MIDDLEWICH HIGH SCHOOL FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING PART 1 MINUTES		
Date:	Tuesday 27 th September 2022 at 4:00	pm
Venue:	Virtual	
Present:	Colin Price (CPR)	Parent Governor (Chair)
	Julie Brandreth (JBR)	Co-Opted Governor (Vice Chair)
	Heidi Thurland (HTD)	Head Teacher
	Alan Dixon (ADI)	Co-opted Governor
	Angela Deakin (ADE)	Co-opted Governor
	Natalie Edwards-Clark (NED)	Staff Governor-left at the end of part 1
	Peter Taylor (PTA)	Parent Governor
Apologies:	Catherine Broadhurst (CBR)	Co-opted Governor
	Siobhan Tarbuck (STA)	Staff Governor
Absence:	None	
In attendance:	Matthew Snelson	Chief Executive Officer
	Anne Young (AYO)	Clerk
	Debbie Carter (DCA)	SBM- left at the end of part 1
	Rachel Povey (RPO)	Deputy Headteacher Raising Standards (Quality of
		Education)
	Sarah Colclough (SCO) (Joined the	Deputy Headteacher - Character & Inclusion
	meeting after agenda item 8)	
	Victoria Christmas	Deputy Safeguarding Lead

The Chair confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

AGENDA	WELCOME & APOLOGIES
ITEM 1	
Discussion:	The chair opened the meeting and welcomed Mr Snelson, Chief Executive Officer of The Sir John Brunner Foundation and RPO and SCO to their first Middlewich High School Governing Body Meeting.
	Apologies were received from CBR and STA.

AGENDA ITEM 2	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST RELATING TO THE MEETING (PECUNIARY OR OTHERWISE)
Discussion:	 There were no conflicts of interest recorded for this meeting Governors were reminded to complete the annual declarations of interest and Statement of Eligibility.
ACTION	Clerk to lodge the declarations of interests and Statement of Eligibility with the Foundation and publish as required.

AGENDA	ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2022-23
ITEM 3	
Discussion:	The following nominations were received:
	Chair - Mr C Price
	Vice Chair – Miss J Brandreth

Following a vote, CPR was duly elected and appointed as Chair of Governors and JBR as Vice Chair of Governors.
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AGENDA	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
ITEM 4	
	The part one minutes from the previous FGB meeting held on Monday 27th June 2022 were accepted as a correct record. The Chair will sign a copy and provide to the school for retention.
Decision:	Governors resolved to approve the minutes of the above meeting
Action:	Chair to sign a copy of the minutes.

AGENDA ITEM 5	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES / ACTIONS OUTSTANDING
Discussion:	Governors reviewed the action log from the previous meeting and the following matter arising was discussed: Actions 78 and 79 were to be checked and reported at the next FGB meeting It was confirmed that all other actions were met and closed as appropriate.
Action:	HTD will check and confirm the actions 78 and 79 and report at the next FGB meeting

AGENDA	CHAIR'S UPDATE
ITEM 6	
Discussion:	The Chair provided an update to governors on the following matters:
	Governance Self Evaluation
	The Self Evaluation responses were being collected from Governors and it was agreed that they
	will be reviewed at the Resources Committee. Governors were encouraged to submit their feedback to the Clerk.
	The Chair identified that the Governing Body was contining to seek to increase diversity within the Body.
	The Headteacher had begun work on the School Risk Register and is working with the Foundation on this. The CEO confirmed that the software for the Risk Register is held at the Foundation and the academies sit within the structure under the Foundation. This action was progressing.
	Membership
	The Chair reported that he had met with each of the members of the Governing Body and all members were happy to continue with their current roles. CBR term of office comes to an end in November and she would not be continuing as a Governor. The Chair would explore the potential for a role as an Associate Member and CBR is happy to continue to support the Governing Body with her financial expertise in that capacity. The Chair is actively working on Governor recruitment and whilst the Governing Body have good financial skills amongst its members this is an area that will be targeted as part of the process. The Chair had identified 6 – 7 potential candidates through Inspiring Governance and will consider advertising and going out to Parents if needed.

