



MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING

Friday, 14th October 2022 at 16.00 hrs

Online via Google Meet

Participants:

Uel Barclay
Alison Bateman
Sara Bromfield
Hannah Lockey
Joe Lowther

Michèle Marcus (Chair)
Francis Neal
David Petrie
Helen Taylor
Dan Wells

Rebecca De'Ath (Clerk)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair thanked governors for joining the meeting. Apologies were received from Tanya Williams, Rushabh Haria, Richard Bennett and Fiona Whiteside.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS

No conflicts of interest were raised by governors.

3. ADMISSIONS OVER-SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR ENTRY FROM 2024

The FGB Chair stated that the aim of this extra-ordinary meeting was to agree the admissions criteria for the school's Admissions Policy for entry from 2024 onwards, in time for the policy to go out to public consultation over the next 6 weeks.

Governors had a healthy preliminary discussion about the policy and criteria at the recent FGB meeting, and since then the Admissions Panel had met again to address the points raised and to re-consider the original proposal. The outcome was a paper making recommendations for governors to consider at this meeting. The outcome of the voting was as follows:

1. Retain the Foundation places in the oversubscription criteria for admissions – unanimously approved.
2. Change the ordering of the criteria to move Siblings up to third priority, and Foundation places to fourth place (as where families had more than one child, they tended to only apply once for a foundation place then assumed sibling priority, therefore Foundation priority became irrelevant) – unanimously approved.
3. Remove the maximum distance criteria for the Foundation places as this currently disadvantaged the Foundation places over the Open places, and remove this barrier – unanimously approved.
4. Remove the number of Foundation places and no longer state that the school had 12 places as it was confusing for parents and put them off applying if they felt there were 12 less open spaces available to them - unanimously approved.
5. Remove the Staff category as historically few of these places had been taken up by the children of Holy Trinity staff, and parents preferred to enrol their children at a school near to where they live (staff tended not to live in the Holy Trinity locality due to high housing prices), making this criterion redundant - unanimously approved.

The overall result of these changes was to simplify the number of criteria to a total of four. Distance from school effectively became the final criteria for selection – i.e., 60 places for Reception filled according to the four criteria, but based on distance.

The Chair added that absent governors had sent in their comments on the proposal prior to this meeting, all of whom were supportive of making the suggested changes.

Next steps: in terms of applicants for 2023-24, the Chair would now re-draft the Admissions Policy to make it as simple as possible. The revised policy would be sent to governors for approval via email in the light of the tight deadline for public consultation. She welcomed the research carried out by Uel Barclay, who summarised his findings upon comparing the admissions information on the Holy Trinity website with that of other local schools. The Chair was thanked for producing the Panel’s recommendations, and for explaining why the changes were proposed. It was agreed that the FGB Chair, Uel Barclay, and Helen Taylor have an online meeting with the Marketing Officer to discuss further improvements to the school’s website in order to attract as many future applicants as possible. **ACTIONS**

Supporting meeting papers are electronically-filed on the GovernorHub web portal.

*The meeting closed at 16.27hrs
Attendance was 70%*

Signed

Date.....

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Item 3.	<p><u>Admissions:</u></p> <p>FGB Chair to re-write Admissions Policy for 2023-24 and seek approval from governors via email.</p> <p>FGB Chair, Uel Barclay, Helen Taylor and Chloe Newman to meet online to discuss further improvements to the admissions information etc on the school website.</p>
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