

Minutes of Full Board of Governors Meeting Tuesday 6 July 2021, 6.30pm via TEAMS

Present: Louise Clarke (Vice Chair), Pam Clinton, Dave Davies, Marjorie Dean (Headteacher), Taz Dearnley, Kathryn Doody, Mark Goossens, Gemma Range

In attendance:

Jane Thirlaway - Clerk

629/21 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from ZP, LC chaired the meeting in her absence.

630/21 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

No interests were declared.

631/21 Minutes of last meeting

Approved and signed off as an accurate record.

632/21 Matters arising from previous minutes

621/21 Update from Resources

- JT to contact LA to see if they can offer additional financial support if required - DD and JT met with Yvonne Stanniforth from WCC to discuss what financial support would be in place for the school should it be required. A positive meeting concluding that there would be some support available.
- GR to co-ordinate break out group for marketing purposes - one session had taken place to discuss an open day and future marketing. A second date had been set to meet up again for further discussions.

623/21 Parental questionnaire

- LC to write response with feedback from questionnaire - completed
- Governors discussed the end of year questionnaire. MG would circulate report on findings from previous questionnaires with a view to sending another one out to parents via the website before the end of term. The possibility of targeting just Year 6 leavers families was also discussed. **Action: MG**

627/21 Training

- Clerk to organise in house training session on safeguarding - completed
- Organise safer recruitment training for KD - ongoing, suitable dates and times still need to be found. **Action: Clerk**

633/21 Standards & achievement

Due to the pandemic there was no requirement to administer end of key stage assessments. During the summer term teachers completed teacher assessments in core subjects.

Results at the end of KS2 are broadly in line with what was expected despite the pandemic with the large majority of pupils achieving the expected standards in reading, writing and maths. However, the spring term closure has had an impact on pupil outcomes. End of year attainment in year groups further down the school have been affected the most by the closures.

See standards and achievement report attached to these minutes.

Governors asked how this compares nationally.

A report had been published by Juniper Education which showed a variation in learning gaps between schools internationally with most schools finding that the impact is less further up the

school with the older children. The report also found that younger children take longer to get back up to speed than their older peers.

Governors asked how the children had been coping generally. Emotional behaviour, fitness and wellbeing were all improving. There have been some relationship issues with children having to stick to their bubbles and not mix with their friends in other bubbles. Things are improving but there is no quick fix. Staff have all received emotional coaching so are able to support pupils individually when required.

With the summer holidays approaching governors were concerned what impact the long break would have on the children as they would once again be out of routine and missing school work. Governors suggested that maybe parents could be encouraged to continue to read and write with their children by maybe writing a diary or letters. All the on-line learning sites that the children use in school can be accessed over the holidays so parents could be reminded that they can be accessed if they wanted to use them.

634/21 Headteachers report

MD had previously circulated her HT's report for discussion. A copy of which is attached to these minutes. MD invited questions or comments.

There had been a significant increase in workload for teachers to provide on-line learning for children who are self-isolating. There is still a statutory obligation in place for teachers to set work for children who are isolating or have tested positive for Covid.

Staffing has also been affected across the school by the requirement to self-isolate.

Governors asked whether there had been an increase noted in safeguarding concerns. There had been no significant increases in concern, more wellbeing issues.

635/21 Resources update

Staffing - Some staffing changes were taking place in September with 3 TA's leaving. The posts had been advertised but not all vacancies had been filled.

Admissions - pupil numbers will be at 83 in September, 9 children coming in to Reception and 1 child leaving from the current reception class at the end of term.

636/21 Link governor vacancies and monitoring visits

Governors link monitoring visits were discussed. No visits had taken place due to the pandemic.

From September it was decided that these visits would start to take place again against the rolling timetable. These visits could be either face to face or virtual. Clerk to send out timetable and governing body visits policy.

Action: Clerk

The vacancies for link governor role for EYFS and SEND were discussed. TD agreed to take on SEND and GR EYFS. Training would be investigated for both subjects.

Action: Clerk

637/21 Field update

DD gave an update on the field. Grass was growing well and all perimeter fencing was in place. The entrance from the playground would be created during the 6 weeks holiday. After speaking with the Mr Tapsfield, the rented field needed to be put back to its original state which involves the removal of sheds and the long jump / sandpit. New fencing also needed to be put up to separate the playground from the field. Ted Evans will quote to do this work at the same time as the new entrance over the summer.

It was hoped that the rental on the old field would cease after 31 August with the new field coming in to use from 1 September.

638/21 Safeguarding

Although discussed above in 634/21 it was noted that:

Governors are required to read the latest versions of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education, Part 1' and provide written confirmation that they have done so. An updated version is due to be released over the summer. This will be sent out to governors at the beginning of September.

For future reference if there was to be change in Chair, the newly appointed person would need to take on the link governor safeguarding role and undergo the relevant training.

639/21 Policy approval

- Behaviour
- Educational visits
- On-line safety

The above policies had been reviewed by their relevant link governor and were approved by the board.

The following policies would be rolled over to the next meeting for approval as ZP was absent from the meeting.

- Attendance
- Child protection & Safeguarding
- Leave of absence
- Parent volunteers
- SEND
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions

LC had undertaken a Health & Safety audit in school with JT. There were no significant findings and a report will be written up and distributed to Resources committee.

640/21 Dates for autumn meetings

Tuesday 5 October, 6.30pm

Tuesday 23 November, 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.30pm