	The Chair asked for volunteers to attend the Foundation wide Grounds Maintenance contract tender which was taking place the following week and ADI and ADE had made themselves available.
	A list of Key Dates was requested from the school and Governors were encouraged to attend events which raise visibility of Governors and provided an opportunity to see and hear the work being done in school.
	• Declarations The Chair requested that governors confirm that they have read part 1 and 2 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) and that they agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.
Decision:	Governors received the Chair's update.
Actions:	CPR to continue to work on recruitment. AYO to collate the Self Assessment feedback from Governors HTD to develop the Risk register and report progress at Resources Committee. HTD to post Key Dates to Governor Hub Governors to update the declarations and confirmations in Governor Hub

AGENDA	CHAIR'S ACTIONS
ITEM 7	
Discussion:	No Chairs Actions were reported.

AGENDA ITEM 8	GOVERNOR TRAINING UPDATE
Discussion:	Governors received a report of the Training Completed and Training Booked for Governors. The Chair noted the following upcoming Governor training: The Strategic Role of the Governing Board 06 October 2022 (STA) Exclusion Panel Training 19 October 2022 (JB, ADE, ADI, NED, CPR, STA, PTA, HTD, AYO) Inclusive Governance 09 November 2022 (NED, CPR, PTA) Courageous Conversations Workshop 14 November 2022 (CPR) Roles and Responsibilities of the SEND Governor 22 November (STA) A Governors Guide to Panels 06 December 2022 (CPR) The Chair reminded Governors that the Induction Training must be completed. Governors were advised that they must all complete Basic Safeguarding training at Induction and then on a regular basis going forward. A link for Prevent training has been sent out and Governors were requested to email Laura when completed. In response to a question from a Governor regarding Safer Recruitment, the Headteacher confirmed that at least one person on a recruitment panel is required to have Safer Recruitment training. There was a cost associated with the training and she will clarify with Laura Platt.
Actions:	 Governors to complete the Induction Training. Governors to complete the Prevent Training and confirm to Laura Platt. HTD to clarify the rules regarding Safer Recruitment at the School and will arrange training to ensure that there are sufficient Governing Body members who have completed it.

ACENDA	COVERNOR VISITS / REPORTS
AGENDA ITEM 9	GOVERNOR VISITS / REPORTS
Discussion:	The Chair explained to the Governing Body that it is normal process for the Governors to receive Link Governor reports at the respective committees but it was pleasing to see Governors engaging so early in the year and reporting at this stage.
	Careers and STEM Governors received the Link Governor report on Careers and STEM and ADI highlighted the important points within it. ADI expressed that it was disappointing that only 3.6% of students had taken up the opportunity to access the Careers Powerpoint Presentation.
	Q. How can we make students aware of the resource? ADI explained to Governors that the school was working on finding a solution to encourage more students to access the resource. It was clarified that 3.6% reported take up was a percentage of ALL students in all years. The school is working hard to include all students in early conversations about careers and creating their START profile as part of that process.
	HTD confirmed to Governors that the Institute of Engineering and Technology posters have gone up in the Science Corridor. ADI will also speak with Mrs Abbott (Assistant Headteacher: Assessment and Academic Intervention) to discuss placing careers opportunity posters in school.
	HTD added that it is important that the school talk about all careers options and provide broad career opportunities for the students.
	Pupil Premium Governors received the Link Governor report following the start of year meeting on Pupil Premium. JBR expressed her gratitude to the Senior Leadership for giving so generously of their time. The Progress and Attainment (P&A) Committee will be focused on narrowing the Pupil Premium gap which has widened nationally following COVID and is also impacted by the current cost of living crisis. Data was indicating that the school is heading in the right direction but the school will continue to push and focus on this area. RPO and SCO had been looking at the statement and ensuring that it was updated as needs change and will bring this to the P&A committee as a standard item. The Strategic Plans were three-year documents and progress will be measured against milestones so that the school and Governors can better track progress and understand when urgent action is required.
	The Chair commented that it was important that the school continues to focus on good quality teaching and attendance as part of the strategic approach and thanked JBR, SCO and RPO for the work they continue to do in this area.
	Safeguarding CPR presented the Link Safeguarding report to Governors. VCH has been appointed Deputy Safeguarding Lead and the new leadership is working well. The team is fully staffed and with strong leadership and all training is completed. CPR was confident that Safeguarding is in good hands and there was a positive culture in the team. Challenges remain in this area. For example, CAMHS reported an 18 month referral time.
Decision:	Governors received the above reports.
Actions:	Clerk to ensure Pupil Premium is a standard item on P&A Committee

