



THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE FEDERATION OF BARTON AND
GODSHILL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Governing Board

Held in person and online on Wednesday 10th July 2025
at Barton Primary School

Name	Role/Governor	Attended * online	Sent apologies
Naomi Smy (NS)	Co-opted Governor - Chair	✓	
Ursula Hutchinson (UH)	Local Authority Governor	✓ Left 5.50	
Diane Barker (DB)	Co-opted Governor - Vice-Chair	✓	
Carolynne Meer (CM)	Co-opted Governor	✓	
Mark Snow (MS)	Headteacher	✓ Left 4.40	
Verity Bird (VB)	Co-opted Governor	✓	
Charmaine Murphie (ChM)	Staff Governor	✓	
Sarah Morrison (SM)	Parent Governor	-	-
Mark Atkins (MA)	Parent Governor	✓	
Matthew Price (MP)	Co-opted Governor	✓ Joined 4.12, left 5.00	
Jamie Dickinson (JD)	Co-opted Governor	-	✓
Amy Martindale (AM)	Co-opted Governor - Co Vice-Chair	✓*	
Yvette Leppard (YL)	Co-opted Governor	✓	
Karen Darby (KD)	Co-opted Governor	✓	

Non-Governors in attendance

Name	Role/Designation	Attended	Sent apologies
Alison Staines (AS)	Clerk to Governors (Barton)	✓	
Leigh Mannix (LM)	Clerk to Governors (Godshill)	✓	
Lisa Morgan Huws (LMH)	Head of School (Godshill)	✓	
Su Meredith (SuM)	Head of School (Barton)	✓	

Vacancies

1 x Co-opted Governor

Quorum

The meeting achieved the minimum number to be considered quorate (8) and remained at or above this number for the whole meeting.

Start & Finish Times

The meeting convened at 4.00pm and finished at 5.57pm having considered all items on the agenda.

Key: **Red: Action**, **Blue: Challenge**, **Green: Support**, **Purple: Ring-fenced funding**.

1. Welcome and Introductions

NS welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. Receive and agree whether to accept apologies

JD sent apologies for this meeting, which were accepted. SM was absent without apology.

Clerk (AS) to contact SM regarding non-attendance.

3. Declarations of Interest

YL and ChM are related to each other.

MS's item (EHT Report) to go earlier as he has to leave to attend another event.

13. (Moved forward) Receive EHT Report

This is the first EHT report using the new format.

Both schools have received first visits from Sam Sillito (new School Improvement Partner), which were quite useful.

Maternity cover is in place for four members of staff across both schools.

Reports will be issued before the end of term.

The **SRMA** (School Resource Management Advisors) are to visit Godshill to audit finances, look at possible savings and ways to reduce the school's deficit. KW and MS will be in attendance and governors invited. Feedback will be provided to the LA. **Governors to be invited to SRMA visit.**

Barton's current deficit is not as great a concern.

Barton has been working with schools across the country on the F40 project, which aims to increase opportunities for children in the most severely deprived areas of the UK.

An **active school uniform** is being created for Barton, which is an enhanced PE kit. This will be cheaper as there will be only one set of uniform and funding has been secured to offer parents a £5 discount. The active wear will prove more practical for the daily activities, such as Extra Mile.

How does that work in winter? Tracksuit bottoms.

The old stock of Barton uniform has been bought up and repurposed for children whose families are struggling to purchase. The school is also encouraging more active lessons, aiming to get children outside more.

Barton has completed its **restructuring** process. The reduction of staffing was kept to a minimum due to natural shifts and changes. One more staff member left this week.

SIPs (school improvement plans) are based around Ofsted criteria, and will be adjusted slightly. There are provisionally ten areas to check, but the final version will probably have five.

Attendance data was presented, including data surrounding like for like schools.

