



Full Governing Body Meeting

Monday 22nd May 2017

Chaired by: Jill Skidmore

Clerked by: Laura McNulty

Present: Jill Skidmore (JS) Chair; Karen O'Connor (KO) Headteacher; Andrea Kirkland (AK); Sharon Redfern (SR); Mary Teeboon (MT); Sarah Bellicoso (SBe); Caroline Boam (CB); Cat Labio (CL); Caroline Payne (CP); Sue Bamping (SBam); and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk;

Action:

108 16/17 **Introduction and Welcome**

JS welcomed all to the Governing Body meeting at 7:30pm. Governors looked through a selection of the SAT's papers recently taken by Year 6 pupils and commented on how some of the questions seemed aimed at tricking pupils into answering incorrectly which is unfair and contrary to the purpose of the process.

109 16/17 **What we are hoping to achieve this evening**

The meeting is aimed at updating Governors on the progress made during a very busy term.

110 16/17 **Any other business**

None

111 16/17 **Apologies**

Helen Smith (HS) sent apologies which were accepted.

Agreed

112 16/17 **Governing Body Membership**

The Trustees are meeting in July, when it is hoped that they will be able to recommend a Governor to fill the current vacancy.

113 16/17 **Declaration of Business Interests**

There were no declarations of business interests in this meeting.

114 16/17 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March had been previously distributed. The minutes were agreed as correct and signed by JS.

Agreed

115 16/17 **Confidentiality**

There were no confidential items noted.

116 16/17 **Matters arising and actions**

- (113 14/15) Consider purchase re B Gregory – 'Bill's Bell'. Ongoing.
- (061 16/17) Source Prevent Training – Ongoing.
- (061 16/17) New furniture request to H&S committee. Ongoing.
- (066 16/17) Bring benchmarking data to July meeting. Ongoing.
- (085 16/17) Trustees to fill vacancy. Ongoing
- (091 16/17) CP to read through Insurance policy. Completed and discharged.
- (106 16/17) KO to book DCC for Governor training. Ongoing.

117 16/17 **Committees:**

Curriculum Committee – Chair SBe

MT talked through the minutes. AK asked which books were scrutinised. KO and SBe explained that a sample of books from each class were used to look for student improvement/progress, handwriting, and the highlighting of learning objectives. This

ensures consistency of high standards throughout the school.

Finance Committee – Chair JS

Not met.

Personnel Committee – Chair JS

- **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM REMOVED ***

Health and Safety Committee – Chair JS

Nothing to report.

118 16/17

Buildings

KO updated Governors on the progress (or lack thereof) in repairing the hall floor. DCC have adjusted the Buildings Insurance policy should there be any future issues, to include oil leaks and trees close to the school buildings. DCC are persuading Midland Counties to pay for the repairs to the hall floor through their public liability insurance. JS discussed this further explaining that Midland Counties failed by their own standards to meet all their servicing criteria making the liability theirs. Agreement for funding is still outstanding. The Diocese were unable to help until DCC have declared fault responsibility, but have now offered to loan (or donate if fault is not declared) funds. This is not presently being accepted as it is felt that DCC will lose the motivation and incentive to conclude the matter correctly. KO stated that the children are dealing excellently with the ongoing disruption.

119 16/17

Headteacher's Report

KO talked through the report which had been previously distributed. The temporary increase in admissions from 8 to 9 Reception pupils has been accepted for September. CP asked about how the classes will facilitate this increase. KO explained that the staff have agreed the new classing structure of:

- Class 1 – Reception and Year 1
- Class 2 – Year 2 and Year 3
- Class 3 – Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

Families will be notified shortly.

Attendance has dipped to 93.6%. KO has notified the parents of pupils with significant absence and may refer individual cases to either the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) or the School Nurse. Governors discussed the effects of significant absence on both the pupils concerned and the schools statistics.

120 16/17

Admissions

Discussed above.

121 16/17

Policies

The following had been previously distributed and were accepted and adopted by Governors without amendments:

- Assessing, Recording and Reporting
- Achievement
- Data Protection
- Behaviour
- Authorised Leave of Absence

Agreed

122 16/17

Sports Funding and Pupil Premium

Sports Funding – the report has been distributed and can also be viewed on the website. KO talked through some of the recent activities, and explained that the money/funding is ring-fenced. BCS Sports have proved to be a great success being far cheaper than LMS, with the events receiving excellent feedback from both students and staff.

Pupil Premium – staff have continued the plan used in the Spring term as the initiatives are proving successful. More money than anticipated has been received due to an additional funded child.

SBa asked KO how much non-teaching/leadership time she was able to achieve. KO replied that in theory it is 1 morning and 4 afternoons, but that this time is regularly disrupted by school activities and covering absence. Governors expressed concern that KO is over-committed. Governors agreed that KO works extremely hard, frequently coming into school at weekends, evenings and holidays. Governors agreed to offer any support required to ensure that KO's working life is sustainable.

- 123 16/17 **School Improvement Plan**
Previously distributed, KO talked through progress to date.
- 124 16/17 **Chairs Report**
JS would like to officially pass on the thanks of all Governing Body members to HS, for her continued time and effort. Her professional knowledge and positive outlook are extremely valuable. Her commitment, enthusiasm and conscientiousness, even during times of personal illness, are appreciated and acknowledged. She is our rock!
- 125 16/17 **Extended Services / Explorers**
CP talked through recent progress. Numbers have slightly reduced, with more Infants than Juniors attending. Transport options to allow children from Flagg Nursery School and Monyash Primary School to attend are progressing. A joint Explorers and PFA fundraising event is planned for September. Explorers and school staff are working and liaising well together.
- 126 16/17 **Parent View**
Nothing to report – 7 responses.
- 127 16/17 **Governor Photos**
Still outstanding.
- 128 16/17 **Budget**
Nothing to report
- 129 16/17 **Virements, Approvals, Disposals and Inventory**
Nothing to report
- 13016/17 **SEND**
KO informed Governors that there are now 15 children on the SEN register, which is significantly higher than in previous years. Reasons include the schools nurturing approach which attracts families of children with additional requirements, and better monitoring and reporting internally. A high percentage of children with SEND can skewer data. Governors are not overly concerned about this as we are educating children who become happy, confident and excited to learn. Only one child has is statemented which attracts additional funding. Most of the SEND requirements are relatively mainstream and can be met with little or no additional cost. The July data will show an accurate picture of progress made.
- 131 16/17 **Safeguarding**
KO and SBe have reviewed the paperwork. The cluster strategic lead for safeguarding is Helen Stamp who will be visiting school tomorrow to review what is in place. E-Safety training for staff was held last Wednesday raising awareness of risks including age-appropriate games, connectivity, and how adults keep safe. Teachers will present this to year 5 and 6 pupils next year. The cluster schools, following internal audits, have raised a list of areas for improvement. Taddington has

chosen to cover E-Safety. There is a page on the school website with lots of important information.

132 16/17

Governor Visits

There have been many Governor visits since the last meeting including:

CL – SAT's

HS – SAT'S

SR – Interview for teacher to cover maternity

AK – PACES Day

CP – PACES Day and Musical Gems

134 16/17

Correspondence and Information for Governors inc Training

Nothing to report

135 16/17

AOB

Nothing to report

What have we achieved that will make a difference to the children in our school?

Governors have achieved a short (er), positive, informative meeting creating a better understanding of the position of the school.

The meeting ended at 9:30pm.

Date of next meetings: **Monday 17th July 2017**

All meetings start at 7:30pm and are held in Taddington School.