



Batley Multi Academy Trust
Minutes of Batley Grammar School's Governing Board meeting
Held on Wednesday 1 July 2026 at 5:00pm

Batley Grammar School			
Meeting of:	Full School Governing Board (SGB)		
Date and time:	Wednesday 1 July 2026, 5:00pm		
Location:	Batley Grammar School		
Present:	Alistair Hartley (Chair of Governors) Jonathan Kidd (Vice Chair of Governors) Oliver Tiplady (Governor) Aadil Laher (Governor) Fozia Riaz (Governor) Amira Laher (Governor) Mike Cook (Governor) Emily Brook (Governor)		
Apologies:	Ebrahim Sulemen (Governor)		
Others in attendance:	John Hughes (Headteacher) Ryan White (Head of Primary) Rebecca Jamieson (Deputy Headteacher) Tracy Logan (Deputy Headteacher) Amy Wilby (Deputy Headteacher) Palwinder Kang (School Improvement Lead) Claire Hamilton (Prospective Governor and observer) Nawaid Aurangzeb (Chief Financial Officer, CFO) Kris Shepley (Trust Finance Support Officer) Alistair Milligan (Governance Professional)		
Quorum:	Any three of the Governors of the SGB, or, where greater, one third of the total Governors of the SGB	Quorum met:	Yes



Part A

Item	Minutes	Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
	The Chair opened the meeting at 5:00pm and thanked everyone for attending the final SGB meeting of the academic year. A warm welcome was extended to: a new Staff Governor, Emily Brook; the new Deputy Headteacher - School Improvement, Amy Wilby; the new School Improvement Lead, Palwinder Kang; a prospective Governor and observer, Claire Hamilton; and to the CFO and Finance Support Officer. For the benefit of all attendees, everyone introduced themselves. <i>Jonathan Kidd joined the meeting at 5:04pm.</i>	
2.	Apologies for Absence, Consent, Declarations of Interest and AOB	
	There was one apology for absence received in advance of the meeting from Ebrahim Suleman, with consent. There were no declarations of interest and three items raised under AOB. The meeting was quorate. <i>Aadil Laher joined the meeting at 5:07pm.</i>	
3.	Finance Update	
	This item was discussed in detail. <i>Nawaid Aurangzeb and Kris Shepley left the meeting at 5:25pm.</i>	
4.	Representation	
	The Chair reconfirmed the appointment of a new Staff Governor, Emily Brook, who was attending their first meeting since their successful appointment on 25 June 2026. It was reconfirmed that the Vice Chair of Governors, Jonathan Kidd, would be stepping down from the SGB at the close of the 2025/26 academic year. Attendees reflected on Jonathan's long-standing dedication, commitment and services to the school and Trust family for over a decade. Reflections were made on key transitional periods for the school, such as the school's transition from a	



	public school and, later, its transition into the Trust family. Attendees also reflected on the strong financial and operational guidance offered by Jonathan. Governors were pleased to understand that the Trust family sought to retain Jonathan's expertise and knowledge in a Trustee capacity. These discussions remained ongoing. The Chair also announced that Ebrahim Suleman would be stepping down from the SGB following the meeting's closure. All attendees recognised and thanked Ebrahim for his tireless, long-standing commitment to the school, the community and to the SGB. Ebrahim's expertise, dedication and strong contributions would be missed and all attendees wished Ebrahim the best of health and best of luck in his future endeavours. Governors were pleased to understand that the Trust family sought to retain Ebrahim's expertise and knowledge in a Member capacity. These discussions remained ongoing. The prospective Governor and observer, Claire Hamilton, was reintroduced by the Chair, and invited to share her background and experiences. It was reconfirmed that, subject to the satisfaction of conditions, Claire would assume a Co-opted Governor vacancy. Parent Governor onboarding processes remained ongoing and the Headteacher and Governance Professional had agreed recruitment plans around the Staff Governor vacancy at the beginning of the academic year. With all of the aforementioned movement accounted for and subject to the satisfaction of conditions, the Governance Professional provided an overview of the SGBs structure and vacancies at the beginning of the 2026/27 academic year: • x1 Co-opted Governor vacancy • x1 Staff Governor vacancy There were no further comments or questions put forward by Governors.	
5.	Minutes of the Last Meeting	
	The minutes of the last meeting held on 4 February 2026 were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
6.	Review of Actions from the Minutes	
	Actions were reviewed, most having been completed. The actions tracker was updated to reflect the completion and progress of all actions.	



