

George Abbot School Local Governing Body Accountability Report (2016/17)

1. Who we are

The structure of the George Abbot School Local Governing Body (LGB) is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation of the Guildford Education Partnership (GEP) multi-academy trust. We are constituted of seven Community governors, six Parent governors, five Staff governors and the Headteacher

During the 2016-17 school year members were:

Name	Governor Type	End Term of Office	Committee Memberships at July 17 (C= Chair, V= Vice Chair)						Other responsibilities
			Community School & Teaching	Learning & Teaching	Staffing	Resources	Planning	Pay & Appeals	
Angela Barker-Lewis*	Staff	16.01.21							SEND link
Kate Carriett	Head	Ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Julie Dickson	Parent	27.11.18	C	✓	✓	✓	✓		Sixth Form Link to GEP
John Hardy	Staff	04.10.20							
Jeremy Hoar	Parent	27.11.18	✓	✓					Careers
Gabrielle Holgate	Community	30.04.19			V	✓			
Richard Hubbard	Community	03.12.17				V			
Vivienne Johnson	Community	12.01.21			✓	✓	C	P	Chair of LGB Child Protection Member GEP
Mike Lewis	Staff	04.02.18	✓		✓				
Nicola Mead	Parent	15.12.19	✓	V	✓	✓			Pupil Premium
Sarah Notley**	Staff	19.12.16	✓						
Eddie Owen	Community	17.02.19	✓	✓	C	✓	✓	A	
Jeremy Pattison	Community	04.02.21		✓		C	V		Vice-Chair of LGB
Kate Peters	Parent	27.11.18	✓	✓					
Fergal Roche***	Parent	15.12.19		✓					
Ola Scott-Boyle	Staff	04.02.18	✓	✓					
Dave Slinn***	Community	31.07.20	✓		✓			A	
Douglas Spinks	Parent	29.11.20	✓	C			✓	P	
Jackie Thompson*	Parent	29.11.20							Link to Student Council
Geoff Wyss	Community	11.01.21		✓	✓	✓	✓	P	Member & Director GEP

* joined part-way through year

** left at end of term of office

*** resigned

2. What we are expected to do

The LGB has three key responsibilities:

- To ensure the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.

3. How we are organised

The LGB has the following official positions:

- Chair of Governors (Chair)
- Vice Chair of Governors (Vice Chair)
- Clerk to the Governing Body (the Clerk)

- The Chair and Vice Chair are elected annually by members of the LGB, and confirmed by the GEP trustees.
- The Clerk to the Governing Body is appointed by the LGB.
- The Headteacher is appointed by the GEP trustees.

Committees

Seven committees have delegated responsibilities laid out in their terms of reference.

- School & Community – Student Welfare, Parental & Community Issues, Safety
- Learning & Teaching - Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, Outcomes for students
- Staffing – Recruitment, Training, Personnel and Staff Welfare
- Resources Committee – Financial Management & Compliance, Premises & Site Strategy
- Planning – Strategic Development & Coordination
- Pay Committee - Application of the Pay Policy including review of performance-related pay recommendations.
- Appeals – To consider Pay Appeals, if required

Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs are elected by the committee.

Governors with Specific Responsibilities

Members of the LGB have specific responsibility for supporting and monitoring the following areas of school activity:

Child Protection	Vivienne Johnson
SEND governor	Angela Barker-Lewis
Sixth Form Governor	Julie Dickson
Governor Link to Student Council	Jackie Thompson
Careers Governor	Jeremy Hoar
Governor Link to Pupil Premium	Nicola Mead
Link to GEP Governors' Forum	Julie Dickson

4. Our main concerns

- the gap in Progress 8 outcomes between the pupils qualifying for pupil premium and those that don't
- setting a balanced budget in the context of shrinking funding and rising costs

5. What we have done

Formal Meetings

During the 2016-17 school year, we held the following meetings:

- 3 meetings of the full LGB.
- 3 meetings of the School & Community Committee
- 3 meetings of the Learning & Teaching (Curriculum) Committee
- 2 meetings of the Staffing Committee
- 3 meetings of the Resources Committee
- 2 meetings of the Planning Committee
- 1 meeting of the Pay Committee

There were no Pay Appeals.

Attendance (%) of committee members during 2016-17 was as follows:

Name	Full Local Governing Body	School & Community	Learning & Teaching	Staffing	Resources	Planning	Pay
Angela Barker-Lewis*	100						
Kate Carriett	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Julie Dickson	100	67	100	100	100	100	
John Hardy*	100						
Jeremy Hoar	67	33	67				
Gabrielle Holgate	100			100	67		
Richard Hubbard	67				100		
Vivienne Johnson	67			100	100	50	100
Mike Lewis	100	33		50			
Nicola Mead	67	100	67	50	100		
Sarah Notley	0	100					
Eddie Owen	33	100	33	100	100	100	
Jeremy Pattison	100		100		100	100	
Kate Peters	0	100	67				
Fergal Roche*	100		50				
Ola Scott-Boyle	67	0	33				
Dave Slinn*	0	100				0	
Douglas Spinks	100	100	100			100	100
Jackie Thompson*	100						
Geoff Wyss	67		100	100	100	100	100

* joined / left part-way through year

6. What difference have we made?

This year has been a period of self-examination and development of the partnership between governors and the leadership of the school. 2016/7 was the first year working with a new headteacher, and a changed Senior Leadership Team.

Governors have:

- Visited the school to review strategy and practice for
 - Safeguarding
 - Pupil Premium
 - SEND students
 - Health & Safety
 - Learning & Teaching
- Chairs of committees met with the Head termly
- Reviewed the school against the Ofsted framework and gathered evidence to support a continued judgement of Outstanding in the event of an Ofsted inspection
- Reviewed outcomes and performance data at KS3, KS4 and KS5
- Approved the new KS5 curriculum pathways
- Agreed the 2017/8 budget
- Assisted in the recruitment of Assistant Headteachers
- Accompanied Learning Walks
- Reviewed and ratified school policies
- Supported the school's disciplinary procedure as appeal body
- Attended the newly-formed Parents' Forum
- Undertaken training ranging from new governor induction to the Chairs' development programme
- Secured the services of a permanent Clerk from September 2017 onwards

We held a planning conference at which we discussed:

- Our structure and opportunities to increase our effectiveness
- Succession planning
- Ofsted readiness
- The next iteration of the strategic plan

We agreed to increase the number of full LGB meetings to four per year from September 2017, and to change the committee structure to give us more flexibility in our focus, and thus become more effective.

7. How can I find out more about George Abbot Governing Body?

There is more information about the Governors on the school website:

<http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/governance>

8. How can I contact George Abbot Governing Body?

For further information on governance at the school, please contact the Clerk via

email: clerktogovs@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

If you wish to contact the Chair of Governors, please contact the school office on 01483 888000 or email: office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk in the first instance for them to redirect your query.