

Governing Body Quality of Education Committee Meeting



Date: Thursday 16th October 2025

Time: 5.00 p.m.

Venue: Becontree Primary School

Present: Marie Ziane (MZ), Margo Gaughran (MG), Jane Jones (JJ), Richard Puttnam (RP), Cori Louis (CL) - TEAMS, Karen Brissett (KB), Paula Thornton: Minute Taker (PT)

Chair: Richard Puttnam

Minute Taker: Paula Thornton

Also in attendance: Lillian Stonier (DHT) and Clare Stock (DHT)

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Agenda Item	Discussions/Actions and Next Steps
1. Apologies	Sana Iqbal (SI) – Family commitment Hibaq Samatar (HS) – Childcare issues Hannah Hamid (HH) – Work commitment Amila Sarwar (AS) – Work commitments
2. Welcome and Introductions	Loren Feeley has now given her resignation, with immediate effect.
3. Declaration of Business Interests	KB declared that she is now working alongside another Primary School in LBBD
4. Minutes of last meeting: - Accuracy; - Matters arising (if not covered within the minutes)	Accuracy Agreed and signed by RP Matters arising from meeting held on 1.5.25: - ARP presentation and videos to be shared with governors (MZ) – completed.



5. Items for discussion requested from FGB or other committees	From FGB Meeting/Other Committees: Approve and sign terms of reference for 2025/26 Agreed and signed by RP AI Strategy to be added as a standing agenda item Actioned AI query from Annual Business Meeting re children's access in school MZ received reassurance by Elementary ICT that children cannot access AI. MG said she had an incident in her class a few weeks ago. RP suggested that staff check the current Filtering Policy – try to access 888.com, this will be blocked and will tell us the policy setting. CS has responsibility for this, as DSL (in conjunction with AB, as ICT Lead). MG to email Elementary Helpdesk regarding this specific incident. CS to email Elementary ICT regarding filter logs, how to check these and various roles. Governor roles and responsibilities for 2025/26 • JJ volunteered for Appeals panel • KB to continue with Safeguarding & Child Protection • RP to continue with the Health & Safety • JJ as Staff and Pupil Mental Health & Well-being • AS for Inclusion Partnership • CL as Personal Development • SI for Stakeholder Engagement • HS for Behaviour and Relationships • MG for Governor Training and Liaison
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6. Overview of Leadership of teaching and learning	Contextual Update New library - now unveiled (by JJ at our Centenary celebration) and we are advertising for a Reading Hub Assistant (including running a Reading Club one afternoon a week), with a view to start as soon as possible. High Pupil mobility – many children moved out of Borough; especially to North of England. We have had less children join us than had left but we are not holding many vacancies. We have 10 spaces in Nursery but expect these to fill up by the end of this term, if not, we will consider taking Rising 3s in January. Vision, Values and Intent Discussed in detail – no changes made this year. School Improvement Plan – review Shared at the AGM in September but will share progress at FGB in December 2025. Curriculum developments, including Early Reading and Personal Development • LS is holding History & Geography (due to Maternity Leave) and CS is holding PSHE. • Reading - we are looking at support for children who are EAL or SEND with mainstream and have started children on Lexia, which targets individual interventions which can be run within teaching sessions. We are trialling Story Zoo as a home reading tool; starting with Year 3 and setting up Reading Cafes with parents. We hosted a gentleman from Reading Plus, who met the children who have been using this; including what they think of it and what they would like Reading Plus to improve on. We have raised the profile of this with other schools and received a couple of complimentary Amazon vouchers from our recommendations – which have been spent on new stock for the library. Some children are closing the gap quite quickly. • Writing – increased focus in line with new DfE Writing Framework guidance. • Maths – now in 3rd year of the implementation of Ark Curriculum, with a new focus on adaptive teaching within classrooms. • New curriculums in History, Computing and Design Technology. Some changes to Art curriculum units. Subject leads will monitor implementation and we will feed back initial impact at the next meeting. • Personal Development – we have a focus on the children that have responsibility across the school. This is increasing to include Rights Respecting Ambassadors and Healthy & Well-being Champions. Our School Council have had an amazing year with several competitions and activities. The Travel Ambassadors have achieved the Gold Travel award, which we are very proud of. • Stakeholder Engagement – we are considering inviting children along to the start of Governor meetings. JJ suggested that we ask the Travel Ambassadors to meet us first. RP suggested they could come along to the next SFM Committee. KB suggested that the Reading Ambassadors might like to meet Governors too. MG suggested they came to the start of the next FGB. MZ to arrange an invitation to representatives from both groups.
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Staff CPD

- Focus on relationships and behaviour as part of SIP and establishing school routines and expectations for the year.
- Arbor MIS training this term re the change in systems being used.
- Oracy – social and emotional strand (linked to changes in our behaviour policy) set for next half term

Partnerships with parents, including consultation feedback

- Nursery Readiness project – still successful and there has been impact. However, we have noticed that there are many EAL needs in families which makes it harder to engage parents. This is a target for future sessions.
- Centenary celebrations – there have been many friendly comments regarding the whole school event. It was great to see some governors in attendance. Thanks again to JJ for stepping in and opening the library.
- We have some Diwali activities for families during our Parent/teacher consultation meetings in response to a request from some families.
- Curriculum workshops – we changed these last year to make them more interactive for parents to work alongside their child. This was definitely successful last year and we are continuing with this next year.
- MZ and HH are meeting to look at how Governors can increase their engagement in school through the development of Governor in school days. This will be discussed in detail at the next FGB meeting.
- SIP visited yesterday, and saw some very good practice in place as part of a learning exploration. He gave us complimentary feedback. No recommendations were systemic/school-wide but some tweaks for some staff have been identified.
- We continue to work with PACE and another Headteacher (regarding staff well-being/professional reflection).
- MZ is part of a national research and DfE advisory group (with Warwick University) in SEND and Inclusion.

