



		<p>than the average proportion on our roll.</p> <p>The number of exclusions [51] was queried. It is correct but did not involve 51 pupils more like 31 as some excluded more than once. There has been a further exclusion since this data was published. The protocols have been followed regarding an incidence of racial bullying which has been referred to DCC.</p> <p>In answer to a question ABL says the 121As are going through more quickly now. Since DA's appointment the CPoms have been reviewed in line with the action plan to improve the information flow, posters have been done. The Whistle Blowing policy has been recirculated, fields have been added to the protocols of the SC Register, threshold data will also be covered at a lower priority. DA has worked on archiving of data, data transfer of starters and leavers, held weekly safeguarding meetings with pupil coaches, HoL and the Hardy Centre Manager to get a better understanding of the individuals. There is a booklet available for visitors in reception, the website has been refreshed to include a safeguarding tab on the front page, DA has been trained to lead L2 training for staff and governors. DA is monitoring pupil use of computers with a safeguarding overview and has begun mentoring some pupils. There have only been 8 parental responses to a "Be aware of what your children are doing" initiative in Parent mail this week, updates will be sent in the newsletter, and follow up will happen in tutor groups, assemblies and a dedicated evening session for parents.</p> <p>Question: are there any major issues with the 121As? Yes, we are following procedures.</p> <p>Q. Do you offer help with adaptation of phones? There is information on the website.</p> <p>Q. When you said crime starts in the school environment were you referring to safeguarding issues? Yes this age group is particularly vulnerable.</p> <p>PJV says well done for what has been done so far; keep up the good work.</p>	<p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q,I</p> <p>Q,I</p> <p>Q,I</p>
2016-17/ GOV/45	<b>Minutes of the last Meeting</b>	The minutes of the meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> January were proposed for adoption LM, 2 <sup>nd</sup> DS and agreed as a true record.	I
2016-17/ GOV/46	<b>Matters Arising and action log from the Minutes</b>	<p>Clk confirmed that each staff governor does have a vote, however SLT members are associate governors and do not currently have a vote.</p> <p>Actions: PJV is booked onto a Chairing training session on 16<sup>th</sup> March [all day] at Tiverton.</p> <p>Clerk job role review and appraisal to be complete by 23<sup>rd</sup> May.</p> <p>Clk had added an action log to the FGB minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> January this will be a regular addition to all minutes.</p> <p>Action log review will be on each agenda in future.</p> <p>PJV had discussed the meeting content with TRA.</p> <p>LM has commenced the mini interviews for the new skills audit.</p> <p>Clk to add training log and feed back to each FGB agenda.</p> <p>Date for next structure review meeting to be confirmed by IN after consultation.</p>	<p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I,O</p> <p>I,O</p> <p>RE</p> <p>RE</p> <p>I,C</p> <p>I,O</p> <p>RE,O</p> <p>IN,O</p>

		<p>Annual Cycle is in Governor Handbook. Clerk will list policies for next meeting on each agenda and notify sponsor of date required to be sent to governors for reading in advance of meeting; 2 weeks before for receipt of the same by Governors. IN will contact Stuart Satinet.</p> <p>David Atkinson attended this meeting.</p> <p>Review training subscriptions and share passwords etc.</p> <p>Invite Dr Morgan to a future meeting. There was a discussion on how urgently a decision is needed regarding GTS safeguarding procedures in regard to the Fraser competency and the Gillick guidelines. This is a complex area and needs a full and informed discussion, preferably in the presence of Dr Morgan; there are currently no local guidelines. Governors therefore welcome further written balanced information giving the pros and cons information to assimilate prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>RE O I N C O O</p> <p>TRA</p>
2016-17/ GOV/47	Items from Committees	<p><b>T&amp;L.</b> Governors to note they will receive invitations to attend learning walks, work scrutiny sessions and or pupil voice; again information on how they can be involved was requested prior to these events.</p> <p><b>Personnel.</b> The decision to allocate PJ and DS to this committee pending the outcome of the structures day session was noted and agreed.</p> <p><b>Premises.</b> Recommendation to Finance committee, see below.</p> <p><b>Finance.</b> Decisions on the extended schools finance, pension fund contributions, staff expenses policy, repair and remodelling of SC1 and the school meal charge were noted. The recommendation to add an addendum to the Finance Policy was agreed.</p>	<p>I</p> <p>I D I I D</p>
2016-17/ GOV/48	Report of the Head Teacher	<p>TRA had sent her report [copy on file] in advance; this was reviewed in detail with TRA taking questions on the content. LM had submitted several questions in advance. TRA confirmed the <b>attendance</b> target – semi - officially is 95% we have an “in house” target of 95.4%. As we are a high performing school with regard to attendance we do not have to submit a target to LA.</p> <p>LM noted the <b>attendance</b> is well above the national average; she noticed a slight trend of attendance dropping the older a child gets. LM enquired if this is a national trend? TRA responds saying Locally (thought to be mirrored nationally) we are currently seeing an increase in ‘anxiety and depression’ cases particularly in Yr. 10.</p> <p>Unauthorised absence is mostly non-attendance due to illness, however “hidden” within this will undoubtedly be a number of unauthorised absences where parents have claimed illness or not contacted school but have gone on holiday. Currently we are unable to pursue holidays due to guidance from DCC. We are awaiting an update on this as there are a number of test cases currently being challenged. Attendance is currently 94.6% this time last year 96.34%; we are currently experiencing unusually high % of illness – 1.138% higher than at this time last year. Holiday (agreed / not agreed) 0.121% (0.02% higher than last year). Significant increases in absence have come from:</p> <p>Illness: + 1.138%, Exclusions: + 0.215%, Unauthorised absence: +0.285% -medical evidence requirements have been more rigorous this term and may account for the increase, and also possibly holidays that have been taken without a request and not been identified.</p>	<p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>

