

# Coldfall Primary School

## Governing Board Meeting



Minutes of meeting held in the Training Room

Thursday 22nd May 2025 commencing 6pm

Head Teacher Governor (1)	Staff Governor (1)	Local Authority Governor (1)
Ewan Marshall (EM) ex officio	+ Sevda Kemal (SK) 20.03.26	Ted Lowery (TL) Chair 22.03.26
Co-opted Governors (6)	Parent Governors (5)	Associate member
+ Helen daSilva (HD-S) 27.11.28	Sinéad Queeney (SQ) 02.12.25	Emily Gazzard (EG)
James Bielby (JB) 28.09.26	+ Clive Englebert (CE) 02.12.25	
+ Douglas Blackwood (DB) Vice Chair 28.9.27	Sebastian Worbs (SW) 28.09.26	
Rachael Parker-Stafford (RP-S) 29.11.27	George Wainwright (GW) 29.11.27	
2@ Vacancy	1@ Vacancy	
<b>Also Present</b>		+ denotes approved absence
Sarah Hargreaves Senior Governance Officer, HEP (SH)		* denotes absence

### Part 1

#### 1. Welcome

1.1 TL chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

#### 2. Apologies for absence and lateness

2.1 Apologies for absence have been received from Douglas Blackwood, Helen daSilva, Sevda Kemal and Clive Englebert.

#### 3. Declaration of interests, pecuniary or otherwise in respect of items on the agenda

3.1 No new declarations were made for items on the agenda.

3.2 All governors were reminded to keep their declarations of interests up to date on GovernorHub.

#### **4. Approval of the Part One FGB Minutes of 27th March 2025**

4.1 It was clarified that the £19m budget surplus referred to the whole borough and not the school.

4.2 It was clarified that the £60,000 shortfall referred only to this school.

4.3 It was clarified that the £80,000 generated from the extra nursery places was actual income, whereas the £70,000 via the holiday schools was a forecast.

4.4 With these points the minutes were **agreed** as a correct record of the meeting.

#### **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 27th March 2025**

5.1 No items

#### **6. Teaching and Learning Committee 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

6.1 The KS2 SATs papers were circulated for Governor information.

6.2 The report format to parents has been simplified and Target Setting has been removed as it was deemed to not be helpful.

6.3 Board games have been introduced across the school. Three per year group. Donations from parents of games which have been grown out of are welcome. They teach regulation, winning/losing and face to face interaction. It was noted that it is the International Day of Play on 11<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **7. Finance and Site Committee and Health and Safety: 8th May 2025**

7.1 No Part One items.

#### **8. Inclusion Issues**

8.1 EG reported as follows: Marva Rollins (the SIP) has undertaken a race review at the school. She met with children and parents. She noted the positive feedback from Black children who felt that their concerns were taken seriously by the school. There will be a coffee morning after half term with parents to discuss the findings.

8.2 EG and HD-S had met to discuss ways in which to enhance the protocol for dealing with racist incidents at the school.

8.3 Videos will be made about inspirational Black figures to be used throughout the school. Lesser known figures will be researched.

8.4 Due to an incident of discriminatory language being used in the school a Black member of staff went to all classes to discuss what it means to be called negative names and how it can affect people. Governors extended their thanks to him as it was not part of his usual job role.

8.5 Work on SEND issues continues.

8.6 An assembly was held on ADHD. Children spoke about their experiences.

8.7 A Black parent who is a firefighter will be coming into the school to talk to Black boys about becoming firefighters.

8.8 Money maybe available from LBH for group mentoring.

8.9 Black Caribbean boys are a group of academically underachieving pupils and the school is working hard to close this gap.

8.10 It was noted that all anti discriminatory work is part of the on-going conversations within the school.

## **9. Chair's Update and Report**

9.1 The new Instrument of Government, circulated to all Governors was noted. After discussion it was **agreed** to defer the election for the new fifth Parent Governor until the new cohort of parents had joined the school in the autumn term.

9.2 There are people who have expressed an interest in both of the Co-opted Governor vacancies. TL has spoken to one candidate whom he considered had the all-important requirement of enthusiasm. This individual was recommended by other governors with personal knowledge.

**Agreed** that this individual be co-opted. TL will contact. SQ will forward to TL details of another candidate whom TL will contact before the next FGB meeting. **Action TL**

9.3 The local area Chairs' Forum on 13<sup>th</sup> May:

9.3.1 The forum considered the issue of School Streets and the impact on schools and the local community. There were various views expressed but issues of access and parking for staff and visiting professionals was an issue for many schools. The suggestion was that Schools should collectively adopt a neutral approach. Some schools were concerned that it would make them appear less attractive to potential parents if they could not easily drop their children off; as the catchment areas get bigger this could be a more important issue for Coldfall. It appears that the Everington Road School Street will be implemented from September; not all governors were aware of this and it was noted that the consultation process appeared to have been expedited.

9.3.2 The forum also considered the issue of Governor fatigue and what could be done to encourage more people to volunteer as governors. Many governors feel that they are just fire fighting the cheerless and difficult issues facing their schools.

