

# Governor Blog – Autumn Term 2021

Governors met remotely via zoom on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021 for Governor Day. Governors congratulated the Head Teacher on his achievement of reopening the Youth Centre and the appointment of a Youth Centre Manager after 9 years of closure. The successful lottery bid and the sum received from the Local Authority were crucial in achieving this. The Youth Centre Manager was able to outline how she is working with students to understand their needs and what they would like to see in the Youth Centre.

The William Mills Centre at the Youth Centre will be an important asset to the community.

## Personal Development

Governors were given an outline of the new Personal Development program for years 7-11 and were impressed with the depth and detail of this program which is now embedded into the curriculum, making use of staff expertise and guest speakers.

## Sixth Form

The Sixth Form Personal Development program is very comprehensive and wide ranging covering careers, personal development and wellbeing. Parents and students are kept well informed what is coming up and have links to wider support. A weekly newsletter is distributed which provides huge opportunities for students encouraging them to engage with their own research.

## Buildings

Governors spent some time looking at the strategic business needs of the school and gained a deeper understanding of how these projects were prioritised which would enrich the students experience.

## Staff Wellbeing

Governors discussed the latest staff wellbeing survey results with a view to establishing the next steps in promoting staff wellbeing.

A discussion was held on potential fund-raising schemes which could develop additional links with the community to support the school.

## **Governor Blog – Spring Term 2022**

Governor Day was held on Monday 14 March and was our first one to be held in person for some time, whilst governor day still continued during the pandemic this was held online, which provided many governors with the opportunity to develop their IT skills and find new ways of doing things, which have proved invaluable for extraordinary and committee meetings called. The reestablishment of the live governor day has brought a sense of normality back for governors who are hopeful to return to holding live full governing body meetings.

The focus of the spring governor day was Quality of Teaching, where governors were able to visit lessons and observe the teaching and learning in numerous subject areas.

Governors met with students from year 7 to 10 and sixth form, which governors enjoyed and were impressed by how well they were able to articulate their views and opinions. Following this meeting Peter Willis shared Quality of Teaching strategic plan for this academic year whereby highlighting the key areas of focus.

Governors were able to meet with the new School Improvement Advisor and the plans and challenges for teaching and learning were discussed.

During this term we have seen the formal opening of the Youth centre and the appointment of a Youth Leader, who has been talking to students about the sort of things they would like to see in the centre. Work has also progressed in the formation of a new foundation for the school – a body which will enable closer work with the community of Bewdley for the benefit of school and town.

## **Governor Blog – Summer Term 2022**

Governor day was held on Friday 24 June, which focused on Behaviour, Safety, wellbeing and review of governance. During the course of the day governors viewed behaviour around the school, both in lessons and break time, the observed behaviour was excellent and all appeared calm and well behaved.

Governors had the opportunity to meet students from Y7-12 and discussed with them issues around wellbeing and safety and students were very positive and had the opportunity to raise any issues they felt were important. These issues were then discussed with senior management afterwards.

Governors met the pastoral team and had explained to them how expansion of the pastoral team and changes to the attendance monitoring would help to address any attendance issues and mental wellbeing issues in the coming year.