Godshill's attendance is slightly stronger, but the context of the two schools is different. Attendance is currently 0.1% below like for like schools. Godshill attendance is around the national average, but Barton attendance is not; however, Barton attendance shows above national this week.

Different year groups can be unpicked. Reception at Barton and Year 5 at Godshill are areas of focus, with patterns and anomalies to iron out. The schools' attendance figures will be assessed by the LA on a regular basis.

Admissions – 256 + 28 September intake (Barton), 165 + 29 (Godshill). Both schools had five children join, and three children left Barton. Over 30 children have joined Godshill since Christmas, leading to a split Years 1 & 2.

Numbers for Reception at Barton are up to 13, but have decreased since Arreton won their appeal against closure.

Barton is losing 45 children and gaining 30, so the school has to be careful how it structures going forward.

MP joined meeting, 4.12pm.

Safeguarding – Early Help – Barton 24, Godshill 17.

CIN (Child In Need) – Barton 14, Godshill 3.

LAC (Looked After Children) - Barton 3, Godshill 0 – 2 joining Godshill in September.

CP (Child Protection) – Barton 4, Godshill 4.

There are increased number of concerns in both schools, with slightly more at Barton. It is getting harder to meet thresholds and there has been a significant shift around how the LA allocates EHCPs, meaning the system will become harder for parents. Some new families at Godshill have children with complex needs.

Governors suggested organising a meeting for Gail Eagar (SENCo), MS and both Heads of School with Richard Quigley (Isle of Wight West MP), to unpick what government policy does and fails to do.

MS is concerned at the lack of SEN leadership at local government level.

Data – MS expressed thanks to staff that worked to get assessments done. Staff have been relentless in getting

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Signed Naomi Smy Chair/Vice-Chair

Date 11th September 2025

the best out of children. MS cannot fault staff effort, even if data outcomes are not always as hoped.

There are many variables around how children respond in certain tests, and the figures don't show progress made during the year. Progress data doesn't appear until later.

This cohort of Year 6 children didn't do KS1 tests, so the school can't unpick progress.

The context of Barton is a below national school. The important thing is for the school to perform similarly with like for like schools. MS is proud of the school's GD scores and the school historically has always done well in this area.

MS to present updated data for September's meeting.

The school will challenge some SATs papers where a child required one mark to get the next grade, and teachers are checking against the marking scheme. Some of the guidance is subjective and doesn't allow for the correct answer written in a different way.

Barton data shows KS2 Reading (ARE) at 53%. MS is happy with Writing (64%) and Maths (58%). The school is in line with GD (greater depth) national for writing at 13%.

Combined (RWM) is 42%, compared with 62% national. Combined could rise to nearly 50% with challenges.

Godshill data shows 48% combined, and may rise to 52%. There was no GD combined.

Other areas were slightly lower than hoped, and staff will focus on how they can improve outcomes.

UH to visit both schools to look at how staff aim to improve outcomes.

MS will carry out question level analysis of data.

Phonics – Barton has been part of a project to improve phonics outcomes. The percentage passing was 33% four years ago and is now 76%. Godshill phonics outcomes are national average at least.

One child joined Godshill during phonics test week, otherwise the school's score would have been 90%.

The Year 6 turbulence factor is 37%, which will be similar for many schools.

Children moving schools has real impact, as each time a child moves school they take around six months to adjust.

Governors feel the improvement in phonics should roll out as children go through school.

KS1 SATs no longer apply and schools are using progress data from Reception.

Premises – the kitchen at Godshill received 3 stars in a food hygiene inspection. Some structural repairs are needed and the Site Manager is helping with this. Wooden kitchen units have to be wrapped.

The walkway on the raised area at Godshill is to be covered to create outdoor cloakroom space, and a fence is being moved.

Barton MUGA – the school is working with a local community group to get this upgraded, but longevity of materials is proving an issue. Children are climbing over to retrieve balls coming into the site. MP advised that nets from Clatterford could possibly be reutilised.

New bike and scooter racks are being created over the summer.

