

## George Abbot School Local Governors' Accountability Report (2020/21)

### 1. Who we are

The structure of the George Abbot School Local Academy Committee (GLAC) is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation of the Guildford Education Partnership (GEP) multi-academy trust. We are constituted of ten Community governors (including two staff), four Parent governors and the Headteacher.

During the 2020-21 school year members were:

Name	LAC Member Type	Term of Office Ends	No. of terms of office	Committee Memberships at July 20 (C= Chair, V= Vice Chair)			Other responsibilities
				Curriculum & Outcomes	Finance & Resources	Pay Committee	Additional Responsibility
Vivienne Johnson***	Community	13/01/2021	3+	Y			
Richard Hubbard	Community	04/12/2021	2		Y		
Rachel Edmeads	Community (Staff)	18/07/2022	1	Y	Y		
Daniel Warrington	Community (Staff)	18/07/2022	1	Y	Y		Sustainability Charter / Eco Group
Julie Dickson	Community	01/10/2022	2	Y	Y		<b>Vice Chair of the GLAC; 6th Form &amp; Careers</b>
Douglas Spinks	Community	07/02/2023	3	<b>C</b>			
Simon Nash***	Parent	07/02/2023	1		V		
Leigh Renders***	Community	25/11/2023	1				
Sue Kenzie	Community	25/11/2023	1	Y	Y		Shadow on 6 <sup>th</sup> Form
Hannah Clements	Parent	01/12/2023	1	Y			Safeguarding; SEN
Trevor Skerritt	Parent	01/12/2023	1	Y	<b>C</b>	Y	Pupil Premium/Disadvantaged
Nicola Mead	Community	16/12/2023	2	Y	Y	Y	<b>Chair of the GLAC; Pupil Premium</b>
Jackie Thompson	Community	30/11/2024	2	<b>V</b>		Y	Wellbeing Link
Aimee Roussos	Community	16/03/2025	1	TBC	TBC		
Liz Bentley-Pattison	Parent	31/03/2025	1	TBC	TBC		
Matthew Bryan	Community	31/03/2025	1	TBC	TBC		
Andy Robertson	Parent	31/03/2025	1	TBC	TBC		
Andy Unitt	Community	31/03/2025	1	TBC	TBC		
Kate Carriett	Headteacher	ex officio	n/a	Y	Y	Y	

\*\*\* resigned

### **What we are expected to do**

The GLAC 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.

### **2. How we are organised**

The GLAC 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 GLAC and confirmed by the GEP trustees.
- The Clerk to the Governing Body is appointed by the GLAC.
- The Headteacher is appointed by the GEP trustees.

Two committees have delegated responsibilities to reflect the sub-committees of the Trust board. Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs are elected by the GLAC.

### **3. Our main concerns**

- Continuing focus on the gap in Progress 8 outcomes between the pupils qualifying for pupil premium and those that don't
- Strengthening the outcomes and progress in English, whilst still maintaining good results across the whole curriculum in KS4 and KS5
- Increasing the profile of reading and extended writing across the curriculum
- Ensuring that the KS3 curriculum is amended effectively following Ofsted's visit
- Improving recruitment and marketing of the sixth form
- Setting a balanced budget in the context of shrinking funding and rising costs

### **4. What we have done**

#### Formal Meetings

During the 2020-21 school year, we held the following meetings (all which have taken place via Zoom):

- 5 meetings of the GLAC
- 3 meetings of the Finance & Resources Committee
- 3 meetings of the Curriculum & Outcomes Committee
- 1 meeting of the Pay Committee, and 0 pay appeals
- 1 Exclusion Panel Hearing (Autumn term)
- 1 Parental Complaint Appeal Hearing (Autumn Term)
- Governor Open Morning (Spring term)
- Annual and 6-monthly Performance Review of the Headteacher
- 3 Trust-School-Chair of Governors meetings
- 1 CPD session (Summer term)

#### Informal Meetings

During the 2020-21 school year, the following meetings took place (via Zoom):

- Eight meetings between the Chair of Governors, Vice-Chair of Governors and the Headteacher for the purpose of ensuring keeping up with the progress of school activities and any potential impacts on governance.
- Numerous meetings between the Chair of the Finance & Resources Committee and the School Business Manager for the purpose of reviewing the current year income and expenditure and developing the 5-year strategic financial plan.
- Six meetings between the Safeguarding Link Governor and key members of staff.
- 9 meetings between Link Governors and key member of staff for the purposes of monitoring Mental Health & Wellbeing, SEN, Pupil Premium and the 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

Attendance (%) of committee members during 2020-21 was as follows:

Name	Full Local Governing Body	Curriculum & Outcomes	Finance & Resources	Pay
Kate Carriett	5/5	3/3	3/3	1/1
Nicola Mead	5/5	3/3	3/3	1/1
Julie Dickson	5/5	3/3	3/3	-
Richard Hubbard	5/5	-	3/3	-
Douglas Spinks	5/5	3/3	1	-
Jackie Thompson	5/5	3/3	-	1/1
Sue Kennie	5/5	3/3	3/3	-
Trevor Skerritt	5/5	3/3	3/3	1/1
Hannah Clements	4/5	2/3	-	-
Rachel Edmeads	3/5	3/3	3/3	-
Daniel Warrington	4/4	0/3	2/3	-
Aimee Rousoss*	2/2	-	1	-
Liz Bentley-Pattison*	2/2	-	1	-
Matthew Bryan*	1/2	-	-	-
Andy Robertson*	1/2	-	1	-
Andy Unitt*	2/2	-	1	-
Simon Nash**	2/2	-	2/2	-
Leigh Renders **	0/1	0/1	-	-
Vivienne Johnson **	1/1	1/1	-	-

\* joined part-way through year

\*\* left part-way through year

## 5. What difference have we made?

This year has continued to be extremely challenging in light of the COVID pandemic continuing, therefore causing much of the normal governor face to face work to be conducted virtually. We have seen a further period of development of the partnership between governors, leadership of the school and the Trust. Additional changes have come about with the proposed merger of the Trust with another Trust. This has created extra work for governors to feed into the consultation of the proposed shaping of the merged trust and its governance model. This work is still ongoing.

Governors have:

- Held remote meetings to review strategy and practice for
  - Safeguarding
  - Pupil Premium
  - SEND students
  - Learning & Teaching
  - Mental Health and wellbeing
  - Pastoral support
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Careers
- Chair and Vice chair meeting Head monthly
- Chairs of committees met with the Head termly
- Supported the school with CoVID related activities during lock down, and then reviewed plans and risk assessments for opening up of the school.
- Reviewed and discussed in detail the full reopening plans following the second lockdown
- Discussed the school teacher assessed exam grading process
- Reviewed the outcomes of Ofsted inspection and mapped how governors receive information against the 4 key judgements
- Reviewed outcomes and performance data at KS3, KS4 and KS5
- Agreed the 2020/21 budget and the subsequent 4-year strategic financial plan
- Reviewed the school's CPD support for staff
- Improved the risk management process
- Reviewed and ratified school policies
- Supported the school's disciplinary procedure as appeal body
- Supported the school's complaints procedure
- Met with Trustees and Chairs across the Trust
- Undertaken training to support our duties including termly Virtual Open Mornings with the Senior Leadership Team to keep abreast of school initiatives

#### **6. 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>

#### **7. How can I contact George Abbot Governing Body?**

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

email: [clerkga@gepacademies.com](mailto:clerkga@gepacademies.com)

If you wish to contact the Chair of Governors, please contact the school office on 01483 888000 or

email: [office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) in the first instance for them to redirect your query.