

Okehampton College Local Stakeholder Board Minutes – 11.06.26

BOARD: Okehampton College Local Stakeholder Board Meeting
DATE: 11th June 2026
TIME: 5.00pm
VENUE: In person/Remote

Attended:	J Hill (Chair)	K Scrivener	S Clist
(Governors)	S Grace	G Marwood	K-A Down (online)
In attendance:	Jenny Harris (Dof SEND OC)	K Sampson (Gov Team)	

The Code of Conduct requires trustees to be honest and open with regard to conflicts of interest (either real or perceived). Trustees must not use their position for personal gain in business, political or social relationships. Therefore, a trustee who has, or may be perceived to have, such a personal interest in a particular matter under consideration should declare that interest, withdraw from all discussions relating to it and take no part in any vote on such matter.

Items marked * are those in which a majority of Trustees may have an interest because of some shared attribute. When considering these items, Trustees should aim to achieve a balanced view, paying particular attention to the sources of information and advice, and remind themselves of their duties as trustees and to act in the public interest.

Item																																	
1.	Welcome The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.																																
2.	Administration matters 2.1 Apologies for absence CB 2.2 The meeting was confirmed as quorate 2.3 Declarations of interest (Governors must declare any conflicts and leave the meeting when the appropriate item is dealt with.) None																																
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 30.04.26: AGREED: The meeting approved the minutes of 30.04.26 as a true record.																																
4.	Matters arising from the Minutes: <table><tr><th>Action</th><th>Summary</th><th>Actionee</th><th>Status</th></tr><tr><td>C/F 1</td><td>Notification/invite to be extended to Skye Scott if a meeting with the local Curate is agreed.</td><td>GS, SS</td><td>C/F will happen at some stage.</td></tr><tr><td>C/F 3</td><td>Arrange for some Arbor 'how to' videos to share with parents for homework and behaviour and easy navigation.</td><td>GS</td><td>C/F have been made, need to be put online.</td></tr><tr><td>C/F 4</td><td>Opportunity for students' artwork to be displayed in the local supermarkets and in wellbeing café</td><td>JH</td><td>C/F JH still working with Waitrose, CB will pick up with Wellbeing Café Still in progress</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>KS to provide advert for governors, especially community governors.</td><td>KS</td><td>C/F</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Provide list of acronyms for governors, make language more accessible</td><td>KS</td><td>This will be on governor hub CLOSE</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>Safeguarding: Jenny Harris and SC to meet taken place not written up</td><td>SC/JH</td><td>C/F SEND not safeguarding, notes have been written up. CLOSE</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>Staff voice. GS Will organise for something for next meeting; CB will help with questions</td><td>GS/CB</td><td>There will be a whole trust survey</td></tr></table>	Action	Summary	Actionee	Status	C/F 1	Notification/invite to be extended to Skye Scott if a meeting with the local Curate is agreed.	GS, SS	C/F will happen at some stage.	C/F 3	Arrange for some Arbor 'how to' videos to share with parents for homework and behaviour and easy navigation.	GS	C/F have been made, need to be put online.	C/F 4	Opportunity for students' artwork to be displayed in the local supermarkets and in wellbeing café	JH	C/F JH still working with Waitrose, CB will pick up with Wellbeing Café Still in progress	5	KS to provide advert for governors, especially community governors.	KS	C/F	6	Provide list of acronyms for governors, make language more accessible	KS	This will be on governor hub CLOSE	7	Safeguarding: Jenny Harris and SC to meet taken place not written up	SC/JH	C/F SEND not safeguarding, notes have been written up. CLOSE	8	Staff voice. GS Will organise for something for next meeting; CB will help with questions	GS/CB	There will be a whole trust survey
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	9	Governors to attend Parents Evenings to bring back some Parent voice	All	Dates for next year and plan in diaries, will also do fridge letter. GS with all dates CLOSE
	10	Governors to attend year 6 to year 7 parent information evening	All	24/6 JH checking schedule if anyone can come, please come along
	11	Confirm with CB when next governor visits happening so she can also attend	CB/JH	C/F CB is now on WhatsApp chat
	12	Any thoughts on Parent Voice, please put any ideas on WhatsApp chat	All	C/F for Sept
5.	Matters Brought Forward at the Direction of the Chair: None			
6.	Principal's Report			
	6.1	Thank you was expressed to Jenny Harris SEND for coming to this meeting to provide an update. The following areas were discussed: - SEND has been on a real journey with OC and continues exciting development moving forward. Ofsted has provided direction with things to focus on. Everything is in place, just needs to be tightened. - Areas for moving forward, lessons and accessibility of lessons were all discussed; JH reported that there were still some areas of inconsistency, e.g. printing of resources. JH needs to have a conversation with the academic directors to reiterate that them noticing what is needed first is essential and this is not for JH to do the noticing. - Addressing this through pupil pursuits. There is a capacity issue. - Foundational skills, what do they look like, enhanced learning provision. Meeting with Hannah Rose, who has a fresh view on a tighter curriculum for these pupils. Visit to Barley Lane, a special school in Exeter to gain some ideas for quick wins. - ELP for years 7/8 with Year 9 integrating back into universal provision. Btec level 1 being introduced to replace languages for YR9. - Foundational skills for whole school: looking at reading and writing expectations. Bringing forward a framework for September. Clear expectations for teachers and pupils for handwriting etc. - Bringing forward some additional funding for the Inclusion team, some %9k which will need some reporting on in December. Hope to increase staffing and searching for staff who can work in different settings; hopefully we will have our own internal AP. - Not replacing member of senior team will help resource our Inclusion offer - Conference in Birmingham attended by GS and JH. A TES award winning school for inclusive excellence being visited by DMAT heads soon. What percent of students are SEND? Approximately 18.9%. If a student is having an intervention, they will be on the SEND register, but when they have completed intervention, they should come off, so this figure fluctuates. The figure is reviewed 3 times a year. Information sharing now is better. POWER BI helps with this. How much information do we get of Y6 coming into Y7? It is getting better, not always historically gone to the right channels. Now there is only one spreadsheet, this is reviewed weekly within the SEND team. We are talking with feeder primary schools to gather this information, along with any EHCP information held. Pupils who are not on the SEND register, but parents are worried have a meeting/day onsite to help alleviate anxiety, get them through the door. There were no EHCP applications in year7/8. Why were there no applications in year 7? No evidence in year 7 to build applications on. At Barley Lane, EHCPs have to be done in year 5, so they are in place for the secondary application. We need to make sure that also happens in the Trust e.g. TAs might be attached to a child in primary, but if provision is not passed on, everyone needs to be aware that this support will be taken away in year 7 without an EHCP.		