Barton is making two classrooms bigger, to expand into the hallway space. Two more classrooms will be expanded next year.

Staffing – there is a mixed Years 5 & 6 class at the top end of Barton. Year 4 has two classes, then the remaining years have one class. Reception has maternity cover in place.

Six Year 1 children will stay with the Reception class, as this benefits their needs. Parents have been spoken to.

Future challenges – the reduction in staff ratio at Barton has led to concern for staff, and MS anticipates an increase in suspensions from September.

There is increasing SEN and maternity cover, and both schools may have to recruit specifically for after school clubs. Next steps need to be realistic.

SPP meetings in September – 9th and 16th September for governors (16th with HTs) – can be booked online.

There is a lack of specialist placements for children at present.

MS left meeting, 4.40pm.

4. Agree Minutes of the first Federation GB Meeting

The 4th June 2025 Federation FGB minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record, and will be signed electronically by NS.

5. Matters Arising

Meeting took place at Barton last week – NS, MS, DB, AM and clerks - will meet again going forward.

Monitoring links and responsibilities – lists supplied and on agenda for later.

Rather than have two separate governors, it is felt better to have one overseeing both schools.

DB and UH have a good overview of both individual schools.

Schedule for next year – discussion taken place via email and schedule brought forward – on agenda for later.

6. Finance Update

There were no updates for this meeting.

7. Governor Overviews

A brief introduction was given by each governor – background, work, how long they have been a governor, why they became a governor.

NS – became parent governor eight years ago. Works in careers education, and cares about young people and their future. Governance still links to the work she does.

ChM – staff governor since 2020 and teacher at Barton. Taught in London before Isle of Wight. Approached to become staff governor. Is Maths Lead and has other responsibilities, including pupil voice. Natural role to take on.

VB – architect by profession. Previously involved with schools reorganisation, and worked at Solent University for 13 years. Applied to become a governor online. Has monitored SEND / Inclusion, EY, PP outcomes, other areas.

CM – governor since October 2020. Link with outdoor groups, EARA group, diversity. No formal teaching qualifications, but has taught in adult education. Passionate about children having best experience of school.

UH – in teaching for 40 years (Head) and wanted to keep in touch. When Barton went into special measures, MS became Head and UH wanted to help. Part of original IEB with MP. Does English / Maths monitoring, SIPs.

DB – in education for almost 40 years. Moved back to IW and became involved with Godshill. Safeguarding Lead, works closely with UH and has experience with inclusive practice. Advocate for LGBTQ+ community.

YL – joined Godshill in January 2025. Web developer, who moved to IW five years ago. Sister to ChM. Decided to get involved during SPP process, as wanted to make a difference.

MP – runs Price's Garage, mechanic by trade. Became governor at Summerfields to connect with local community. Joined Barton IEB with UH and known MS a long time. IW and Parish Councillor. Happy to help as much as can.

NS acknowledged MP's additional time constraints and this will be considered when delegating responsibilities.

MP left the meeting, 5.00pm.

AM - Governor for just under six months, having moved to IW in February 2023. Has 25 years banking experience and ran money sense programmes in schools. Now crystal designer and healer. Wants to make a difference.

AS – clerk to Barton since September 2018 and clerks for several other GBs. Also a governor at Dover Park. Island born and educated and plays violin in IW Symphony Orchestra.

KD – works at Central Garage as sales admin. Has diploma in childcare and education and worked at preschool. No governor background. Joined last month as wants to put more into the school.

LM – worked at Godshill school for almost 40 years. Clerk at Downside Middle, Stenbury Federation, then Godshill.

MA – no education background. Runs a Booker cash and carry. Worked since left school. Joined as parent governor and became involved because of SPP situation.

SuM – Head of School, Barton. Taught in London after PGCE. Husband from IW. Went back into teaching after

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career break. Has been at Barton since September 2013.

