



**Minutes of Achievement & Standards
Monday 8th June 2015 – 6.00pm**

GOVERNORS PRESENT

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT	APOLOGIES	ABSENT
Mrs A Martin (AMA)	Head Teacher	✓		
Mr H Tresidder (HTR)	Chair of A&S	✓		
Mr M Atkins (MAK)	Staff Governor	✓		
Mr R Watson (RWN)	Parent Governor	✓		
Mr R Dubrow-Marshall (RDM)	Co-Opted Governor		✓	
Mr K Wesley (KWE)	Old Trust Governor		✓	
Mrs J Hart (JHA)	Community Governor	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT	APOLOGIES	ABSENT
Mr S Garrity (SGA)	Associate Head		✓	
Mrs L Key (LKE)	Business Manager		✓	
Mrs J Machin (JMN)	Assistant Headteacher	✓		
Mr A Harding (AHA)	Assistant Headteacher	✓		
Mrs B Smith (BSM)	Assistant Headteacher		✓	
Miss S Bhogal (SBH)	Clerk	✓		

Agenda Item: 1 – Apologies

Minute Number: AS137.15

Mr R Dubrow-Marshall, Mr K Wesley, Mrs L Key, Mr S Garrity and Mrs B Smith send their apologies.

Governors accepted these apologies.

Agenda Item: 2- Declaration of Interest

Minute Number: AS138.15

None.

Agenda Item: 3 – Minutes from the last meeting dated 27th April 2015

Minute Number: AS139.15

Add Mrs J Hart to the attendance list.

Subject to the above change Governors accepted the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Agenda Item:	4 – Actions from the last minutes
Minute Number:	AS140.15

AS132.15. Update on English QA – AHA

The actions completed since the last review are that the analysis of the English Literature KS5 exam has been carried out. The assessment plan is in place for both English Language and Literature. Clear guidance has been given to the entire department about what is set and marked and by what deadline.

Guidance and CPD (Continued Professional Development) has been given to the department regarding the use of QEGS points to ensure consistency of approach and accuracy of internal assessment. Common tests/exams across the departments have been used within each year group.

Extensive moderation of marking across all key stages has taken place during the department throughout the year to ensure the consistent use of the QEGS points system.

Governors asked due to the staff leaving in this department, are adequate replacements in place.

Assistant Headteacher (JMN) – yes we are confident that we have good applicants and the interviews take place in the next two weeks.

AS132.15 – Update on the next steps as outlined in the A Level English Literature Exams

This action was covered at the last meeting.

Further explanation regarding AS exams

Governors asked for another explanation on the new format for AS exams. Staff Governor – the following example was given; if a student takes 4 AS qualifications and they then carry on with 3 of these, then the one they do not carry on counts as an AS qualification. The 3 that are carried on will then transfer to be A2 qualifications, so in this case the 3 that were carried on are no longer counted as AS qualifications. Both of these exams are co-teachable, and teaching is currently expected to be planned to include all in one stream.

The Headteacher explained that we will develop a policy regarding this for Sept 2016, this first year is a transition period, and cost is also factor to bear in mind.

Governors asked that SLT give this subject some thought and report back to A&S. Should we consider whether we give guidance or direction.

ACTION:	Governors asked that SLT give this subject some thought and report back to A&S.
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AS133.15 – Comparison of KS2 data

The Assistant Headteacher apologised to the Governors as this has not been done yet. The problem is that the way we monitor and record data in the school is by the percentage of students on or above target, not on attainment. So to figure out the gaps we need to compare like with like. We are working on this and will report back to Governors in due course.

ACTION:	AHA to bring back comparisons of KS2 data to Governors in due course.
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Agenda Item:	5 – Local and National Updates including National Reference Tests
Minute Number:	AS141.15

Academy and School News Update May 2015 – Headteacher.

Governor's attention was bought to page 20 of their pack which highlighted National Reference Tests. Hundreds of schools will have no choice but to enter around 15,000 students for extra tests in the final run up to their GCSE exams under Ofqual plans. The exams officer will be asking the Government to make its new National Reference Tests (NRT) mandatory for a sample of 300 secondary schools, every March from 2017. Heads are concerned about the extra pressure the tests could put on year 11 students and their schools, when crucial final GCSE's are just weeks away. It was also observed that, as there was no qualification involved, it was unlikely that students would apply themselves fully to the tests, potentially making them meaningless.

There has also been an Education Bill that went through parliament last week. The headline measures were more academies, less funds, higher expectations, a rise in Multi-Academy Trusts and mandatory working with Teaching Schools. The vision of the Conservative Party is that Multi-Academy Trusts will be working together in Inter MAT co-operations.

Agenda Item:	6 – SAT's Resits in Year 7 - Headteacher
Minute Number:	AS142.15

A paper titled 'Re-sit SATs in Year 7....why just the re-sits?' written by Bill Watkin from the SSAT (Specialist School and Academies Trust) was sent to Governors prior to the meeting.

The Headteacher explained that the Government has confirmed that students who do not pass the KS2 SAT's at the end of Primary schooling will have to re-sit them in the first year of Secondary school. Governors were asked to refer to page 24 of the pack for more information. It was observed that such retakes would cause disruption in Y7, and would potentially embarrass some students just as they entered a new social group.

Agenda Item:	7 – Steve Cartlidge Report – Headteacher
Minute Number:	AS143.15

Steve Cartlidge report – page 27 of the pack.

Governors were sent the report from Steve Cartlidge from his visit on Thursday 30th April in which he had observed lessons with middle leaders. 20 middle leaders had been observed and the level of professional conversations was very good.

A discussion took place regarding the day Steve Cartlidge spent at QEGS and the feedback he had shared.

Governors concluded that this is setting a very good standard and it is good to have consistency across Teaching.

Agenda Item:	8 – QA Summer Term Update – Assistant Headteacher (AHA)
Minute Number:	AS144.15

Quality of Teaching – Summer Term 2015

Governors attention was bought to the paper titled 'Quality of Teaching Summer Term 2015'. Figure one showed the judgements in drop-ins, in the autumn term 2014-15. This coincided with the Ofsted judgement.

Figure two shows the drop-ins carried out in the summer term 2014-15, and confirms that the progress has been sustained.

The Assistant Headteacher (AHA) also explained that, due to the examinations, not all staff had been observed. These drop-ins would take place before the end of the term in addition to any follow up QA where staff's teaching and learning 'required improvement'.

The latest judgments relating to drop-ins indicate that improvements are being sustained and peer coaching and structured support programmes will remain in place as appropriate.

Governors asked what happens when staff are off on long term absences. Do we make sure no class suffers? Assistant Head (JMN) explained that if it is a long term absence then timetables are amended, and the situation is then monitored.

Governors asked if there was anything that could be done to help with an initiative to lift spirit and involvement of students to get them more involved and to increase morale. Assistant Head (AHA) – the vision and values exercise played a huge part in raising students morale, along with the days spent with Humanutopia.

Governors asked who Humanutopia are. Headteacher – they are company formed by ex-teachers and they carry out various workshops building on student morale and raising aspirations. They are in school this week and next week, Governors are invited to attend.

ACTION:

Clerk to send a link for Humanutopia and to send an invitation to Governors inviting them to come and see the work they carry out.

Meeting closed at 7.25pm