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Suspension data shows that girls' data is higher, EHCPs coming through for mostly boys. So, there is a gap of EHCPs for girls; this may be because they seem to manage better at primary stage. One to work on going forward.

- Base provision set up approx. 1 year ago for students on high suspension rate, dysregulated throughout most of the day. This was successful initially, but as more pupils were added, staffing was not able to keep up. Intervention lead removed from base for periods during the week to run a rolling program of support. This is picking up students who are also struggling so they are getting help quicker, 6 weeks 2 hours a day. This has been working since Easter, and the staff member is now working through second cohort. This is where we are looking to add more staff.
- We attend an Inclusion drop in which is multi agency. We use them to discuss student issues as a panel; this is quite solution focused.
- A number of ideas arising are around setting up interest groups to support pupils, ideally with the aim of working towards an informal qualification or certificate.
- GS received a call on Friday. The linked Ofsted inspector called for a meeting that afternoon. GS, A Skelton, A Finney, and J Harris participated in the meeting. The same allocated inspector will check in each half term. She talked through her interpretation of the Ofsted report. GS has a document that has taken each part of the report and what action has happened so far. She gave her view of that on each section. She was happy with what was being done with inclusion as a key area of the Ofsted report.

Did that continue to validate what was already reported? Yes. She talked about monitoring visit, due in 2 years. Some areas we think we could say we are now at the expected level, if they were to do another visit now e.g. Attendance is improving. We can have a conversation with her about these areas, and this will give us a view if are we ready for a monitoring visit.

We have 4 areas that need attention which would mean a longer reinspection. One of our areas is post 16, so it is not clear if it will be a shorter or longer monitoring visit. We have also requested some more notice for the reinspection visit.