AGENDA	REVIEW THE GOVERNORS' CODE OF CONDUCT
ITEM 10	
Discussion:	Governors reviewed the Code of Conduct and agreed to abide by it.
Decision:	Governors confirmed that they have read, understood and agree to abide by the SJBF Code of Conduct for Trustees and Governors
Actions:	Governors to record their confirmation that they have read, understood and agree to abide by the SJBF Code of Conduct for Trustees and Governors in Governor Hub.

AGENDA	APPROVAL OF FGB STRUCTURE OF GOVERNANCE
ITEM 11	
Discussion:	Governors reviewed and approved the FGB structure of governance. The FGB operates with two committees: Resources and Progress and Attainment.
	Q. Should Sustainability be discussed under Resources or P&A?
	The Sustainability agenda includes Estate, Curriculum and Careers areas. A governor agreed that Sustainability can be included in Curriculum Design but the Estates element is more comfortably sat in Resources. The item could be included under both agendas where appropriate.
	Q. Pupil Premium Spend and Pupil Premium appears in both agendas but not SEND. Is that working?
	Governors agreed that Pupil Premium is a high priority and will continue to be reported in both committees. The Chair will look into adding SEND to the P&A agenda.
Decision:	To retain the current FGB structure of governance subject to adding SEND to the P&A committee.
Actions:	Chair to add SEND to the P&A committee structure

AGENDA	APPROVAL OF FGB AND COMMITTEE TOR'S
ITEM 12	
Discussion:	Governors reviewed and approved the Terms of Reference.
	Q. The CEO asked if the Complaints Appeal Panel wording fits with the Foundation complaints
	policy.
	The panel will consider appeals in respect of complaints made pursuant to Section 7 of the
	Complaints Policy which is the final appeals process.
Decision:	To approve the FGB and Committee Terms of Reference subject to confirmation of the wording of
	the Complaints Appeals Panel.
Actions:	Clerk to follow up with the CEO and report to the Chair

AGENDA	APPROVAL OF SCHEME OF DELEGATION
ITEM 13	
Discussion:	Governors reviewed the Scheme of Delegation.
	The CEO advised the Governing body that the Scheme of Delegation was on the Foundation's annual cycle and was currently being mapped and reviewed at the Trust level.
Decision:	To receive the Scheme of Delegation.

AGENDA ITEM 14	APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBE	RSHIP AND LINK GO	OVERNOR ROI	LES
Discussion:	The Chair proposed retaining the Committee membership from 2021-22. It was noted that all governors attend both committees and it is at the committees where the detailed work of the governing board is carried out. JBR will be joining the Resources committee but CBR would not be attending P&A. Governors agreed that if additional governors are recruited, the Chair will revisit the committee structure and consider roles between them. Governor FGB Resources Progress & Attainment			
	Julie Brandreth (JBR) Heidi Thurland (HTD)	✓ (Vice Chair) ✓	✓ ✓	✓ (Chair) ✓
	Mike Finney (MFI) Alan Dixon (ADI) Catherine Broadhurst (CBR)	✓ ✓ ✓	∀	√ ×
	Angela Deakin (ADE) Natalie Edwards-Clark (NED)	√ ✓	√ ✓	√ √
	Siobhan Tarbuck (STA) Peter Taylor (PTA)	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
	a) It was confirmed that CPR is the Progress and Attainment Commit b) The link governor roles were con Attendance & Behaviour - ADE Careers/STEM - ADI Curriculum - JBR Finance - CBR GDPR - CPR Governor Training & Developme Health and Safety - CPR Pupil Premium - JBR SEND - CPR Safeguarding - PTA Staff and Student Wellbeing NED Sustainability - ADI	ttee. firmed as: nt - CPR	rces Committe	ee and JBR is the Chair of the
	Pay Committee The members were confirmed as CPI	•		
Decision: Actions	To approve the Committee Members To review the Link Finance role again	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		n off office ends.