External partnerships

Queen Mary University London – we are fortunate to have been asked to be part of this LA partnership with QMUL. The focus is on health and wellness for children and families with SEND. **JJ said this is an important piece of work to help improve outcomes for Borough residents.** MZ suggested that JJ may wish to attend the next meeting on 13/11/2025. **MZ to send the details to JJ,**

Website

Kept updated with a new whole-school Centenary photo added to the home screen.



7. Quality of Education: Implementation update	A focus on implementation: • Growth mindset – continuing as usual, linked to behaviour and relationships work. • Assessment schedule – shared with staff. A change to the assessment of PE, from photographic evidence to a more formative approach. • Curriculum planning, including enrichment and cultural capital – long-term planning is uploaded to the website for families. We incorporated the Centenary into our History topics. Risk Assessments for trips have been updated and now include clear guidance on what to do if a child should go missing from a group/class (this was in response to a child leaving the site, whilst in the care of their parent). • Quality first Teaching: planning to meet the needs of all pupils, adaptive teaching, EAL: strategy – there are some children working below their peers; for example in Year 6 children are following the curriculum but at a slower pace. LS said as part of monitoring with the SIP yesterday, we checked that this is leading these children to the correct point for them. CS said we are always trying to do more with less and be more creative with resources we have, due to decreasing budgets. • Disadvantaged pupils (catch up plan, pupil premium, sport premium) – a drop in PP income is due to a lack of recovery premium funding and less children identified with PP (which is a cross-Borough issue). JJ said outsiders often ask why we do match London attainment, but other London boroughs are not as inclusive as LBBD. MZ agreed that this is sometimes an issue for us but we are able to explain our context and back up with progress evidence. • Attendance – CS said that attendance continues to be a focus area for us, mainly due to families taking long-term holidays abroad. However, the new PCN system is starting to have an impact and may start to influence future planned holidays. The Sports Premium has been reviewed and is on the website. The new strategy was circulated and was agreed. • ARP/Zen Den – The most recent QAR visit has been received and we were graded high across all areas. This has meant that we continue to attract attention from within LBBD and nationally. One of our ARP support staff has now moved as an unqualified teacher in the Zen Den. We are carrying one pupil vacancy in the ARP. JJ said she would like to know more about the length of time the pupil vacancy has taken to fill in the ARP, as she is aware of a much greater need. CS said there are many children with needs but we are also frustrated by the level on consultation and need. CS and JJ agreed to meet. AI Strategy: • MG said that she has been in dialogue with a school in Greenwich have introduced a South African initiative (called Reflective), which is quoted £500 per year, per class. It is a targeted reading and maths intervention. We are considering trialling during the Spring term. We are hoping to visit the school and see this in action. We are considering sending some samples off to the company to see what the feedback looks like. • AB our Computing Lead, is researching and trialling some AI across this academic year – mainly with teachers.
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	<i>RP said to be aware of how AI is used, as some companies will own your data and use this to teach their in-house systems. Other AI sites do not.</i>
8. Quality of Education: Impact update	Pupil Outcomes Attainment and progress headlines – mainstream and ARP, comparisons with previous year and over time - EYFS – priorities in communication and language and discussion around EAL at parent/teacher consultations next week, which impacts other areas of learning too. Nursery are settled and engaging. Reception baseline data shows more children this year who are on target (compared to last year). We are seeing less SEND needs but a greater SEMH need. Various interventions are in place across EYFS. KB said that the PACE EYFS guidance for language and communication is very helpful and has been shared across all PACE schools. - Year 1 – are still focussing on Language and Communication, but this is a very high SEND cohort. - Year 2 – girls are performing significantly higher than boys (but again there are other factors which affect this). So, we have support in both Year 2 classes, who are also used flexibly, both in class and to lead groups. - Year 3 – boys are significantly behind in maths and reading (see Story Zoo information above), with additional support 5 mornings a week. - Year 4 – writing is lower than reading and maths. Our writing lead is teaching in this year group. - Year 5 – again girls do significantly better than boys but this is a strong cohort - Year 6 – some smaller groups not performing as well as others, particularly in reading and writing. Many initiatives in place, with booster classes already in place. Impact of leadership and management on the quality of education - Headline reports were shared - Outcomes from internal and external monitoring exercises - Staff who are new to school have been observed - SIP visit (see above) - LA Quality Assurance visit due on 10/11/2025 - Priorities – as per our SIP
9. Policy Updates	Sports Premium Statement Pupil Premium Statement Home Learning (and website information) Teaching and Learning Strategy Marking and Feedback Inclusion Policy

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10. A.O.B:	Ofsted Reform Information – KB said that she attended training with the Chief HMI and found it useful. Governance is a large part of the new report card and ‘context is key’ was a very common phrase used. MZ said we have a couple of years before we are due for our next inspection. Once there is some local feedback from colleagues who have experienced Ofsted visits, she will share this and we will identify FGB training needs.
Date and time of next meeting	Thursday 22 nd January 2026
Confidential Items	None

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chair of QED Committee