	<p>Without these increases in absence we would be 0.1% greater than last year.</p> <p>LM noted that data showed that Yr. 10 makes up a substantial amount of the <b>exclusions</b> which this year reversing the figures with a greater number of exclusions of girls than boys. LM is aware that a large number of these are from mid phase pupils [MPP] but asks if this is higher in Yr 10? TRA Yes – the highest number of MPP are in year 10 (see below):</p> <p>Yr 7 – 1: 0G 1B  Yr 8 – 10: 4G 6B  Yr 9 – 12: 9G 3B  Yr 10 – 27: 15G 12B  Yr 11 – 17: 10G 7B.</p> <p><b>NB</b></p> <p>MPP (67) are 9.8% of the school population but account for 40% of exclusions clearly having a disproportional impact. However, of the 67 only 16 (2.3% of population) have received Fixed Term Exclusions [FTE], therefore the impact is hugely disproportional. Of the core GTS pupils who have been excluded 40% of them have shown deterioration in behaviour associated with MPP. 31 pupils in total have been excluded.</p> <p>LM notes the School Improvement Plan [SIP] has been adjusted to be better prepared to deal with the needs of the mid phase children [objective 3.8]. Can TRA advise what actions have specifically been so that as governors we can monitor the same?</p> <p>TRA response. Induction and admissions program has been reviewed and newly implemented. It allows greater data and info gathering and an increased involvement of parents throughout. There is now an extended period of monitoring and intervention especially necessary when information requested from previous schools does not arrive. Tracking and identification of MPP has been enhanced and are now identified as a vulnerable group. Pupils identified as potentially problematic will be integrated through the HC and outside agency and wider support contacted/planned in advance. Pupil performance/impact will be tracked carefully and the iTAC process used to review provision. It must be recognized that MPP are in the majority of cases are moving due to behaviour, socio economic mental health [SEMH] and attendance issues, often moving schools in order to prevent permanent exclusion.</p> <p>A governor asked whether therefore these MPP are struggling to cope with different rules and values? Not necessarily they cover the full range but with many we are seeking to build a sense of self-worth, encourage responsibility for their own actions and engendering a willingness to learn. Of the 67 MPP only 16 have received a FTE.</p> <p>Is it true to say there has been a significant rise in MP exclusions? No so, in fact the reverse. Raise online last year showed exclusions reduced and attendance rising.</p> <p>Has the MMP flow stopped now? No we expect 8 more after half term. Across the year groups from Bideford, Route 39 and Switzerland. We can only refuse if we reach 10% above our PAN.</p> <p>What other impact does this have on the school and the child? It is very difficult for those who have been studying for different exam</p>	<p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q</p> <p>I</p> <p>Q,I</p> <p>Q</p>
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		<p>board content. We get no funding for them this year as they arrived after the census date. We have “lost” some funding for a group who moved to a specialist course at Petroc but remain on our register. Next year there will be a £33 per pupil top slice off school budgets to seek to address a shortfall in LA support for SEND pupils; this will have a significant effect on our budget. There are currently no services in Devon and no funding for replacement services.</p> <p>HP adds that for example there is no support for newly bereaved pupils. The lack of help has led to a pattern of bouncing difficult pupils from school to school.</p> <p>Governors wished to record the good job being done at GTS by our staff which we hope to be able to continue. LM leaves 5.45pm</p>	I I
2016-17/ GOV/49	<b>Ofsted Feedback and Actions</b>	<p>This was largely covered in the Report of the Headteacher. Governors asked questions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a need for governor and or staff coaching in future? TRA felt this was about how to spend our limited training budget and probably a lower priority than current practice. For staff not so doing helps them to focus on pupil outcomes, they were not side-tracked by mock Ofsteds. SLT were prepared by a former inspector.</li> <li>• How does not gaining outstanding affect our marketing? There is discussion at present over the potential axing of outstanding judgements. We only had a minor outcome to address which was positive. There are few parents these days able to finance and give time to register and transport their child out of catchment. We do not appear to have lost any pupils. We have fared comparatively well locally</li> <li>• In your opinion were the depressed results entirely linked to the unusually high mid phase pupil entries? Yes, otherwise our results would have been at 70%.</li> <li>• We understand there were some poor interactions with SLT and the Inspector, was this so? It felt like the inspection agenda was about finding something wrong, unlike the Maths one which highlighted areas for improvement. I mentioned my concerns in my report.</li> <li>• Why did you not make a complaint? The system allowed the opportunity to make my points, there was nothing more to be gained however a response would have been welcomed. Overall we did well to get a good and only a one day process.</li> <li>• What is the time frame for next Ofsted. Probably in three years time.</li> <li>• What actions are being taken to improve? There is one addition to the improvement plan, see answer to LM's question in item 48 above.</li> </ul>	Q I Q I Q I Q I Q,I Q,I
2016-17/ GOV/50	<b>Governor Matters</b>	<p>DS was welcomed to the Governing Body.</p> <p>It was reported from a recent Members meeting that with effect from <b>20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 PJV</b> will become a <b>Member Appointed Governor</b> at the end of his term of office as a Co-Opted Governor.</p> <p>It was noted that the Updated <b>Jan 2017 Governance Handbook</b> {DfE} link has recently been sent to all Governors by the</p>	I