	The Headteacher confirmed that there was a Trust-wide log for restrictive interventions incidents, these are also held at school-level. For Governors, these would feature in the Safeguarding report from 2026/27.	
7.	Headteacher Report	
	The Headteacher Report and appendix items were shared with Governors in advance of the meeting. The Headteacher summarised key areas that the school had completed much work on, before inviting questions and comments from Governors: • Attendance - reiteration of high attendance = high attainment, overall attendance and PA trended above the national average (NA). Governors were satisfied with strategies to improve and retain strong attendance results throughout the academic year. • Outcomes and attainment - primary outcomes predictions remained strong and trended above the NA in areas such as GLD. Writing grades had been published and were shared with Governors. Secondary outcomes predictions in Attainment 8 had improved, as had Basics 4+ (English and Maths). Relevant strategies were in place to support all learners across the whole school. • Personal development and Belonging in Batley - additional senior leadership roles had been secured to support with capacity in these areas. The framework and roles focused on improving relationships, equity in the curriculum, operational systems, narrative and identity, and governance practices. • Safeguarding - Governors expressed satisfaction with the reduction of particular incidents. Governors were satisfied that the school continued to appropriately mitigate safeguarding risks as the report presented no serious safeguarding concerns. • School improvement plan (SIP) and school evaluation form (SEF) - refer item 8. Q: Will we have any vacancies at the start of the 2026/27 academic year? A: There is currently one teaching vacancy to fill, which we are working hard with the People and Talent to recruit to. Q: What is the plan to support the increase in learners with SEND in our primary setting? A: We are creating two Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) posts to ensure the continuation of our bespoke SEND provision. We continue to work	



	collaboratively with other primary settings within our Trust family on best practices. Q: Are there any concerns with Y7 in terms of safeguarding? A: There are some challenges with this cohort. However, they returned strong Belonging survey results. We will continue to monitor individual situations carefully and work with parents/carers and relevant authorities to mitigate safeguarding risks. We are seeing an increase in SEMH concerns across the school, which we continue to monitor very closely, offering relevant support. The increase in SEMH concerns being raised is a national trend. Q: What is the general nature of the increased e-safety and online incidents during half term 5? A: Unkind comments on devices out of our direct control, such as mobile phones, computers and gaming consoles, and outside school time. We hold restorative meetings with learners, and where applicable, parents/carers around the dangers of social media and the issues that online bullying can cause once we are aware of incidents. Our PSHCE curriculum offer also addresses these issues and we target individual support for those involved. Q: Could anonymised e-safety case studies be shared with Governors? A: Yes. Action: provide anonymised e-safety incident case studies. Q: What were the reasons for increased suspensions? A: There are always learner-specific circumstances, but there are often patterns in things like persistent disruptive behaviour, or physical and/or verbal actions against other learners or colleagues. All incidents continue to be logged on CPOMS and we continue to support learners and families around those learner-specific behaviours. Governors thanked school leaders for the updates and contributions and put forward no further questions or comments.	HT
8.	Key Documents (SEF and SIP 2025/26 and 2026/27 Planning)	
	Governors were shared the SIP and SEF documents in advance of the meeting. The Headteacher explained that the documents were RAG-rated before inviting questions and comments from Governors.	



