

Episkopi British Forces Post Office 53

Tel. (+357) 25 96 3888

Email: sjs.enquiries@modschools.org Web: www.stjohnsschoolcyprus.



## MINUTES OF THE ST JOHN'S SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2025

Attendees	
Lt Col P Francis (PF)	Chair
Mr R Cowin (RC)	Vice Chair
Mr C Guyton (CG)	Headteacher
Mrs P Demetriou (PJD)	Secretary to SGC
Mrs D Simpson (DS)	Assistant Head DCS (Cyprus)
Mr S Atkin (SA)	Sub Committee 1 Link & FinGov lead.
Ms N Robertshaw (NR)	Member of Sub Committee 1
Mr N Christopher (NC)	Member of Sub Committee 1
Ms E Ballard (EB)	Sub Committee 2 Link
Mr P Dakin (PD)	Member of Sub Committee 2
Mr J Crowther (JC)	Member of Sub Committee 2
Mr G Simpson (GS)	Member of Sub Committee 2
Guests	
Mrs K Parkinson (KP)	Pastoral Manager, SJS
Apologies	
Mr D Donaldson (DD)	School Improvement Advisor, DCS
Mr S Rai (SR)	UWO 1PWRR
Mr A Goldie (AG)	Member of Sub Committee 3
Mrs S Atherton (SVA)	Member of Sub Committee 3
Mr R Roberts (RR)	Member of Sub Committee 2

Ser	Agenda Point		Comments	Actions
1	Welcome and opening remarks by Chair	•	PF opened the meeting at 1000 hrs and welcomed everyone present. PF thanked JS for his contribution to our SGC ahead of his posting back to the UK. PF thanked CG for all of the very useful information	
		•	provided for the governors at this meeting.  PF asked for all governors to please email PJD over the	All
		•	summer holiday to confirm if they intend to stay on the SGC or if they intend to leave. PF advised that a non reply would be treated as not wishing to stay on the SGC.	All
		•	PF asked for the governors to please reflect over the summer holiday on the achievements of the SGC this	All
			academic year and to offer suggestions of how we can improve on this during the next academic year.	
			PF advised that he was in school this week to give Station Commander's Awards to some deserving SJS pupils who have contributed a lot in the BFC community.	

Ser			Comments	Action
1	Welcome and	•	PF asked governors to please support the document in	All
	opening remarks		their information pack regarding appropriate behaviours	
	by Chair		compiled by DCS, the SBA Police and Susan Coole.	
2	Matters Arising	•	The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as	
	from Previous		read.	
3	Meeting Headteacher's		CC said that a lot of the CLT's time has been spent on	
)	Report	•	CG said that a lot of the SLT's time has been spent on reflecting on AY 24/25 and how we can improve further in	
	Roport		the next academic year, as shown in our latest SEF and	
			SIP.	
		•	CG has undergone training on the new Ofsted Toolkit to	
			familiarise himself, to be ready for an inspection. CG	
			also said that they have looked at the Ofsted framework	
			now and will make amendments after we receive the	
			external exam results. CG said that as we receive more	
			and more data, our assessment will also be updated.	
			CG advised that Ofsted examine 10 different aspects of	
			school provision now and said that the SLT have tried to	
			assess where we fit against the 5 judgements. CG reported that SLT feel that there is inconsistency from	
			DCS regarding support for gapped posts, especially as	
			some posts have now been gapped for a year.	
		•	CG explained that the SIP is self-assessed grading	
			supporting the Ofsted framework which helps to show	
			which areas we need to develop. CG said that we have	
			the revised SEF to support our 3 key priorities this	
			academic year:	
			Metacognition - emphasis on independent learning.	
			2. Literacy and reading - we have a 5 year literary plan in	
			place for the next 18 months, but a lot of work still	
			needs to be done.	
			3. Personal development – our Head of PSHE has made great progress this AY in PSHE and will also hold a big	
			whole school Careers Day on 14 July. CG thanked	
			those governors who have assisted with this. Also CG	
			added that NR has worked tirelessly on assessment	
			and that SLT have been working hard on reviewing	
			progress.	
		•	GP asked if we have any evidence that metacognition is	
			working? CG replied that our Y11 students said that they	
			were grateful for the help that they have received. CG	
			said that this is only the beginning, that they are working to a 3 year plan and that metacognition is being taught to	
			students and staff have had training in this twice per	
			week.	
		•	EB asked what will be the school's success measures for	
			metacognition? CG replied that we are using a	
			triangulated assessment of metacognition. NR added	
			that is an ongoing process, especially due to the high	
			turnover of the student population. NC asked if	
			metacognition is a teaching philosophy? CG confirmed	
			that it is.	
		•	CG reported that there is further need and opportunity to	
			develop staff confidence surrounding metacognition and	