		<p>Clerk <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/582868/Governance_Handbook_-_January_2017.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/582868/Governance_Handbook_-_January_2017.pdf</a></p> <p>The <b>E Mail Policy</b>, sent in advance of this meeting, was discussed briefly and adopted as an advisory document. Being cognisant of the protocols and the rescheduling of governing body meetings will go some way towards facilitating a more reasonable work life balance for staff. It was recognised that the most important factor is to value the premise of “downtime” as well as effective communication.</p> <p><b>Governance Review.</b> Date for Structures Day now fixed for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 9.00 am; DS gave his apologies for this meeting he will be away.</p>	I D I
2016-17/ GOV/51	<b>Policies and Items for Review</b>	<p>The <b>Equality Information Policy, Accessibility Action Plan and Equality Objectives</b> had been sent in advance of the meeting; there had been only minor amendments to update the documents to meet current outcomes. LW requested a clarification of the wording at the top of page 3. TRA subsequently added a “may” which answered the query in the information policy. The policies were formally adopted including this amendment.</p> <p>The <b>Policy on Governors Visits to School</b> [sent in advance] was agreed for adoption.</p> <p><b>Term Dates 2017-2018</b> [sent in advance] the document and calendar was agreed for adoption. TRA explained the GTS use of non-pupil days for the benefit of DS.</p>	D D,D D D
2016-17/ GOV/52	<b>Items Brought Forward Through the Chairman</b>	<p>There being sufficient governors available for appeal a decision was made to agree a day of unpaid leave for a member of staff in response to a request that post-dated the Personnel meeting.</p>	D
2016-17/ GOV/53	<b>Dates of next meetings</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2016 – 2017; Meetings to be held in the Board Room except *</b></p> <p><b>Teaching &amp; Learning Committee</b>, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30 to 11.30 am</p> <p><b>Resources Committee</b>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30 to 12.30 am, In HT’s Office*</p> <p><b>Full Governing Body Meeting</b>, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30 to 11.30 am</p> <p>[These dates and revised times were put forward following discussion on 8<sup>th</sup> February.]</p>	I

The meeting closed at 6.50 pm

### Action Log

WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN	
PJV	Chairs Training. Now need a decision on whether to go ahead or not pending resignation as Chair	ASAP	
New Chair &	Clerks Appraisal/Job role review	Complete by FGB Following Easter	

TRA			
RE	Action log as part of minutes with full details of actions, for all committees	From next meeting	√
RE	Action log review to be standing agenda item	From next meeting	
PJV	To discuss this meeting and draft Mins with TA	Friday meeting following draft Mins	√
LM	Prepare skills audit, agreed to mini interview with all govs as part of this	By Next Term	
RE	Governor training log and Feedback to be standing agenda item	For next meeting	
RE	Set date for further all day meeting to review structure and membership of committees to take place in next half term	At Next FGB	√
RE	Annual Cycle to be shared and reminders sent to staff/Governors for policies/reports/presentations to be available 2 weeks prior to meeting	From Next meeting	
IN	Invite Stuart to structure day as part of a review of Head teacher report and appraisal	When date set	√
LM	Invite Dave Atkinson to next FGB for introduction and first impressions of GTS report/introduction 15 mins from 5pm	Before Next FGB	√
RE/TRA	Review training subscriptions and share passwords etc..	Complete by End of term	
RE??	Contact lady from TIC Tack to invite to a meeting	By end of summer term???	