

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

File reference: 20250319_Attenborough_School_SGC_Spring_25_Minutes

ATTENBOROUGH SCHOOL SPRING TERM 2025 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, 19th MARCH 2025 – MEETING MINUTES

Present	Alex Mills David Crimmins Andy Chapman Mike Foster-Brown Manoj Gurung Nick Adley Derek Hefferman Victoria Rhodes Amy Cunningham Gary Margerison Trisha Wood	CRTC GSU Headteacher Comd NFS Garrison Catering Warrant Officer Padre Welfare Officer Assistant Business Manager Assistant Head DCS DCS	SGC Chair SGC Vice Chair School rep Command rep Community rep – Nepal Community rep Secretary/ Support Staff rep Teacher rep DCS rep DCS Guest
Apologies	Emma Twyford	AWS	Safeguarding Governor

Item	Minutes	Action / Lead
Welcome and apologies.	<p>a. Welcome from Headteacher to new SGC members:</p> <p>Alex Mills, SGC Chair David Crimmins, SGC Vice Chair Nick Adley, Padre Amy Cunningham, Teacher rep.</p> <p>b. Update/ selection of SGC Chair; thanks to current SGC members due to depart:</p> <p>Amanda Reardon and Emma Twyford – No longer in post.</p> <p>AM will be SGC Chair and cover Garrison rep. DC will be Vice chair and cover Support rep.</p>	
Headteacher reports	<p>Headteacher 2024-25 performance update and summary of improvement priorities.(see Headteacher's Report)</p> <p>Significant staff absence experienced due to unique reasons, operations and hospitals stays and also child sicknesses. This impacts on the whole school provision and some provision has had to be collapsed due to ratio requirements in EYFS. Headteacher meets with LEC HQ regularly to review and discuss absence rates.</p> <p>LEC HQ wished to reduce the number of staff on multiple contracts. TQCS /SEND provision has colleagues holding dual roles and when teacher cover is required, the SEN provision has to be re-scheduled.</p>	

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

	<p>Keeping all universal provision offers open is our first priority.</p> <p>1st half of Spring term child absence is historically the highest throughout a school year.</p> <p>Christmas attendance is hard due to different stand-down dates. This year school closes on 19th December and garrison stand-down is 12th December. Garrison and school unable to align due to Garrison having more days closed and units having different leave windows.</p> <p>Overall, the school has high attendance with 0.6% unauthorised attendance which is very good compared to other MOD schools. MFB questioned illnesses – should these be discounted from attendance figures.</p> <p>Celebration of school success is on the school website and Facebook but would be beneficial if it also came from another source such as SGC updates to the community. This will hopefully have a positive impact on families when deciding to accept their posting to Germany.</p>	
Finance report	<p>RAO carried out a Finance audit on the 27th January 2025.</p> <p>Administration of school accounts have improved from BM to BM therefore 100% audits will no longer be necessary, but will conduct 20% audits going forward.</p>	
SGC roles	<p>AR replacement will take over the Safeguarding SGC rep.</p> <p>Padre – Safeguarding rep.</p> <p>DC to advertise vacancy for parent SGC member.</p> <p>Roles to be finalised by end of April.</p> <p>Specific visits and reports to be completed by the end of the Summer term.</p> <p>Request for unit SGC members to be spread across the Garrison. Members required from 23 Amph & CRTG(G)</p>	
AOB	<p>Seasaw was removed and not replaced. Business case for a replacement Family App has been submitted three times by school and a further two times from the DCS EYA and rejected each time. It is used as an interactive platform to communicate and celebrate with parents in</p>	

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

	<p>real time and is in use in many other DCS Schools and settings. The SGC questioned DCS as to how this could have happened? Withdrawal of an effective product without consideration of a viable replacement.</p> <p>School website may be discontinued due to DCS wanting all overseas MOD schools/settings to be on one portal. This may restrict school content to approximately 5 pages. SGC expressed their agreement and support to keep original website or require more flexibility, greater content and ownership of the One School DCS website. New potential families need the website to see information about the school before they arrive. The school website includes a vast amount of information and a virtual school tour.</p> <p>MASO. GM highlighted the importance of the MASO committee ensuring that they are looking at all of the information given and not just the importance of getting the serving personnel in post. Phoebe (SaLT) comes to school but her capacity is limited. In the UK, access to SaLT is more widespread. Are there things that UK can offer that Attenborough cannot and would the child benefit from staying in the UK? The limitations of what the school can offer should be added to the supportability information so that families know about the restrictions before accepting post to Sennelager.</p> <p>Y7 and 8 provision. DC awaiting infrastructure costings to do a business case. AC informed by DCS that the plan had been shelved awaiting action from local command. Realistic timeframe of September 2027 to be open. 1st year would be Y7, 2nd year to include Y7 & Y8.</p> <p>If meetings are better for everyone to attend later on in the day, advance notice will be required so that childcare etc can be arranged.</p> <p>Future meetings can take place in the training centre.</p>	
Next SGC meeting	Wednesday 2 nd July 1300-1445hrs (Garrison Training Facility) outside of Main School Entrance	