AGENDA ITEM 15	REVIEW REPORT FOLLOWING SAFEGUARDING AUDIT SECTION 175
Discussion:	Governors reviewed the Section 175 Audit report which was included in the papers for the meeting.
	There have been changes within the staffing of the Safeguarding Team which have been recorded. Governors also discussed the question relating to Restraint and De-escalation training and it was confirmed that training had been done on line and face to face.
	Q. Are the new staff trained? New staff were given training at the inset day.

	Q. Has the Action Plan been updated? The Action Plan had been updated and will be included in the next report
	Q. Are the school using the SCiES service? The school confirmed that they use the SCiES service.
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	Q. Has the Safeguarding policy been updated?
	The Safeguarding policy will be updated this term.
	Q. Who is checking the Single Central record?
	SCO is responsible for checking the SCR. CPR reminded Governors that the Governors' role is to ensure that checks were being done and the processes are in place.
	Q. Is there an opportunity to ger involved with the student voice?
	The Chair indicated that he would like Governors to be involved with the student voice through the year and requested the dates of these. SCO said that the student voice is heard through the year in Form time, panels and during the Learning Walks.
	Q. How is Relationship and Sex Education being delivered?
	This was delivered through the form time and through the broader curriculum. It is discussed in the I-Value curriculum. The school uses specialist teachers where necessary.
	Q. Is the school comfortable with Alternative Provision arrangements?
	The school was comfortable with the arrangements which have been visited by staff and they
	have reported that they are satisfied with them. There were some high risk or vulnerable
	students in alternative provision which the school was working with to start the process of
	reintegration.
Decision:	Governors reviewed and accepted the Section 175 Audit
Action:	SCO to liaise with the Chair to arrange Governor opportunity to hear Student Voice panels

AGENDA	FINANCE UPDATE
ITEM 16	
Discussion:	DCA provided a verbal update on Finance to Governors including the pressures on the school budget.
	Energy prices. The School had a capped price for three years with an option to extend for two. DCA had reviewed the criteria to qualify for government assistance but the prices secured fell below the level at which support is available. There is sufficient budget for energy costs in this year but the Governing Body can expect increases in 2023/2024.
	Pay Awards Pay Awards had not been agreed and will put pressure on the budget with the Government maintaining that any agreed increases will be unfunded. The NJC had accepted the pay recommendations of £1925 (pro-rata for part-time employees) on all pay points applicable from 01 April 2022. DCA will conduct an assessment of the impact of this. Three of the Teachers' Unions have differing consultation periods and it won't be until late October before the school knows the outcome.
	NI Contributions

The changes to National Insurance contributions of an increased 1.25% in April may be reversed and DCA will calculate the impact and update in due course.
Inflation Inflation was reported at approximately 10% whereas the budget had been set on a 4% on non pay costs. Transport costs as an example had increased by 25% and had a £26k budget impact.
Q. What is the Teachers Pay process now? The proposed award had gone out and Unions were consulting. Once the proposed Teachers' pay is approved in Government on 14 October and finalised on 4 November, the School can agree the pay backdated to 01 September.
Q. Does the school have sufficient funds given the pressures DCA had reported? DCA was working with the Foundation on the year end accounts. The Budget for 2022/23 may be vulnerable to the stability of the economy and the impact of the issues raised in DCA report. It was essential that the school work closely with the Foundation which provides some confidence. The school will continue to monitor the situation.
DCA left the meeting at this point.

