



MINUTES OF THE LGB MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11TH MAY 2026 AT 6.00PM

Present

Lisa Upson (LU) Trust Appointed
Jenny Mackie (JM) Parent
Sam Birnage (SB) Headteacher
Neil Rudge (NR) Trust Appointed
James Allison (JA) Parent
Brendan Knight (BK) Parent
Donna Valentine (DV) Staff Governor
Katie Evans (KE) Staff Governor

Apologies

Alice Green (AG) Trust Appointed

The meeting was quorate

CQ: Challenge Question

The meeting opened at 6.00pm and was chaired by LU.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Alice Green. These were accepted by the governing body.

2. Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

3. Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 16th March 2026 were agreed.

5. Action Points from the Last Meeting

The action points from the meeting of 16th March 2026 were reviewed.

DV confirmed that she had completed her induction training.

LJ reminded governors to complete their training via Learning Link as agreed at the November LGB meeting:-

AG – Effective Financial Governance in Schools and Trusts

NR – Monitoring performance data and targets

KE – Arts, culture and creativity

JM confirmed that she had reviewed the website.

6. Attainment

DL introduced the AP2 data. He explained that it had not been possible to circulate this prior to the meeting as it had only recently been compiled.

Regarding the data over a 12 month period, DL reported that it was reasonably stable. The Year 2 and Year 5 Maths data had dipped slightly and the ARE percentage in Year 3 Writing had decreased by 14% due to moderation. DL went on to advise that Year 6 Reading was still above the national average and the GD % had increased by 20%. The percentage of pupils achieving ARE in Year 6 Maths had increased and was in line with the national average. Governors noted that there were percentage increases in GD across subjects and year groups which was positive. **CQ:** JM questioned whether pupils moved from achieving ARE to GD and DL advised that this was the case. She went on to question whether there were trends for particular classes and SB advised that there were not and the data of particular children was looked at. **CQ:** JM questioned how the data compared to other Oxfordshire schools. SB reported that the results for Oxfordshire were slightly below the national average.

DL reported that the gap between the attainment of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils was over 30% in all core subjects and ideally this should be 25%. Progress for disadvantaged pupils had historically been good but attainment was lower compared to non-disadvantaged pupils. He explained that the reasons for this were becoming more complex. Interestingly, the gap in Maths was less. Governors noted that there was a widening gap between boys and girls in Maths which reflected then national picture.

Governors noted that in Year 6 there had been significant increases in the data from 2021-2022 AP2 to 2025-2026 AP2.

DL reported that overall the school was heading to a positive progress score and progress would be compared to other schools. Governors noted that progress often accelerated in Year 6 where the curriculum was consolidated.

Governors noted that increasing fluency in reading remained a focus in the school.

Governors noted the increase in the predicted percentage of pupils achieving the Year 1 Phonics assessment which was positive.

Regarding the outcomes for Reception pupils, DL advised that the data for Writing was holding back the overall GLD percentage. SB explained that EPA had implemented new assessment criteria using different statement than the school currently used so it was difficult to compare data at this time. However, significant improvement in the teaching and provision in Reception had been observed.

Governors noted that work had been done to try to increase the results in the Year 4 multiplication check. Some parent governors commented that their children enjoyed using Times Tables Rock Stars. **CQ:** JM questioned whether this could be implemented below Year 3. LU commented that children may get bored of using it and this was agreed.

CQ: LU questioned whether the dates of LGB meetings needed to be moved so that the data was available to governors prior to the meeting. SB and DL agreed to look at this.

7. School Development Plan

Children with SEMH and behaviour needs access an appropriately adapted curriculum and environment that supports their success in a mainstream class – LU reported that she had completed a monitoring visit. She advised that there were many positives from The Nest including fewer pupil suspensions, reduced risk of harm and better outcomes. Consideration was needed around how to measure this success. SB reported that the attendance of those pupils accessing The Nest had improved. He had collated an impact statement to try and secure some funding which contained some outcomes and it was agreed that he would share this with governors. CQ: NR questioned whether there was a waiting list for pupils for The Nest. SB advised that this was reviewed every term and teachers completed referral forms. Governors noted that there were currently 9 pupils accessing The Nest. CQ: NR questioned whether additional evidence for the suitability of specialist provision was obtained if a pupil was unable to access The Nest successfully. SB advised that this was the case. CQ: JM questioned whether pupils could be referred from other schools and SB advised that they could not.

