KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL
MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Venue: Library, Upper School, Glossop Road
Tuesday 21 April 2026 5.15pm – 7.15pm

PRESENT:

• Peter Dickson, Chair of Governors (PD) • Linda Gooden, Headteacher (LGO) • Louisa Warde, Deputy Headteacher (LAW) • Michael Williams (MW) • Marcus Brown (MJB) • Emma Wilkinson (EW) • Emma Titterington-Giles (ETG) • Donna Ellerby, Business Manager (DE)	• Kate Williamson (KW) • Ahmed Mohamed (AM) • Amanda Smith, Head of Achievement Support/SENDCO (part attendance) • Catherine Jackson, Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 3 (part attendance) • Simon Fingleton, Head of Careers (part attendance)

No.	ITEM	ACTION
1.	**Apologies for absence**	
	• Farhan Aziz (FA) Rachael Galletly (RG)	
2.	**Declaration of any pecuniary interests relevant to this agenda and to ensure the register of pecuniary interests for all governors and staff is up to date**	
	None.	
3.	**Confirmation of the previous meeting and report on matters arising from the minutes on 3 February 2026**	
	Pupil Premium Strategy update and presentation: LAW has updated key members of middle and senior leadership. **Smartphones**: EW asked if there was a deadline for the new mobile phone legislation? LGO said a small group of LT members met before Easter and went through the draft policy. The policy can now be moved to second draft stage and be discussed with the wider leadership team. Letter sent to the parent body on 2 March 2026. LT members talked about the Department for Education guidance and how the process will be managed. The policy will then be brought to a governors' meeting and communicated to staff. The School will pilot the new policy during the summer term. The intention to fully implement it from September 2026. **School Calendar 2026-2027:** The School's acceptance communicated to the Local Authority. **Report published into tragic incident at a Sheffield school:** School leaders received a copy of the report/recommendations. LGO has shared this with the safeguarding team in School and will revisit it with the Leadership Team. Many of the recommendations are already in place for King Edward VII School. Minutes agreed as a true record.	**LAW** **LGO** **JJ** **LT**
4.	**Careers presentation, update and questions**	

	SFI delivered a presentation. The School is in a strong position in relation to careers overall. **Questions from governors:** **Questions on the Gatsby benchmarks and any further areas for improvement.** MA thanked SFI and said the School's offer looks like it has a comprehensive career service. Connexions, a careers platform that he was familiar with from School – many parents did not know about it and therefore did not access it. How are students supported who do not have parental guidance or engagement? SFI said he liaises with the pastoral team who will prioritise and identify vulnerable students and families. PD thanked SFI and the department for the work they are doing in School. MJB asked if mock interviews that take place in School were successful? SFI said yes. Optional whether students take part in these - discussion on how to increase uptake. Presentation attached to the minutes.	
5.	**Achievement Support – SEND update including reference to the School's White Paper overview of the SEN Register and data**	
	PD welcomed AS to the meeting. AS delivered a presentation (see attached to the minutes). ETG said it was helpful to see the numbers and thanked AS for her presentation. Really helpful also to talk about the School's Inclusion Strategy and AS's review of the SEN register. Helpful to governors as they can now respond when questions are asked of them around what the School is doing in terms of supporting SEND students. Another link governor meeting will be arranged. EW asked about speech and language needs? Further training and raising awareness are needed in this area; Sheffield wide issue. Upskilling needed and shifting of services.	**LT, AS**
6.	**Safeguarding update, including the arrangements for completion of the Annual Report on Safeguarding**	
	PD welcomed CJ to the meeting. CJ delivered a presentation (see attached to these minutes). Governors were satisfied with the information provided.	
7.	**External Review of Governance – final report and the next steps**	
	LGO said the starting point for the report is very positive and governors need the opportunity to review it properly and externally. LGO and PD have looked at the summary of key recommendations and a number are already in place or had already been addressed. There are some useful recommendations and the School will consider them. Governors will spend some more time to read it and will revisit the content. Governors will identify key action points to enhance their functioning as a Governing Board. Governors will bring this information to the next full Governing Board meeting.	**ALL/FGB** **ALL**

8.	**Reports from:** • **Governors' Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee** Meeting takes place tomorrow – will feed back at the next full Governing Board meeting. • **Governors' Curriculum and Performance Committee** Meeting takes place next week – will feed back at the next full Governing Board meeting.	
9.	**Documents and information to note:**	
	• Strategic meetings with Chair and Headteacher – carried forward to the next full governing board meeting • Training available to governors and training completed: Governors to let JJ know so that it can be logged in School. • PD and LGO reminded governors about the safer recruitment training that is available via Scott Glover. JJ to find out the next date for the training and circulate to governors.	**PD, LGO** **ALL** **JJ**
10.	**Any other business:** • Paper on collaboration, based on work between PD, EW and LGO. EW went through the content of the paper; there is no deadline on the timeframe for every school needing to be in a trust. • LGO retirement: LGO has circulated information to governors about her decision. KW and PD will lead the recruitment process. LGO will submit her retirement letter to the Chair of the Governing Board by the end April 2026, which is the deadline for Headteachers to hand in their resignation/retirement intention. If one or more serving Headteachers apply they will miss the resignation date so could not start until January 2027 so if that is what unfolds the School would need an interim arrangement in place for the autumn term. An appointment will not be made if there is no strong field and a readvertisement will be made. The interview panel for the Headteacher recruitment will consist of three governors (PD, KW and EW) and DE. Interview dates are 19 and 20 May 2026.	
	Meeting finished 7.45pm. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7 July 2026	