She will call at some stage next half term on Thursday or Friday asking for a meeting that afternoon.

As an experience there was no problem and she raised no issues. Leadership and governance expected score is a good thing. She focused on inclusion.

Has someone gained 5 years in their reading age in one year? Yes 2 students, ELP was strong. Great benefit following huge investment, means they can go into mainstream provision. LexiaUK program, we are making good progress, above average scores here.

EBSA, how is this area going? 10 students are on it and working well. Some students on s19, so are medically unfit to come in, some funding for tutors on site. Next target, Av robots which can stream lessons, good for students, bit expensive, some schools using teams instead, next step for us to focus on curriculum and learning. One way of indirectly getting them back into class

Thanks were expressed to Jenny Harris for attending the meeting and answering the questions raised.

Principals Report

GS apologised for submission of the late report; the Ofsted call came on Friday.

See list of pre supplied questions and answers as follows:

Governor	Question	Response	SLT
JH	I have heard lots of uncertainty among parents about not knowing what each sanction is and the reason they get it. Could a brief overview be reshared to parents, maybe at start of each term?	We can do this. It is all in our behaviour policy, which is on our website, but it does not hurt to remind parents.	GS

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		JH	Do you have dates yet for parents' evenings for new school year? If not, as soon as do can they please be shared with us so we can work on attending and increasing presence at school events.	Not confirmed dates yet. We will do our 'fridge' letter at the beginning of the year too.	GS
		JH	How can SEND/ECHP attendance be improved? What are the current barriers? Yr6 transition do we know how many are currently SEND and if so, are there any concerns around support as they move to YR7?		JH Commented [GS1]: @Jenny Harris
		JH	Yr 10 and yr 9 Persistent Absence remains high. What % of those PA are SEND, EBSA and SEMH in each yr group (number of students)	- Yr 9 – 52 students SEND – 41% EBSA – 2% SEMH- 10% - Yr 10 – 55 students SEND – 58% EBSA – 13% SEMH – 15% Just discussed at SLT yr 10. Worst attending cohort Have they been throughout? Some work to do here, work with parents to ensure they are not encouraging problem. Students misbehaving when in year 9 now yr 10 absent. No. Attendance vs progress matrix, high att with low att, that is something academic, low is something Attendance, bit of a dip recently. YR 11 study leave which we do not have. S codes for study leave affect attendance, make attendance look worse. 59% attendance on last day before half term. Some will be at devon county show. Exam period and study leave. Next year not allowing study to leave at all. And will link this to prom. And also link with sick ness absence. Grey area experience maybe around study leave around exam period and parental permission to take it?? Yes, this will remove that Working with RISE, this is how they work, need to be obviously ill, if can come in for an exam, cannot be ill in the afternoon for study leave Has process for study leave coding changed from 2 years ago? Don't think it has changed in 2 years. Now removing ambiguity. Staff want pupils in to attend their boosters just prior to exam. Prom is the only hold over them available. How is this going to be communicated and when? From September. Attendance during exam period is the issue, not so much about attendance over year. Not too heavy handed at start of year. Number of students with 3 strikes by feb half term, reviewed by staff, who is doing alright really, taken back to 2 strikes with final warning. Some of	RCC Commented [GS2]: @Ross Corkell