9.3.3 TL said he had fed back to the other chairs about our Ofsted inspection. Other schools appear to have had a much smoother inspection. EM said this has been raised with HEP who are approaching Ofsted. It is understood that some of the methodology is set for Inspectors to follow. It was felt to be disappointing that there had been no useful feedback given which could help the school to raise standards; inspections are just being used as a tool to compare schools to each other.

9.4 The service being received from LBH Human Resources Dept. is regarded as being inadequate. Information is not being received in a timely manner. Discussions are on-going.

9.5 TL confirmed that he had reviewed the **SCR** on **February 14<sup>th</sup>**.

## **10. Headteacher's Update and Summary**

10.1 EM said that the outcome of the Ofsted inspection will be put on the website in bullet form.

10.2 The school will be full in September. There has been some minor movement within year groups this year, but nothing of concern.

10.3 Attendance stands at 96.3%.

10.4 The behaviour of a minority of pupils towards staff is of concern. Some is due to SEND needs and some due to the situation at home. Haringey Learning Partnership (HLP) have been providing behaviour support to the school. The school is working to make it clearer to parents what appropriate home based sanctions should be.

**7pm Sebastian Worbs** left the meeting, (but will 'phone in for the Finance items of Part 1)

10.5 It was noted that some parents under-estimate the impact of violent behaviour within the school on other pupils and on staff.

10.5.1 The school has a duty of care to all pupils and staff. Staff make all attempts to de-escalate situations before they physically intervene if a pupil is becoming a danger to themselves or others. The GB said that they support the Head and staff in their handling of these difficult situations,

10.5.2 Efforts are being made to change the way in which some pupils can access the curriculum. Pushing some pupils to learn everything that other pupils learn is not always productive. Using life skills, group work to encourage sharing, group cooking sessions etc to ease them into learning could be productive. Starting the day with exercise or a sensory session could be considered. This may ease relevant pupil's frustrations about being left behind by their peers.

10.5.3 A new contract with parents could be considered, to include how they could deal with issues at home and liaise positively with the school. It is felt that some parents are too gentle with their children when they have mis-behaved and give them mixed messages, for example by rewarding them when they have to stay at home.

10.5.4 EG said that the school was looking into applying to a joint DfE and NHS fund for money for targeted interventions to work with parents.

10.5.5 The Behaviour Policy will be updated for the new school year.

10.6 It has been confirmed that the former caretaker's house on Coldfall Avenue will be sold. The school has contributed towards the costs of keeping the house maintained including when empty and is enquiring as to if we can claim a refund from the borough.

## **11. Governors Visits, Development and Training**

11.1 Governors were reminded to send their visit reports and details of any training attended to the Chair. **Action All**

11.2 All Governors were invited to the assembly on **23<sup>rd</sup> May**. **Action All**

11.3 All Governors were invited to the **Exhibition Evening on 10<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm**. **Action All**

11.4 It was **agreed** to look into purchasing green lanyards for Governors, to differentiate them from staff. **Action**

**EM**

## **12. Policy Reviews and Reports for Approval and Comment**

12.1 None.

## **13. AOB**

13.1 No items.

#### 14. Future Meeting Dates

14.1 The next FGB meeting will be held on **10th July 2025 at 6pm.**

Part 1 of the meeting ended at **7.30pm.**

**Sinéad Queeney** and **Emily Gazzard** left the meeting.

Signed.....Chair....Date .....

#### List of Agreed Actions – 22nd May 2025

No.	Item	By Whom
9.2	To contact people interested in becoming a Governor	TL
11.1	To send visit reports and details of any training attended to the Chair	All
11.2	To attend the assembly on 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	All
11.3	To attend the Exhibition Evening on 10 <sup>th</sup> July	All
11.4	To purchase green lanyards for Governors	EM

#### Attendance

##### Governing Body attendance tracker: academic year 2024/25

Type	Name	30.9.24	28.11.24	6.2.25	27.3.25	22.5.25	10.7.25	Score
Head	Ewan Marshall	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		<b>5:6</b>
Staff	Sevda Kemal	Y	Y	Y	Y	N		<b>4:6</b>
Local Authority	Ted Lowery	Y	N	N	Y	Y		<b>3:6</b>
Co-opted	Helen De-Silva	Y	N	N	N	N		<b>1:6</b>
Co-opted	James Bielby	N	N	Y	Y	Y		<b>3:6</b>
Co-opted	Rachael Parker-Stafford	Y	N	Y	N	Y		<b>3:6</b>
Co-opted	Douglas Blackwood	N	Y	Y	Y	N		<b>3:6</b>
Associate	Emily Gazzard	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		<b>5:6</b>
Parent	Sebastian Worbs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		<b>5:6</b>
Parent	Clive Englebert	Y	N	Y	N	N		<b>2:6</b>
Parent	Sinéad Queeney	Y	Y	N	Y	Y		<b>4:6</b>

Parent	George Wainwright	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		<b>5:6</b>
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