Ser			Comments	Actions
3	Headteacher's Report	•	nationally, both Y9 and Y10 unfortunately regressed. CG said that due to concern regarding what is happening between Y7 and Y8, this will be investigated.  Student Satisfaction CG reported that students would like to receive more careers guidance and more advice regarding their fitness and healthy eating. DS advised that DCS have faced difficulty in being able to recruit an independent careers advisor for BFC. CG reported that we have successful appointed a new lady to run the Snack Shack from Sep 25 who has a lot of experience in this area.  Staff Wellbeing CG reported that he has held an end of school year reflection meeting with every member of staff and will share the feedback from these with the governors. CG reported that we have now had a Teacher of Science retire and our Teacher of Music post has been approved to work for both SJS and Cyprus Music Service.  EB asked if A Level Music could also be offered with this new appointment? CG replied that there has been no demand for this historically but said that it may be a	CG
		•	possibility. CG reported that appointments have been made for a MASO LSA, Sixth Form LSA and an Admin Clerk. CG advised that we are awaiting approval for a D & T LSA and Bromcom Administrator.  Community Pride CG reported that our recent Armed Forces Day celebrations, Duke of Edinburgh Award and Y6 Transition were all very successful. PF advised that CBF, DCBF and DS have all been actively trying to push recruitment for DCS. PF said that the transparency has improved but the problems remain for all of the DCS Schools. DS added that the creation of DCS Supply Teacher contracts would hopefully help with gapped posts. PF said that the agreement for DCS Schools to be able to use each other's staff when needed would also help.	
4	DSL Safeguarding Update	•	KP reported that she is currently dealing with some quite significant safeguarding concerns. KP said that the original disclosures were actually made to school in the first instance and that it is good to know that our students feel we are a 'safe space.' KP said that for staff this is a difficult environment as where you may be socialising you recognise people and they may recognise you, even if you do not personally know them. KP said that we have to remember that we are trusted adults not only at work but also in the community. KP reported that she is currently supporting Akrotiri Early Years on their use of My Concern and said that the staff there are very keen to learn more. KP added that her visit there highlighted just how far SJS has come.	

Ser		Comments	Actions
4	DSL Safeguarding Update	<ul> <li>KP reported that we have been under a lot of pressure from Command to provide support to some students with complex needs in terms of safeguarding, medical involvement and behavioural needs. KP said that she is not happy to confirm that we can support them without being absolutely sure, especially regarding our difficult staffing issues at present.</li> <li>KP announced that in Sep 25 we will be rolling out a new rewards scheme for students. KP added that we have looked at linking more with the military and, like the Station Commander's coins, we will award students with coins for Integrity, Commitment and Respect at a ceremony at the end of each term. KP said that it will not be easy to earn such an award. CG added that as Bromcom points are no longer popular with the students, they will be discontinued next academic year. CG reported that after one more academic year he will also decide whether to continue with the House system or not.</li> <li>DS asked KP if she thinks that the curriculum is robust enough? KP replied that we need to be more hard hitting and said that this is a national issue. KP said that what our students are seeing on line is adult content and we have to be more vigilant, we need to work out how to deal with this. KP added that because they can easily access hard core pornography that children have become desensitised and have started to see these things as 'normal.' KP said that in this setting it is really difficult to find people who can come in to talk to the students about these issues. DS said that it is important for parents to also ask their children how was your day today and how was your online day today? DS said that it is important to open these discussions.</li> <li>DS said that we are still waiting for a decision regarding DCS' move to IGDN, formerly StratCom and she will update us asap.</li> <li>DS reported that DCS have been working on a bespoke version of Ofsted, like they use in the Channel Islands as some things we cannot measure due to our setting. DS said that</li></ul>	
5	Team Around the Sixth Form Update	<ul> <li>CG reported that the relocation of our Sixth Form has been successful and that the dress code and attendance figures have all improved.</li> <li>CG advised that we have tried to achieve a balance of academic and vocational subjects but some requests have been rejected by DCS. CG added that DCS did not approve for us to run vocational hair and beauty courses.</li> <li>CG reported that we have now aligned our Sixth Form subjects with KRS so that some subjects can be taught jointly. CG advised that this has already been done with A Level French this year.</li> <li>CG announced that Richard Sproson, Headteacher at KRS, has managed to secure funding of £500 per Y12</li> </ul>	

Ser		Comments		Actions
5	Team Around the Sixth Form Update	the next UCAS thanked for his good advised that new bus serviced that Akrotiri now CG said that we independent Ca Papaioannou are advise the stude NR advised that be introduced from EB asked if the be repeated? Pagain once DCS that now is not that are waiting for a said that 3 years added that at the opinion of SJS word community. Prommunicate to she has some of she will email did CG said that, as offer but he is allowed that the in a more emporation of SJS word and the said that Six independence that in a more emporation of said that Six independence that in a more appropriate that it is a more appropriate that it i	Team around the Sixth Form meeting will of replied that we would hold this meeting is have made some decisions. PF added the right time for this, especially while we are new Head of DCS to be appointed. PF is ago we took a long hard look at SJS. PF is time the narrative of SJS was poor, the was poor as was it's reputation in the asked for governors to please of CG how we can improve. EB said that questions regarding the Sixth Form that irectly to CG. Is a school, we are proud of what we can also honest about things that we cannot that it is best to be honest with parents, to at integrity. CG replied that he feels he is overed position to do this now that SJS is were do not be a lot worse which is why is made and he has no plans to change	
6	AOB	with the Youth F year. GS asked CG if CG replied that academic year. issue and confir neutral uniform shorts or trouse confirmed that, uniform will be a and said that the phase this new RC advised CG 25 that he has be	that the Youth Services will be involved Parliament and MediMUN next academic we can look at the SJS uniform please? we have been looking at it over the last CG added that the skirts are a major med that we will be opting for a gender where all students will need to wear black ars and a plain white polo shirt. CG according to DCS policy, this change of announced to parents 1 year in advance ey will have an extra year in order to uniform change in.  That for the Anniversary event on 15 Nov been asked by several alumni for us to the more information asap.	

Ser			Comments	Actions
7	Closing remarks by the Chair	•	PF encouraged governors to please support the whole school Careers Day on 14 July and come to see the good work going on at SJS. PF also thanked those governors who had involvement with this big event.  At his last SGC meeting before retiring, PF thanked all present for the support, the challenge and the friendship he has experienced in this role. PF said that having a good secondary school is vital for the BFC community. RC also said that in 55 years of being associated with SJS that our leadership has been fantastic with CG and PF and thanked PF for having done a wonderful job.	
8	Date of next meeting	•	Wednesday 15 October 25 at 10:00 in the Conference Room.	_