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		those kids really bought in and behaved. Selling booster sessions during exam period will help. Lucky this year that topic in one booster sesh came up in exam. Retort, I revise better at home, dismissed by attendees Needs to be new norm. Can leave early if want but will not be able to unlock phones before end of school day. In general, positive exam period. Breakfasts have been really nice. Yr 11 back in on Tuesday for leavers assembly. Line up by rest of school to clap and cheer them out. Put footage on Facebook hopefully, finish off in a positive. Hopefully become a tradition.	
JH	Who will run the internal alternative provision? Was it just students with ECHP who attend or is it mixed? Where exactly will it be held?	It will be for students who we think it will have the most impact. It will be for students at risk of PEX or high levels of absence. It is a way of pausing education. We will be appointing staff to run it. It will be skill Centre. Cannot use Holditch, too far off site, isolated. External door for severely absent pupils. Looking at ST James and their set up. Prob Oct half term.	GS
JH	Still short in Maths, know this is a persistent issue over the past several years due to recruitment in general, so what is the plan if the 0.5 is not covered for September?	Cannot comment due to consultation. Feeding back to staff tomorrow. There is a plan.	GS
JH	Appreciate the timetable is tricky however I know current year 9s have had no stability in this subject for 3 years now so will they have protected subject specialists for yr 10 to support their yr 11 outcomes?	KS4 will have all specialist. There will be very limited not specialist teaching next year. Should also be less of an issue for KS3 moving forward.	GS
JH	R2s and R4 have continued to drop compared to last year, which is brilliant evidence of the huge amount of work spent on Behaviour. Is it still a small handful of same students who are having the R2 and R4? Are these the students who are working with Mrs Cleave and Mr Strawbridge? Will the Resilience workshops and the Suspension mentoring continue in the autumn term?	Yes, a small number of repeat pupils are responsible for a disproportionate number of incidents. Our new Behaviour Analytics tool enables us to be more proactive and intervene with these pupils earlier in their journey at school. I have re written the two behaviour reports in school to specifically address the two major reasons for R2'. Yes, Mrs Cleave and Mr Strawbridge mentoring work will continue next year. In improvement plan to adjust behaviour policy. Ask more questions. Eg Why is pupil misbehaving Learning atmosphere feels better. Just a select few who are more challenging and standing out	TL Comr
JH	Attendance gap between FSM6 and Non needs to improve but what is the PP strategy?	Breakfast club with £1 allocation. There is more work to do here. Pushing back on trips so PP are represented.	RCC Comr

Commented [GS3]: @Tim Lark

Commented [GS4]: @Ross Corkell

Mobile Phones and pouches – discussed at the start of meeting prior to JH and Principal Report.

- 6 emails received by the school, 3 were negative, not against the policy, just against the idea of being responsible for the replacement of the pouch. Meeting has been organised by Yondr.

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		- Jenny has shown pouches to some parents of SEND pupils. Most are worried about how long it will take to unlock and leave. - School has ordered more than the recommended number of un-lockers, 15. Are the unlocking devices being attached to driveway? Yes, and they will be padlocked. Not being put in house hubs. RC's office will also have one, - Students are not allowed to use phones at all in school. If there is a need to call home, they should use a landline. Pupils will also need to have a printed timetable. If not sure on what their next lesson is, should check at begin of breaktime and not at the end of break. - Some schools confiscate phones for 6 weeks, principle of having phone for pupils who travel long way on bus generally agreed with, so appreciate there will be phones on site, but must be in pouch
7.	Community Engagement <i>Discuss potential activities/events / plans for community engagement and desired outcomes)</i>	- Okehampton Links magazine. St Josephs advertise; can we send them some good news to include? This communication is a good way to strengthen links with the community. Check with them if they charge for including any content. 3rd July there is a Music Concert in Simmons Park. - There will be an Awards evening for rest of school. Not year 11. - Grant available for 15k, considering bid from council to buy a stage so can put on events in the Park. Are all events publicised in the Friday Focus? Yes. - On 2nd July is the opening of the new train station. BID - There is PTFA money available. GS will pick this up with the group. - There have been issues with dog walkers and dog mess. GS walked around the Park with a town councillor to demonstrate the problem. There is a draft of new signage to make it clear where the public can and cannot go on the field. Has the Council been supportive? Yes, photo opportunity for the local press as well. Signage includes DMAT, School and Council logo. A teacher has been assaulted by a member of public, and the person has been spoken to by police. It is an actual, specific offense, interrupting school activities during school time.
8.	Safeguarding Student voice, can we get raw data? Ask Ross Corkell to share with GM. Site security. GM reported that he has a scheduled site visit tomorrow.	
9.	Housekeeping Governor Action Plan and School Visits Nothing to update on the governor action plan, work on it in September. At the first meeting in September, will be an opportunity to book in visits.	
10.	Date of next meeting – all @ 5pm • tbc	
	Meeting ended at 18.55	

Action Log from meeting on 11.06.26

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12	Any thoughts on Parent Voice, please put any ideas on WhatsApp chat	All	C/F for sept

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