

## Governing Body Quality of Education Committee Meeting



**Date:** Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

**Time:** 5.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Becontree Primary School

**Present:** Hannah Hamid – Chair (HH), Marie Ziane – Headteacher (MZ), Karen Brissett (KB), Margo Gaughran (MG), Richard Puttnam (RP), Hibaq Samatar – on TEAMS (HS), Paula Thornton – minute taker

**Also in attendance:** Simon Hack (potential new governor), Andrew Walker (potential new governor), Lillian Stonier (DHT) and Clare Stock (DHT)

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| Agenda Item                                                                                                | Discussions/Actions and Next Steps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <b>1. Apologies</b>                                                                                        | Jane Jones (JJ) – Council business<br>Amila Sarwar (AS) – On annual leave<br>Cori Louis (CL) – Resigned<br>Sana Iqbal (SI) – Childcare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>2. Welcome and Introductions</b>                                                                        | The Chair welcomed our 2 new potential governors and introductions were made.<br>Simon Hack – Eastbury Community School<br>Andy Walker – Future Youth Zone<br>Both attended the meeting as observers with a view to taking on the role of co-opted governor.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>3. Declaration of Business Interests</b>                                                                | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>4. Minutes of last meeting:</b><br>- Accuracy;<br>- Matters arising (if not covered within the minutes) | <b>Accuracy</b><br>Minutes from 16/10/2025 were discussed, agreed and signed.<br><br><b>Matters arising from meeting held on 16.10.25:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil Leadership: to be built in to Governor in School morning in February (see item 8 below)</li> <li>- AI/Elementary incident report (see item 7 below)</li> <li>- CS/JJ to meet re ARP vacancy – CS explained that we were waiting on the EHCP paperwork to be finalised for the child proposed for vacancy, as until the child is physically with us, we are not receiving the funding. JJ raised this for us and we are pleased to say we now have the EHCP and are planning a transition for the child into the ARP.</li> <li>- FGB Action Plan (MZ) – This had been finalised following the FGB self-evaluation discussions. Priority one relates to finance. We will set a draft budget with the SFM committee and possibly consider an extraordinary FGB meeting to discuss this should there be any issues related to being able to set a balanced budget.</li> <li>- Action Log update (see item 8 below)</li> </ul> |

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| <b>5. Items for discussion requested from FGB or other committees</b> | <b>From FGB Meeting/Other Committees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Discrimination incident detail from Autumn term (CS) – Detail was not available at the last FGB and it was agreed to provide detail at this meeting. CS explained the different incidents and what follow-up conversations took place. All were isolated incidents with no repeat offenders.</li><li>- School website update options – see item 6 below.</li><li>- Governor in School Morning – provisional plan – see item 8, below.</li></ul> |
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**6. Overview of Leadership of teaching and learning**

**Contextual Update**

MZ confirmed that the Reading Hub Assistant is settling in well and parents, children and the Reading Club are all using the new Reading Hub, now.

There is a growing number of SEND and SEMH children in school, which has required us to bring in a number of agency support staff. In addition, a child who was attending Acorns has returned to us, with no prior notice, due to issues at Acorns. This has been challenging for the child, staff and the rest of the children in the class. We are monitoring this and LA have provided some additional funding to allow us to provide 1:1 support.

Pupil numbers are lower than last term but we are expecting to fill these shortly as we have children on waiting lists for most year groups. This includes some Rising 3's joining the Nursery this week.

**Vision, Values and Intent**

To be explored more at the Governor in School Day.

**School Improvement Plan – review**

The 2 priorities continue to be behaviour and relationships and meeting the needs of all children. As usual, we will review actions and evaluate impact at the next FGB meeting.

**Curriculum developments, including Early Reading and Personal Development**

Phonics - We are looking into additional strategies linked to developing reading fluency in Year 1. We carefully consider the cohort when measuring progress. **HH asked how the current Year 1 cohort is progressing and whether they will reach the same level as last year?** CS said they are a different cohort, who had lower EYFS data last year but they are working well and predictions for the end of the year are looking close to last year's achievement in phonics.

LS explained that she has regular accountability meetings and reviews action plans with all subject leads. These are available for governors to look at should they want to.

Reading - MG said children are working independently with additional initiatives, and we are seeing some good progress. The rewards from initiatives such as; Story Zoo, which helps with engagement with reading, have been well received by the children. This has been used for children where families are not engaged in their child's reading at home. We will continue to monitor impact.

Writing – The Writing Lead has reported more impact and has been looking at the writing curriculum at other local schools. Some conversations with our SIP, regarding Year 6 progress, have particularly looked at opportunities for writing. MZ said there are arguments for and against writing across the curriculum – whilst it is important, we also need to ensure that history lessons, for example, teach children the knowledge/skills they need in history. We have changed



our approach to promote access to subject skills; which don't always involve writing. We need to ensure a balance is maintained.