Decision:	Governors received and accepted the Finance report
AGENDA	HEADTEACHER'S REPORT
ITEM 17	
Discussion:	The Headteacher's report was circulated to Governors on Governor Hub prior to the meeting.
	RPO gave a summary of the results. She said that the school was delighted at the improvement in results for 2022 when compared with 2019. The Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores were improved with work still to do. The school would focus on the Pupil Premium students which will in turn raise the overall school achievement.
	RPO pointed to the Maths and English results. 75% of students achieved a 9-4 grade in English and Maths. 27% of students were entered in to the Ebacc. The school has made changes in the curriculum which will embed the requirement of the school as an Ebacc provider.
	Progress 8 had improved from 2019 (-0.5) to 2022 (-0.29). The changes made within the school will take time to be reflected in the Progress 8 score, but this was a positive movement. The school had done particularly well in improving the score in English. RPO expressed that Governors should be reassured by the movement in the right direction but to be clear that the school is focused on the challenge ahead and the significant work being done to improve these scores.
	The CEO explained to Governors that these figures will be finalised in the coming week.
	The Headteacher added that the improvement had been achieved with a cohort which was taught with the legacy of the previous curriculum. The results achieved reflect the significant work done within the school and the impact of the decisions made on Teaching and Learning.
	 The Headteacher said that the school celebrated: Seeing the results of the hard work starting to show Trial 1 through to final examinations are showing a steady improvement which is encouraging Identifying what is working well

Changes in the curriculum and tightening the rigour of the data has played a part in the wider school improvement. The leadership will continue to look at the removal of certain items in the curriculum offer and entry requirements for subjects such as the Triple Sciences and Computer Science. The school is focusing on work around curriculum intent.

Middle Leaders in the school were to be rebranded as part of the School Improvement process and will be known as Raising Standards Leads. They will be driving the improvements across the school.

Q. If the school needs to start year 11 at a higher entry point does this mean that the school will be revising targets?

Yes. Students were set aspirational targets. Trial 1 was due to begin in two weeks and the school is keeping the momentum up.

The Headteacher explained that the school will be setting the trial examinations as early as possible to enable earlier interventions and increase the pace of progress for the identified groups. She noted that FFT20 was setting a high goal for students and the results and aspirational targets validated the work being done in the school.

Q. How confident are the school that there will be positive Progress 8 scores by 2025?

The Headteacher said that she was confident that there will be more positive Progress 8 scores and that the largest movement will be in the Pupil Premium cohort.

The CEO added that when HTD joined the school she responded on all targets and the work had delivered an impact. The school was on a journey and the work is delivering results. The school needed the support to continue and will see further improvement in the results over the next two years. The Headteacher said that with the Foundation support and resources and hard work within the school she was confident that both the results and pastoral improvements in the school would continue. She was very excited about what the school can achieve over the next two years.

Q. What have MFL done so well? What can Teachers learn from what worked for them? Teachers would address the Raising Standards Team and learn from their shared experiences.

The Headteacher gave an update to Governors on the impact of the School Improvement team. The school was working with the School improvement team including improving data and meeting with teachers to discuss lesson sequencing. Full reports in this area will be submitted to Governors at the P&A Committee.

The Headteacher explained that the new Enhanced Provision classroom was open. The room had been repurposed and provides a Resources Provision and Forest School, recruitment is underway.

Attendance continued to be an area of focus with the current Year 11 being the most in need of improvement.

Q. What is the school doing to improve attendance?

The school was targeting SEND students. Interviews, home visits and all the existing strategies were being employed. The school was seeing mental health and anxiety becoming a common theme. The Safeguarding team was working with families to give support to families who were struggling to get their students to attend.