	Lengthy discussions formed on the SIP and SEF documents, including how much work had been carried out on the SEF to align it with the Ofsted toolkit. Governors provided feedback on the precision of the SEF document. Some discrepancies were highlighted, which the Headteacher acknowledged before explaining that the SEF was a live, working document and would be updated again in the final weeks before the close of the 2025/26 academic year. Governors were reassured that strengths within the SEF could be discussed, but understood that school leaders wanted to direct more of their efforts on the improvement areas. Governors acknowledged that the new senior leaders had created additional capacity and that the 'Belonging in Batley' framework was essential for ensuring an even stronger PD offer and supporting the school's community developments. Governors agreed with high aspirational target setting within the SEF, but also acknowledged the perception that areas may appear to be underachieving as a result. Consequently, Governors agreed that wider contexts (such as national average data) must also be considered when assessing the SEF as a measure of the school's performance. Action: produce shortened summary versions of the SEF and SIP for Governors to review.	HT
9.	Policies	
	There were four policies shared for Governor review in advance of the meeting. The Governance Professional added that all four documents were statutory requirements. Governors had no further questions or comments to put forward and approved the following policies: • Anti-Bullying Policy Governors APPROVED this policy • Behaviour for Learning Policy Governors APPROVED this policy • PSHCE and RSHE Policy Governors APPROVED this policy • Primary Phase Foundation Stage Early Years Policy Governors APPROVED this policy Action: Add all approved policies to the school's website.	Gov Pro



10.	Trust Update	
	A number of documents had been shared with Governors in advance of the meeting. Governors were reminded of each document which would continue to be made available in each SGB meeting document folder: • Trust-on-a-Page - a termly document where Governors were informed of work that was being undertaken collaboratively between the Trust and the school and also other schools within the Trust. The Headteacher highlighted collaborations and meetings which had taken place throughout the academic year. • Trust Annual Governance Planning Calendar 2025/26 - this document offered full transparency in terms of remit and responsibilities at Member, Trustee and Governor level. Role descriptors for all link areas were included at the back of the document and these were the "mini job descriptions" linked to all areas and included a set of questions that Governors may want to ask as part of their school visits. • Role descriptor example - the Finance Link Governor role descriptor was provided as a role descriptor example. • Governor Manual 2025/26 - Governors were reminded that key information was available in this document, such as meeting dates, key school contacts and training links.	
11.	Training and Development	
	The Trust's 2025/26 acronyms sheet had been updated following the last cycle of SGB meetings. This was shared in advance of the meeting with Governors.	
12.	Upcoming events (school and Trust wide)	
	The final upcoming events of the academic year for Governors to attend were shared in advance of the meeting: • Purlwell's Batley Brilliance - Thursday 2 July 2026, 1:00pm - 2:30pm • Chair and Vice Chair meeting - Thursday 9 July 2026, 6:00pm - 7:30pm Action: Governors to confirm their attendance at the above events via the Governance Professional or Director of Compliance and Governance.	Governors
13.	AOB	
	The Governance Professional requested Governors complete a feedback form in which their brilliance would be celebrated in the upcoming and last Great Governance newsletter of the academic year. This link had been shared in	



	advance of the meeting and was reshared at the meeting. Action: Governors to complete <i>Celebrating You!</i> Feedback form. Governors were updated on ClassDojo being reinstated in the primary setting to continue encouraging a strong open line of communication between the school and parents/carers. Governors were informed of the new SATs results release date of Thursday 16 July 2026. There were no further questions or comments put forward, and no further items were raised under AOB.	Governors
14.	Agenda, minutes and related papers	
	It was determined that all of item 3 and part of item 7 would be excluded from the copy of minutes available at the school. This information is withheld in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Nothing further was discussed and the meeting closed at 6:30pm.	
15.	Next Meetings	
	Outcomes (CSP) Sub Committee - Wednesday 23 September, 5:30pm start Full Governors - Wednesday 14 October, 5pm start	