One of our Year 5 teachers is now qualified as a writing moderator for the LA. **HH welcomed this.**

Maths - The Maths Lead has been working with teachers across the whole curriculum, particularly focusing on helping teachers to access resources for children with SEND.

Computing – we have purchased some additional resources and Online Safety Day is coming up soon.

History – a large amount was taught alongside our Centenary celebrations, so this has not been a big focus recently.

DT – we will be making a link to World Book Day; for example, children making 'pop-up' books.

Subject monitoring – Each subject lead has the opportunity to monitor how their subject is taught across the school. We use various methods; such as lesson drop-ins, a book-look, teacher voice, pupil voice, etc.

Homework – Following a query from a parent, the homework strategy was reviewed and more detail provided. We engaged with the parent to ask their opinion of the revised version, before it was shared wider. **HH said that perhaps issues such as resilience, could be considered rather than just the traditional homework tasks? MZ said this could be considered for future engagement.**

We now have Gold Healthy Schools Award. **HH asked that we congratulate CS, MD and the team. MZ to pass this on.**

New Pupil Leadership groups – Rights Respecting and Health & Well-being Champions have been appointed and will be having their first meeting very soon.

Staff CPD – We continue to work on behaviour strategies, training for ARP staff on Positive Handling, maths ARK training, targeted Zones of Regulation training, PACE writing standardisation. **HH asked if the school evaluates the impact of CPD on staff confidence?** CS said yes, we are starting to hear more language and engagement now. LS said we have a monitoring session due, so this will give an opportunity to see this in action. MZ said we regularly give an opportunity for teachers to air any suggestions or criticisms. **HH asked for a quick anonymous 'temperature check' to see how teachers have taken this on board. LS to organise this and report back.** MG said the training based on ACES and Thrive was very helpful and made the staff re-think relationships with children who have experienced trauma. **HH said that we need to consider the why in child behaviour.**



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|                                                                  | <p>Partnerships with parents, including consultation feedback<br/>Parent workshops are better attended than the adult-only curriculum meetings. <b>HH suggested that we ask parents for reasons why they might not attend. MZ suggested asking parents at parents' evening.</b></p> <p>External partnerships<br/>Working with Queen Mary University on a health project and how we can bring services in to school to ensure children and family wellness– JJ is supporting as a Governor. We are excited at where this project could lead.<br/>Reflective spaces – these sessions continue to be led by a Headteacher from another school. This has engaged various staff across the school and he currently works with our SLSAs. MZ works with leaders at another school to provide the same opportunities.<br/>Safeguarding – we are now part of a partnership with PACE schools, to peer assess our Safeguarding policies and procedures.</p> <p>Website – options available to consider (LS) – Our current website is soon going to be unsupported as Primary Site will now move to Juniper Education. Governors viewed various options and costs. Governors liked the option of adding videos and sounds integral to the site. <b>HS asked if we can get reassurance on safety measures in place to prevent AI from accessing the website? LS to investigate this with Juniper, prior to final agreement.</b> HH said the second option appeared to be more accessible with ease of editing and greater personalisation. HH suggested that we consult with parents/carers. <b>LS to report back, following parents' evening, in 2 week's time.</b></p> |
| <p><b>7. Quality of Education:<br/>Implementation update</b></p> | <p><b>A focus on implementation:</b></p> <p>Growth mindset – training/reminders ongoing for children and staff</p> <p>Assessment schedule – previously shared</p> <p>Curriculum planning, including enrichment and cultural capital – a summary provided to demonstrate breadth of experiences on offer</p> <p>Quality first Teaching: planning to meet the needs of all pupils, adaptive teaching, EAL: strategy<br/>We have needed to respond much quicker than anticipated due to an influx of new children with SEMH needs. It is vital that we meet the needs of these children to enable them and their peers to access learning in the classroom.</p> <p>Disadvantaged pupils (catch up plan, pupil premium, sport premium)<br/>All schools received slightly less funding than expected for the Sports Premium. Plan has been reviewed accordingly.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |



