

Minutes – Bristol Metropolitan Academy

Meeting Date: 25 February 2025

Location: BMA

Time: 5.00pm

Members:	Laura Walder (LW)	Sponsor Councillor & Chair
	Jon Hallett (JH)	Parent Councillor & Vice Chair
	Chloe Aldam (CA)	Parent Councillor
	Jo Duffy (JD)	Sponsor Councillor (<i>arrived at 6.00pm</i>)
	<i>Vacancy</i>	Sponsor Councillor
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	Aysha Muzaffar (AM)	Support Staff Councillor
	Daisy Mason (DM)	Sponsor Councillor
	David Vince (DV)	Teacher Councillor

In Attendance:	Cameron Shaw (CS)	Executive Principal
	Kris Bridgeman (KB)	Interim Principal

Apologies:	Sue Burns (SB)	Clerk
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Item	Description	Action
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	
1.1	Laura Walder welcomed Kris Bridgeman to his first meeting as Interim Principal, and Chloe Aldam the new Parent Academy Councillor.	
1.2	No apologies were necessary.	
2	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	None declared.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting	
3.1	The minutes of the meeting of 3 rd December 2024 were approved.	
4	Matters Arising	
4.1	Cameron Shaw has been appointed as an Executive Principal. Therefore, Kris Bridgeman is currently the Interim Principal for BMA.	
4.2	KB: The attendance and belonging survey is underway which should result in broad themes being identified.	
4.3	ACTION: KB to circulate the student leadership outcomes and the attendance and belonging survey data when available.	KB
4.4	A new Science teacher has been recruited. The substantive Principal recruitment process is planned to complete by the end of term. The SENCO is leaving at Easter and the Deputy SENCO returns from maternity leave next term.	

5	Academy Council Membership	
5.1	Minna Koo has resigned from the Academy Council having taken a post with the CLF Central Governance Team.	
5.2	There are two Sponsor Councillor vacancies.	
5.3	Daisy will be the Safeguarding Link AC moving forward.	
5.4	The Careers Link AC role remains vacant.	
6	Academy Council Report - CS	
6.1	Has lateness to lessons improved? Yes, we changed our approach to lateness which resulted in a significant increase in late students which has since reduced to historical levels. We are now focusing on how to encourage students arrive at their lessons promptly, which involves increasing levels of belonging.	
6.2	The change in legislation means that students who arrive after 9.10am are marked as absent, despite the fact that they are on site. However, we would prefer to have them be late and here than not to come at all. Therefore, we are looking at how we can address the culture to encourage students to what to be in school and also to arrive on time.	
6.3	Attendance today was 94% and we had attendance over 95% in three year groups which we are pleased about.	
6.4	Last term we had data that 1 in 4 PP students were absent, therefore if we can improve PP attendance, overall attendance will improve.	
6.5	How is attainment going? Our aim is to achieve 70% for basics. Y7 is a strong cohort, Y9, not so much. Without KS2 data it's difficult to determine how a student will progress. Current predictions are 64% for 9-4.	
6.6	All departments are being monitored for what interventions are in place to ensure that students who are below their targets will close the gap and achieve the best grade they can.	
6.7	Our PP Progress 8 data has historically often been better than national non-PP progress which is an indicator that we support our most vulnerable children.	
6.8	Are there any subjects you are concerned about? MFL remains a concern because it's a competitive recruitment field. In many schools, MFL is an option and therefore higher attaining students select it which means that school's outcome data is higher.	
6.9	We guide our students to make sure that they choose the right course to meet their needs when they get to their options.	
6.10	Is English Lit a concern? It always appears a concern at this year because the students having covered all of the curriculum.	
	PP & Disadvantaged Students	
6.11	There was a dip in PP attendance before Christmas? We had two long terms which was exhausting, and many students were unwell. The PP absence data for that period relates to twenty students overall.	
6.12	Are PP students generally less well? Do they take up the flu vaccine? Disadvantaged students may be less nourished which is a stereotype but is backed up by data. We don't have the flu vaccine data, but we could investigate if we can get it.	
6.13	ACTION: CS to determine if flu vaccine data for PP students is available.	
	Suspensions	
6.14	The Suspension Reduction Plan appears to be having a positive effect? We have worked hard to reduce suspensions and there has been a reduction of behaviour	

	points. Suspensions dropped from 96 in T2 to 42 in T3. Reducing truancy was also a key focus that saw a significant reduction in T3.	
6.15	<p>In the last meeting, we discussed being proactive about behaviour in the classroom, has that resulted in a reduction in behaviour incidents?</p> <p>Yes. We removed time out cards for short break cards which work well when used proactively.</p>	
	Safeguarding	
6.16	LW met with Sarah for a Safeguarding Link Visit in T3.	
6.17	ACTION: KB to arrange for the colour coding in the Safeguarding data to be removed.	KB
7	Policies	
7.1	<p>Policies to be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee and Councillor Expenses • Sponsorship and Ethical Fundraising <p>Policies to be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions 2026-27 • Exam Malpractice • Uniform <p><i>The Academy Councillors approved the above policies</i></p>	
8	Matters for the attention of the Board/COAC.	
8.1	None.	
9	AOB	
9.1	None	