Q. Does the school have sufficient staffing to achieve all of the planned objectives?

The school was recruiting and adding to capacity. The leadership was strengthened and they were using the Local Authority where needed. There is downward pressure on schools with all service providers under increasing pressure.

	The Headteacher gave an update on the SEF. She advised that the SEF is a working document and a narrative of where the school was on the journey which is updated regularly.
	Q. What are the next steps for the school? The Headteacher said that the school was continuing to work on the culture. Building on the Circle of Safety.
	The Chair thanked the Headteacher for the report and the very pleasing results. The Chair is looking forward to seeing the progress over the next two years.
Decision:	Governors resolved to accept the Headteacher's report.

AGENDA ITEM 18	APPROVAL OF SDP 2022-23
Discussion:	The Headteacher had circulated the School Development Plan on Governor Hub. The report was presented to Governors at an inset day training. Governors resolved to approve the SDP 2022-23
Decision:	Governors resolved to Approve the SDP 2022-23

AGENDA ITEM 19	POLICIES FOR REVIEW/APPROVAL	
Discussion:	The following policies were reviewed and approved by governors: Governors were advised that the Admissions policy was affected by when the School joined the Foundation. Consultation will take place next half term. The current document is a Local	
	Authority policy.	Decision
	Behaviour Policy and Statement of Behaviour Principals	Approved
	Admissions Policy	Approved
	Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG) Policy	Approved
	Child on Child Policy (previously Peer on Peer Policy)	Approved – subject to change of the Original Creation date
	Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy	Approved subject to: Safeguarding Governor amended to Peter Taylor References to Pupils to be amended to Students References to SEN to be amended to SEND Page 11 "(delete as required)" To be removed Page 13 On line safety – Mention Smoothwall filter Page 17 Text green format to be removed Page 17 "At Middlewich High School all staff have received training in de – escalation (Please see behaviour policy)." Amend to read " are receiving"

	Page 20 Text green format to be removed
Children with health needs who cannot attend school Protection of biometric	Approved subject to: References to SENCO to be amended to SENDCO Approved Subject to:
data (Students & Staff) Policy	Amend the DPL to Laura Platt
Provider Access Policy Statement	Approved
Statement of Procedure for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff	Approved

Governors received the following policies which had been approved by the Headteacher or SLT as appropriate $\frac{1}{2}$

Policy	Outcome	
Baker Clause Statement	Received	
Local Offer	Received	
Privacy notice for Pupils, Parents and Guardians	Received	
Relationships & Sex Education Policy	Received	
Educational Visits Policy	Received	
Leave and time off Policy	Received	
Intimate Care Policy	Received	
Staff Handbook	Received	
Exclusions Policy	Received – Comments: Spelling of Permanent on Cover Sheet Footer should show Approved by HT September 22 and due September 2023 Solution September 2023 Solution September 2023 Replace the words "from the Behaviour Safety and Inclusion (BSI) committee" Replace the words SEN with SEND	

Decision: • To approve the above policies subject to minor changes.

AGENDA	AOB
ITEM 21	
Discussion:	Governors reviewed details of a proposed Ski Trip for December 2023 which was circulated on Governor Hub prior to the meeting.
	Q. A Governor asked what impact the trip would have on Y11 Teaching and Assessment?

	Governors were reassured that the trip had been scheduled during the Christmas Holiday period and the school had ensured that it will not affect the teaching and learning. Examinations have been timed to ensure that the students would be able to sit exams and would not be disadvantaged by the trip. Governors resolved to approve the Ski Trip.
Decision:	Governors resolved to approve the Ski Trip.

AGENDA	STATEMENT OF IMPACT
ITEM 22	
Discussion:	Governors helped to move the school forward in this meeting by:
	Agreeing governance arrangements to enable the board to operate efficiently
	Approving the SDP
	Approving polices to ensure that the school is compliant
	Requesting budget information to ensure that the school is in a healthy financial position

The meeting concluded at 18:55
The meeting moved to the part two agenda

The next meeting of the Full Governing Body will take place 5th December 2022