LMH – Head of School, Godshill. Around 30 years teaching. Began as LSA, then did PGCE and became teacher. Worked for Newchurch, then Barton for a year, then Chillerton, then Godshill. Has worked a lot with MS.

Responsibilities

Performance management overall – is any governor involvement required? No.

HTPM – UH, DB, MA

Safeguarding, Behaviour and Attendance – DB.

English, Phonics, Maths, SIP - UH.

SEND, Inclusion, LAC – VB. Pupil Premium (PP) linked with Finance.

PP is a separate pot of money, and governors require knowledge of how this is spent and monitored.

SEND and Inclusion is a large area to cover, requiring a lot of time, so there is no issue putting PP with finance.

VB is best placed to monitor outcomes for children with SEND, UH for those receiving free school meals, and DB for PP (children with attendance issues). Finance governors will challenge whether PP money is spent effectively.

Website, Health & Safety – YL.

Everyone's responsibilities will come under one of the LA's five pillars.

NS acknowledged the need to give a window of time to see whether roles are working and the board has capacity.

Finance, including Pupil and Sports Premium – AM, MA.

NS will oversee the overall curriculum, ensuring governors monitor their respective areas.

STEM - MA, JD. **VB to send her most recent STEM reports to JD and MA to give background.**

Broader curriculum – art, outdoor activities etc – CM.

Early Years - KD.

SuM and LMH (Heads of School) to check areas where curriculum oversight needed.

Policies – someone is needed to overlook and check for typos, dates correct, review dates. VB offered and asked for drafts to go to her personal email address.

Parent/Pupil Voice, Staff Wellbeing – ChM, JD.

Development & training – NS. It is important for governors to access training and link with other governors.

Equality and Diversity - CM.

Roles will be reviewed at the last meeting of the calendar year.

Clerks to place review of roles on November agenda.

8. Approval of Governors' Code of Conduct

Clerk (AS) to update governors' list.

The Code of Conduct was agreed.

9. Agree Scheme of Management Delegation

The Scheme of Delegation was agreed.

10. Agree Terms of Reference

All Terms of Reference were agreed.

11. Agree Finance Working Party Membership and Terms of Reference

The FWP Terms of Reference were agreed by governors. The delegated authority limits match those in the Scheme of Delegation.

Membership of FWP will be AM, MA, MP, SM, NS, KD. Chair to be elected at first meeting.

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12. Receive and Consider Governor Visit Reports

Monitoring reports were deferred to September's meeting.

Due to changes in SEN, it would be useful for governors to set up a meeting with GE.
GE is having meetings at moment and a lot is going on.

NS to email MS regarding dates and diaries.

14. Policies

The Parent Code of Conduct was agreed.

15. AOB

No other business was notified.

16. Agree 2025-26 Meeting Dates and Times

October and March meeting dates are not possible at present for LM.

Governors present are happy with the dates as they stand.

UH left meeting, 5.50pm.

Suzie Ellis (former Godshill governor) is keen to be involved as an Associate Member.

Clerks to make contact with SE, with view to appointing her at September's meeting.

17. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11th September 2025, 4pm at Godshill.

18. Impact of Meeting

- Governors sharing overviews helps cohesion and collaboration moving forward
- Link roles and committee responsibilities clarified
- Active school uniform for Barton
- End of year data presented – some marking appeals being submitted
- Phonics outcomes significantly increased at Barton
- Governors' Code of Conduct agreed
- Scheme of Delegation agreed
- Pay, HTPM, FGB Terms of Reference agreed
- FWP Terms of Reference and membership agreed
- Parent Code of Conduct policy agreed

The next meeting will have a monitoring focus.

Godshill governors to visit Barton and Barton governors to visit Godshill to get overviews.

Clerks to look at template and questions for monitoring visits.

It was suggested that newer governors shadow for their first term of monitoring.

Staff emails to be circulated as appropriate.

End of meeting – 5.57pm.