



THE
BLUE COAT
SCHOOL

Governing Body update

October 2019

We think it is very important that you know and understand as much as possible about our work as a Governing Body. This summary will be published every month to give you an overview of the things that we are considering at our meetings and what our current priorities are.

Summary of our main agenda items:		Insight into our current priorities:	
Finance and resources	<p>The School presented its latest financial update which is in excellent health. Governors were briefed on new approaches to support staff professional development and to fund improvement projects. The Development team gave an update on their many successes over the last 4 years.</p>	<p>The new <u>Articles of Association</u> for the BCS are being finalised and should be approved next month. These changes will include the introduction of a new Members Group, who as part of their role will be responsible for the appointment of new Governors including Parent Governors, which we hope to commence very soon.</p>	<p>Our application to become a <u>MAT Sponsor</u> will be further discussed with the Regional School's Commissioner in November.</p>
Admissions	<p>Governors were briefed on the completion of the admissions process for 2020/21. Pleasingly our applicants included excellent representation of students with Special Educational Needs (SEND) and students eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), adding to our aim of improving social mobility and giving wider access to the BCS.</p>	<p>The Governing Body currently employs a system whereby individual governors have responsibility for specific elements of the work of the BCS (<u>Lead Governors</u>). These arrangements have worked well in both understanding provision at BCS and holding leaders to account. It is however prudent to keep these matters under review and Governors and Senior Leaders are currently assessing whether any changes or improvements to this lead governor system would be helpful.</p>	<p>You will all be aware that the Head Teacher has recently announced that he will be leaving the BCS at the end of the school year (August 2020). Governors have started planning the <u>recruitment of a new Head Teacher</u> and aim to make an appointment by the late Spring.</p>
Curriculum, teaching, learning and outcomes	<p>The Head Teacher presented recent examination outcomes - which were amongst the very best in the history of the BCS. All members of the BCS Staff deserve credit for the outstanding results that have been achieved. Governors also approved a number of curriculum enhancements by introducing opportunities for students to study Computing at A Level and Food and Nutrition at GCSE.</p>	<p>As part of their responsibilities Governors and Senior Leaders are working closely with all parts of the School workforce to understand <u>employee's views about strengths and areas for improvement</u> of working at BCS. Governors and Senior Leaders are looking forward to capturing and using staff views to inform ongoing improvements and refinements.</p>	<p>If you would like to find out more about any of these items or if you have any questions you would like to ask the governing body, please email us through: parentquestions@bluecoatschool.org.uk or staffquestions@bluecoatschool.org.uk</p>