



Extraordinary meeting of the
Full Governing Body Meeting

Tuesday 9th June 2020 1pm in school and via Zoom

Chaired by: Jill Skidmore

Clerked by: Laura McNulty

Present in person: Lionel Atherton (LA); James Handley (JH) Head; Jill Skidmore (JSk) Chair; and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk.

Present via Zoom: Janet Haddock-Fraser (JHF); Cat Labio (CL); Helen Woodruff (HW);

Apologies: Sarah Bellicoso (SB); Mary Teeboon (MT); Jennie Bradley (JB); Elizabeth Brittain-Carlidge; John Saynore (JSa)

Meeting to be recorded under minute number: 084 19/20

Introduction and Welcome

The meeting started at 1:00pm with a welcome from JSk who expressed gratitude to JH for working extremely hard to meet the ever-changing guidance since the Covid-19 outbreak. Some children are now back in school, and they seem happy and to be thriving.

JH verbal update

Pupil attendance:

School was closed for 5 weeks from 21st March following Government Lockdown. During this time robust online learning plans have been put into place and have been uploaded to the school website. Prior to school closure the school delivered numerous online safety lessons and provided information parents to help ensure children were kept safe online. A named member of staff was also tasked with telephoning vulnerable children and staff were reminded of how to report a concern. School has remained open for vulnerable children, and the children of key workers for the last 6 weeks. This was key to ensure that children who were internally monitored (safeguarding meetings) were carefully catered for and kept under careful watch. From the beginning of this week is also accepted children in the reception year and years 1 and 6. 8 children are currently attending.

The Government guidelines (updated this week) now state that it is up to individual schools to determine when and if other year groups can attend before September. School has contacted parents and the majority do not wish for their children to attend yet. Some have indicated that they might want their children to come back in July, and others have stated definitely not until September.

Impact and changes to the budget:

- The creation of a temporary Reception classroom space in the hall as so far incurred costs of approximately £800, with the purchase of glazed doors and fencing still required. This will be funded from the DFC 'pot'.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needed to prevent the spreading of Covid-19 has incurred minimal costs so far. DCC have provided packs and may be funding them.
- There are savings due to no additional sports costs and reduced staffing whilst the school is closed and partially open.
- JH has successfully applied for a £5,000 grant.

- £5,000 of additional funds are to be received from other sources including the trustees.
- Overall the budget is looking healthy.

Admissions in September:

Initially there were 15 children offered a reception place in September. 1 child has withdrawn. 8 completed application packs have been received. The remaining 6 application packs are outstanding and due in by the end of next week. An additional child in year 5 has also expressed an interest in attending. LA asked if any of the new starters planned on attending on a part-time basis. JH explained that 1 child is possible but is likely to move to full-time.

Staffing:

The assistant Head post vacancy is on hold until pupil numbers have been confirmed. There is a possible increase to the Reception teacher hours if pupil numbers support this.

Summer terms and September:

At the moment there is a lot of uncertainty and conflicting guidance around expectations of what provision and distancing measures schools should be offering in September.

Following calls home it has been determined that:

- of the 22 KS1 pupils, 16 want a place in school at some point before the summer, and the additional 6 from September. With the Government recommending no more than 15 pupils per teaching group and some element of social distancing, it would be possible to achieve this for 16 students in the school hall and a second smaller group in a different classroom.
- of the 25 KS2 pupils, 17 want a place in school at some point before the summer and the additional 8 from September. This may be more complicated. With the staffing provision currently available, some students may need to attend on a part-time basis.

JHF thought that the plans sounded sensible and met the current guidelines. Governors agreed that it is wonderful if school can accept all students who wish to attend, for some teaching before the summer.

JHF asked about crossover between the teaching groups and JH explained that they would be treated as individual 'bubbles' to help reduce the chance of cross infection.

JHF asked if staff were aware and comfortable with the plans and JH confirmed that they had been consulted fully and were happy with the proposals.

JS explained that at the moment this is achievable based on current guidelines. JH stated that if more students chose to come back before the summer than have initially indicated it could probably be achieved on a part-time attendance basis. Some year 6 are involved in secondary school transition projects.

Celebration:

In recognition of the year 6's completing their Primary education, and as a means of bringing the school community together LA suggested a Thanksgiving Service in church in the autumn term which governors agreed was a wonderful idea.

JHF thanks JH for the update today and the regular email updates previously received. All governors are aware that these are unprecedented times and that all staff have worked hard to make the best of a unique and worrying situation, for which they deserve our praise and thanks.

Governors were asked if they had any questions or concerns. There were none.

Governors agreed that the next meeting should be held before the start of the September term. JH will distribute possible dates for Governors to confirm.

The meeting ended at 1:30pm.

Date of next meetings: **Early September 2020 – date to be confirmed.**

Note: Zoom is a web conferencing platform used for video conferencing. The 2019-2020 coronavirus pandemic has made it necessary to cancel meetings, find ways of remote attendance, and socially distance if attending in person whilst also abiding by the most recent health and safety guidance.