

**Minutes of Full Board of Governors Meeting
Tuesday 24 November 2020, 6.30pm via TEAMS**

Present: Pippa Brook, Louise Clarke, Dave Davies, Marjorie Dean (Headteacher),
Taz Dearnley, Kathryn Doody, Mark Goossens, Zanna Patchett (Chair), Gemma Range

In attendance:
Jane Thirlaway - Clerk

605/20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Pam Clinton.

ZP formally welcomed Gemma Range to the governing body and to the meeting.

ZP recognised JT's service of 20 years to the school.

Thanks were given to MG for setting up the on-line questionnaires and parents evening booking system, and to Neil Brown for the school website.

606/20 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

No interests were declared.

607/20 Minutes of last meeting

Approved and signed as an accurate record.

608/20 Matters arising from previous minutes

598/20 Election of Chair and Vice Chair - Clerk advised GDS of elected members

600/20 Nomination of governors for HT's performance review - PB happy to undertake this before stepping down, date to be arranged

601/20 Review of link governor roles - Clerk distributed updated list

609/20 Standards & achievement

Pupil Premium update - 3 children within the school are eligible for pupil premium. Pupil premium report 2020 2021 circulated to governors prior to meeting. No end of year 2019 2020 pupil premium data available. MD updated Governors on data from end of year 2019: 66% of PP pupils were working at or above the expected standard in reading 33% expected in writing and 66% expected in maths. MD reiterated that low numbers within cohort influence percentages. Governors were satisfied that current strategies in place were effective in achieving the desired outcomes. Resources purchased through pupil premium spend are used widely across the school to benefit all the children.

Covid-19 catch up premium grant - first instalment has been received and spent on resources to help with the development of language and communication skills across the school as this had been identified as an area of weakness after the lockdown. Some resources had also been purchased to support health and wellbeing.

Staff are waiting to see what impact these resources have on the children's learning before deciding on future purchases.

Due to the school closures no end of year data was available for academic year 2019 2020 for achievements and standards or for pupil progress. MD presented outcomes based on end of year 2019 data in her headteacher's report. End of term assessments were underway which will then inform pupil progress meetings later in the term. This will then be reported to parents during the parent teacher meetings in December.

Governors asked what the internal data showed. MD reported that the data at the end of the Spring term 2020 had raised no serious concerns across the school with the exception of writing in Year 3 (current Y4 pupils) which has been an ongoing concern.

610/20 Resources update

Minutes of the last meeting previously circulated. The updated forecast reflected higher than expected increases in teachers' salaries and increased spend on extra mid-day supervision due to Covid. An additional 1 to 1 support for a child that joined the school with additional needs had also been employed.

Additional income not budgeted - Covid catch up premium, 25% of full grant had been received. Extra funding to cover teachers pay increase and pension contributions had also been received. The rest of the forecast was broadly in line with budget.

There is currently a funding consultation underway which schools have contributed to. The provisional funding allocation for 2021-22 which we have received suggests that the LA will be able to implement the 'hard' NFF including an allocation of sparsity funding to rural schools. It is estimated that this could increase our funding based on 88 pupils by c.£40K. A final decision will be made in mid-January.

611/20 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.

Governors discussed the impact on children's wellbeing and learning during the school closure and how they have settled in since being back. Children had different levels of parental involvement and access to learning at home. Overall KS2 children have settled back in to the routine of school well but the younger children, particularly in Reception have not settled as quickly. For some children it will take at least the same amount of time as they were off school to get back to normal.

Teachers had identified children that need catch up support and are tailoring lessons to address the individual needs and gaps in learning.

Governors asked whether maths on-line learning homework would continue. Going forward on-line learning in this way will continue. Homework books are expensive, and time consuming to mark.

Governors asked about the health and wellbeing of staff and what morale was like. Staff have been extremely supportive and flexible and have rallied round giving support to each other when needed.

Overall everyone is Ok but up and down. Staff workload has increased, they have given up their breaktime and some of their lunch time to help maintain class bubbles. Training has all gone on-line at the end of the school day which has meant a big increase in working hours with some meetings taking place on several evenings in the same week.

As we have become an 'Early Adopter' school for implementation of the new EYFS curriculum, the Reception teacher has attended several meetings out of hours.

Governors asked if staff had access to wellbeing support. The LA have a package of support that all staff can access as and when they feel they need it.

612/20 Parental questionnaires - annual & learning during lockdown

MG had analysed the data collected from both questionnaires. Out of the 18 responses there were no trends that would give cause for concern. Parents that had named their responses had been contacted by MD to address their concerns. Governors would form a working group to discuss how, going forward they could use a shorter version of the questionnaire on a more regular basis to encourage parents to give us their feedback. A working group was formed of DM, LC, KD, DD and GR.

Action: DM, LC, KD, DD, GR

A paragraph would be put in the weekly news confirming that governors had looked at the responses and that points raised had been listened to.

613/20 Field update

DD and JT had met with Ted Evans, the farmer. The field had not been seeded as it had been too wet. It is looking likely that it won't be ready for use until the Autumn term 2021. Two quotes had been received for the tarmacing of the path between the existing playground and the new field. There was uncertainty whether planning permission would be needed for this. DD to investigate with the planners.

Action: DD

614/20 Safeguarding

All staff had received training at the start of term. Information had been transferred to secondary settings and from pre-school in line with normal practice. MD provided general overview of range of current issues in headteacher's report.

615/20 Policy approval

- PSHE & RSE
- Health & Safety

The above policies have been reviewed by the relevant link governor. PSHE& C and RSE policy was approved by the board. LC to look at H & S policy. JT to send.

Action: JT

No date was set for the spring term meetings as end of year accounts and budget deadlines were not yet known.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm