Committee	Dated: 24112021
Board of Governors of the City of London Freemen's School	
Subject: Deputy Head's Report on Policies	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 3a, 3c, 3d
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	n/a
Report of: Roland Martin, Headmaster	For Decision
Report author: Stuart Bachelor, Deputy Head	

Summary

This report is for Governor engagement and decision.

a) Background
b) Recommendation

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:
- Scrutinise the policies in this report;
- Ask questions of the Deputy Head, Headmaster and Bursar surrounding these policies;
- Approve these policies.

Main Report

a) Background

1. Members will understand that they are responsible for the School's policies and that oversight of them is an important part of their duties.

2. Policies in need of oversight at this meeting are:

Appendix 1: Online Safety Policy
Appendix 2: Special Educational Needs and English as an Additional Language Policy

Appendix 3: PSHE Schemes of Work
Appendix 4: Fire Policy
Appendix 5: Fire Management Plan
Appendix 6: Fire Risk Assessment
Appendix 7: Main House Fire Risk Assessment

1. In respect of the Online Safety Policy, Governors will note the addition of a fourth 'C'- Commerce- to the main types of online risk faced by children. Examples of this type of risk include online gambling, inappropriate advertising and financial scamming.

2. Recent incidents have exposed the need for clear rules governing pupil postings to social media, particularly TikTok-style videos, while on the School's premises. In devising these, we have attempted to strike a balance between over-blocking websites and putting pupils' safety- as well the reputation of the School- at risk. This is especially important for boarders, who must be able to enjoy an online social life in the same way as day pupils would. Over-blocking of websites can also unwittingly encourage pupils to resort to Virtual Private Networks, which are easily downloaded and allow children unfettered access to the internet.

3. The Online Safety Policy was recommended for approval by the Finance, General Purposes and Estates Committee without amendment.

4. The only substantial changes to the SEN/EAL Policy relate to screening of pupils for special educational needs, the most significant of which is the introduction of screening for all pupils in the Lower 6. It was recommended for approval by the Academic and Personnel Committee without amendment.

5. As Governors are aware, the School appointed into the new role of Head of PSHE in September, the principal aim of which was to move towards specialist teaching of the subject rather than the responsibility lying with Form Tutors. This, together with the imperative to equip children for life in a fast-changing social and technological landscape for young people, has meant that the PSHE Schemes of Work for Upper 3 to Upper 6 are currently under thorough review. Governors are therefore presented with the new programmes of study afresh and without track changes. They were recommended for approval by the Academic and Personnel Committee without amendment.

6. The purpose of the Fire Policy is primarily to show how we prevent fires occurring at Freemen's together with the measures in place to mitigate the consequences of a fire that does break out. It having been some time since last approved by Governors, the Policy is presented afresh without track changes.

7. The Fire Management Plan is a document completed according to a template issued by the City of London; its primary focus is on our immediate response to a fire breaking out on site.

8.   Appendix 6 is a Fire Risk Assessment dating from 2017. It follows common practice in being produced by an independent fire safety consultant appointed by the School to assess our vulnerability to the risk of fire and to propose actions for reducing that risk. Governors may wish to pay particular attention to the column showing progress on resolving these actions points, noting that those pertaining to Main House have been superseded by the renovation (these are covered separately in Appendix 7). The next assessment is planned for 2022.

9.   Appendix 7 is a Fire Risk Assessment that serves the same purpose as Appendix 6, but for the newly renovated Main House. Given that the report was received in August, some less urgent remedial works are ongoing.

b) Recommendation
FOR DECISION

10. It is recommended that Governors approve these policies.

Appendices

- *Appendix 1*:Online Safety Policy
- *Appendix 2*: SEN and EAL Policy
- *Appendix 3*: PSHE Schemes of Work
- *Appendix 4:* Fire Policy
- *Appendix 5:* Fire Management Plan
- *Appendix 6*: Fire Risk Assessment
- *Appendix 7*: Main House Fire Risk Assessment

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