2015
1403.6	<p>AZM introduced the plan for Closing the Attainment Gap, and asked for a named governor to work with her to offer challenge and act as critical friend. JZS offered to do this.</p> <p>Last year, gap closed by 10%; a considerable achievement. The College now has the smallest gap of any school in Devon, but the aim is still to reduce further.</p> <p>AZM presented facts and figures, and described the key issues in line with Ofsted thinking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on families • Accountability of teacher, and their awareness of what the school is doing to support an individual • Ensuring more able FSM students correctly placed on entry 			

1403.6 (cont)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking at how Primaries are spending money on the same students, and ensuring transition builds on success and good practice <p>College has introduced shared documentation across all Faculties, so interventions and information relating to an individual student are shared across all their teachers.</p> <p>Governors questioned how the views of students are to be gathered, and if there is evidence to show that parents are fully aware of and signed up to all interventions.</p> <p>AZM responded that view sought through year group focus groups, and through lesson observations. For all interventions, there is a communication log that notes all communications, letters and agreements between the school and families. Also have to be mindful of the sensitivities attached to actively seeking views from these groups and individuals.</p> <p>Governors discussed parental satisfaction and how this could be measured; noted that Ofsted focus will be on the accuracy of data and evidence that the gap is closing.</p> <p>JZS pointed out the potential impact that fsm at KS1 may have on this measure. AZM thanked for the work; item will return to agenda in line with school business cycle. AZM left meeting at 19:35</p>			
1403.7	<p>GS introduced the Maths Strategy and Action Plan. This had been circulated in advance of the meeting and Governors invited to ask questions.</p> <p>Discussion started with the results at KS4 and KS5, and predictive vs actual grades. Analysis enables attribution of results to individual class groups and teachers, and the Action Plan reflects this.</p> <p>18:56 pm meeting moved to Part II</p> <p>19:10pm meeting returned to Part I. Item to provide update on January agenda. GS left meeting at 19:11</p>	JH/GS	01.10.14	January 2015
1403.8	<p>SH introduced the Transition Plan, outlining the work underway and planned with feeder primaries.</p> <p>Governors discussed in detail the initiatives and work at both strategic and faculty levels, and potential impacts and approaches.</p> <p>JZS offered to provide some help to support research; this was accepted. SH left meeting at 20:07</p>			
1403.9	<p>HS informed of national initiative Schools of Tomorrow which takes a more holistic approach to education – not just academic achievement, but character and whole child development. AM is taking part in their leadership development group; HS has joined the executive.</p>			
1403.10	<p>Transition work creating the basis for a future confident school</p> <p>Reassurance about the value of homework</p> <p>Links between the Committee agenda and school business cycle</p>			
1403.11	19 November 2014 6pm			