Children are ready to learn because they are in a calm, quiet and purposeful environment – JM reported that she would organise a monitoring visit.

Children receive an enriched curriculum with planned for links so Big Knowledge is fully embedded and is ready to be applied – BK and NR reported that they had met with DL. BK advised that it had been useful to obtain information on Big Knowledge. CQ: BK questioned how evidence would be tracked and SB advised that this would be through conversations with pupils.

Children's education is enhanced by the engagement of parents across the school – JM and JA reported that they had met with some parents of pupils currently access The Nest and their feedback had been very positive. There was further evidence of good parental engagement in the feedback survey. It was noted that there was some further work to complete around managing parental expectations regarding communication.

At all statutory assessment points, outcomes are above national at ARE and GD – NR reported that he had met with DL to go through the new data platform which was an EPA trust wide system.

The quality of provision in the EYFS is consistently good across all classes – It was noted that AG had completed a monitoring visit and would submit a report.

Children with moderate learning needs receive adapted teaching and learning so they make good progress – LU reported that further work was needed to review the AP2 data for pupils with moderate learning needs. She went on to advise that CPD had been well received and there was a need to ensure there were inconsistencies in pupil profiles.

Personalised CPD supports teachers to develop their teaching and learning pedagogy so that children achieve the highest outcomes – JA reported that he had spoken with teachers who had been very positive about their personalised CPD. Staff had reported that they felt supported by their learning partners. CQ: JA questioned whether personalised CPD could be rolled out to teaching assistants. SB advised that logistically this would be very challenging.

8. Headteacher's Report

Governors noted that attendance figures were high and that the percentage of persistent absence had reduced. LU commented that there had been an increase in pupil numbers which created additional income for the school. SB reported that safeguarding continued to take up a considerable amount of SLT time and he hoped that money could be found in the budget for a Family Support Worker from September 2026.

Governors noted that the Site Manager had resigned. The EPA were currently recruiting for a Facilities Manager and a decision regarding a replacement would be delayed until this recruitment process had been completed. In the interim, agency staff would be used.

9. Safeguarding

Regarding the recent safeguarding incident involving a nursery pupil, LU and JA reported that they had read the audit report from EPA. Governors noted that actions had been put in place as a result of this audit to help prevent it from happening again. Governors were reminded that if they were approached by parents to ask for information about incidents then they should direct them to SLT.

The Prevent report was noted.

10. Inclusion Impact Review

Governors noted the report.

11. Budget Overview

CQ: LU questioned why there was a variance under Resources and SB explained that this was due to trip income and expenditure. **CQ:** JM questioned whether parental contributions had been received for residential. SB advised that some sources of charitable funding were no longer available and therefore the school were having to fund the cost for some pupils.

12. Staffing Update

Governors noted that this information had been included in the Headteacher's Report.

13. Policies

a) Relational and Behaviour

The policy was ratified.

b) Maths

The policy was agreed subject to the amendment that information regarding celebrating maths would be included.

c) Assessment

The policy was ratified. It was agreed that non-core subject data would be presented to governors in Term 5.

d) Online Safety

The policy was ratified.

e) After School Clubs, Community Activities and Tuition

The DfE policy was noted.

f) Lettings and Hirings

The policy was ratified.

14. Statutory Items

a) Safeguarding

JA reported that he had completed a review of the Single Central Register.

b) Health and Safety

Governors noted that some new windows were being installed.

c) Racial and Bullying Incidents

There were no items in addition to those reported in the Headteacher's Report/

d) Data Protection

There was nothing to report.

15. Making a Difference

- School Development Plan Monitoring
- AP2 Assessment Data
- Reviewing EPA Safeguarding Audit

16. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Monday 11th May 2026 at 6.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.