

**The Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School Governing Body
Minutes of the Extra-ordinary Full Governing Body Meeting
held on Wednesday, 14th June 2022 at 6.00pm
Held via Microsoft Teams**

Present: Mathew Ashment (MA), Kate Bates (Chair), Marc Belli (Executive Headteacher), Jenan Girardi (JG), Susan Golding (SG), Efe Igurube (EI), David Oliver (DO), David White (DW)

Also present: Sarah Parry (Head of School), Chris Brown (Business Manager), Helen Treherne (Clerk)

Minute	Action
	Opening prayers and welcome The Chair welcomed governors to the Extraordinary Full Governing Body meeting and DO led the opening prayer.
67.	To receive apologies for absence Apologies for absence received from Dr David Cassidy, Carol Cobert, Dr Julie Davies, Reverend Canon Mark Preece, Rachel Rees and Emily Tuttiett. Apologies were accepted. Resolved: To note and approve apologies for absence
68.	To decide whether or not to proceed to statutory notice on the proposed expansion of The Marion Centre Specialist Resource Base The Chair reminded governors that the purpose of the Extra-ordinary meeting was to decide whether or not to proceed to statutory notice on the proposed expansion of The Marion Centre Specialist Resource Base. The Governing Body of The Bishop of Llandaff Church in Wales High School, in partnership with Cardiff Council, had recently consulted on a proposal to increase the designated number at The Marion Centre Specialist Resource Base from 42 to 66 students from September 2022. The Governing Body had then published a consultation report which would be considered at this meeting. Although not present at the meeting, Dr David Cassidy and Carol Cobert had asked for their views to be taken into consideration as they were fully updated and had been present when the item had been discussed at previous Full Governing Body meetings. Issues and questions raised by governors had also been fully addressed at previous meetings. Governors had read all the relevant documentation in readiness for this meeting. The Chair reported that she and the Vice-Chair had met with the Executive Headteacher to ensure that the process was being undertaken correctly and that the documents responded appropriately to the questions raised by governors, as part of the process. Specifically, governors and students had raised concerns about the safety aspect of vehicles entering the school site and these concerns had been addressed and works were due to be carried out during the summer holidays, or half-term break. The Executive Headteacher added that governor concerns had been added to the post-consultation document, Cardiff Council had made recommendations and works had been scheduled to create a school zone to reduce the risk to students and staff. Furthermore, adjustments to the safety of the site were scheduled for the summer holidays/autumn term completion. SG asked if The Marion Centre students had access to Welsh medium education and was informed that the students had not. This was owing to the nature of their Statements of Educational Needs, where they were exempt from this. As a result, they would not be accessing the Welsh medium language. The Executive Headteacher indicated that the Estyn response commented about access to Welsh medium education in general across the city in

point 5.6 of the post-consultation document. SG also asked if there were any families within the Centre who were first language Welsh speakers and was informed that there were none. The Executive Headteacher added that students in the Centre had considerable access to Welsh cultural development, but not Welsh language access, as their particular needs would preclude them from accessing that.

JG also asked if The Marion Centre students had access to mainstream lessons and was informed that, due to the complexity of their needs, they did not access mainstream lessons. The Chair added that the needs of the students had become much more complex, specific and demanding since the opening of the Centre. The Executive Headteacher added that most of the students would find it challenging and difficult to interact with students in mainstream school. He emphasised that the Centre already catered for 66 students, and that suitable adjustments had already been made to the fabric of the building. He clarified that this proposal would allow an adjustment to site security in order to safeguard all students and staff at the school.

EI asked if the Centre students interacted with students in the mainstream school during breaks and lunchtimes and the Executive Headteacher replied that there may be some interaction between sixth form students, wellbeing students etc, but the Centre's students were educated within the Centre by specialist teachers and support staff. They interacted virtually exclusively with each other, as most found it difficult and distressing to interact with others. MA added that there could be some interaction outdoors, but this was monitored by staff and was viewed as positive interaction.

As there were no more questions, the Chair asked for a vote on whether or not to approve proceeding to statutory notice on the proposed expansion of The Marion Centre Specialist Resource Base. Governors unanimously agreed to proceed to statutory notice.

Resolved: To approve proceeding to statutory notice on the proposed expansion of The Marion Centre Specialist Resource Base

The Chair thanked governors for attending and the meeting was concluded at 6.40pm.