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|                                           | <p>ARP/Zen Den</p> <p>We achieved a compliance percentage of 99% at our last quality assurance assessment but lost 1% for no EP and S&amp;L support (which should have been provided by the LA). We are now working with Jumpstart to obtain OT assessment and support for all 12 ARP children.</p> <p>Our Inclusion Quality Mark visit took place today. The assessor was complimentary about staff and pupil relationships, the breadth of pupil leadership and stakeholder engagement opportunities, and how our ARP and Zen Den children integrate across the school. The report is to follow and will be shared with Governors in due course. From next year, we can apply for Flagship Status. We continue to be part of the East Anglia cohort and will be hosting a session for other schools in the summer term.</p> <p><b>AI Strategy:</b> Elementary response to incident reported (MG)</p> <p>Curriculum re AI literacy (LS) - We are exploring different AI packages; Teachmate -v- Chalky. <b>SH said TeachMate can be longwinded to use. HH said we need to consider when we use an open-source AI, which takes from everywhere, rather than a closed-source, which can be safer.</b> We are also considering AIR, where AI will match a piece of child's work and provide feedback. We are trialling this. LS said some of this is very expensive. <b>HH said there are some cheaper options on the market and some have been shared at the BETT show but unfortunately it ends tomorrow. MZ said it would be good to release somebody and will ask Aklima Begum if she is available to attend.</b></p> |
| 8. Quality of Education:<br>Impact update | <p><b>Pupil Outcomes</b></p> <p>Attainment and progress headlines – mainstream and ARP</p> <p>Nursery – main area of need is communication and language; the PM group have a higher need. This was evident in the Nursery Readiness project. We have various interventions within school, as well as targeted support for parents to help their child as well.</p> <p>Reception – Autumn term data has identified maths and PSED as areas to target. There is also a large group of families who are not allowing their child to be independent.</p> <p>More children are on target to meet the Early Learning Goal than last year. Our Maths Lead has been modelling lessons for teachers, simplifying resources and scaffolding. Other subject leads have been looking at the strong foundations document from Ofsted to ensure that provision matches expectations in all areas.</p> <p>Year 1 – Writing is an area for development, with 11% underperforming compared to last year. The Writing Lead is working alongside teachers to help with the curriculum – it needs to be simplified to ensure children learn basic, key skills before moving on. We are changing the NNEB support, so that more target groups can be worked with. Some children have struggled to sustain progress that they made in reception.</p> <p>Year 2 – overall, solid progress so far, with more children working at the higher level. Pupil progress meetings have identified a few children who have dipped, and these children are being targeted through interventions.</p>                                                     |



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|                   | <p>Year 3 – A large group of SEMH children in this year group. There is no significant change since their Year 2 data. Some boys are struggling with reading and they are receiving additional support through Story Zoo.</p> <p>Year 4 – Writing is a significant need. The Writing Lead teaches in Year 4, so this is an advantage.</p> <p>Year 5 – Our strongest Year group across the school. They are doing well across all subjects.</p> <p>Year 6 - <b>SH said that maths looks strong across the school and asked if this was a result of the new ARK maths system?</b> LS said this may be the case, as Year 6 who didn't use ARK from EYFS, are not as strong this year. Writing looks lower at the beginning of the year but as the skills start to embed and the range of genres are in place, progress should be made. There are significant differences between some groups; such as boys being lower than girls in maths. <b>HS suggested that we consider a 'careers day' for Year 6 to help them start to consider their own aspirations. HH said that we also need to consider that some of our children will go on to careers, which have not even been invented yet! HS suggested that we link to Secondary Schools, Universities and various other career paths. MG said they have had some online offers. MZ said that BDSIP are looking at careers offers and may offer a primary school careers day – this will be explored further.</b></p> <p><b>Impact of leadership and management on the quality of education</b></p> <p>Outcomes from internal and external monitoring exercises – LA Quality Assurance was successful. IQM – we are awaiting the report but again it was very successful. All in-school monitoring identified strengths and areas for development but there have been no systemic issues that have been raised, more tweaks and some inconsistencies.</p> <p>OFSTED framework – we are working on the development of an implementation timeline in preparation for anticipated inspection in Autumn 2027.</p> <p>Governor in school monitoring morning (provisional plans)</p> <p>MZ shared a draft timetable for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Governors were invited to make suggestions and amendments for the structure of the day. The timetable gave opportunities for parent voice, learning explorations in classrooms, conversations with children, pupil leadership presentations, followed by feedback and individual highlights and questions. <b>HH asked when this will be shared? MZ to share this by email and ask Governors to let us know if they are available and which curriculum areas and/or year groups they are interested in visiting/focusing on.</b></p> |
| 9. Policy Updates | <p>The following were agreed and signed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assembly/Collective Worship (LS)</li> <li>• Nursery Admission 2025 (PT) – Chair's action</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| <b>10. A.O.B:</b>             | <b>Budget setting 2026/27</b><br><b>RP suggested that we email all Governors following the SFM Committee and advise whether a follow-up Extraordinary Finance meeting is required.</b><br><br><b>Climate Action Plan</b><br>A draft is now in place and will be shared at the next SFM Committee. |
| Date and time of next meeting | Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Confidential Items            | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chair of QED Committee**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_