



Full Governing Body Meeting

Monday 30th September 2019

Chaired by: Jill Skidmore

Clerked by: Laura McNulty

Present: Caroline Payne (CP); Cat Labio (CL); Helen Woodruff (HW); James Handley (JH) Head; Janet Haddock-Fraser (JHF); Jill Skidmore (JS) Chair; Lionel Atherton (LA); Mary Teeboon (MT); Sarah Bellicoso (SB); and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk.

Action:

001 19/20 **Introduction and Welcome**

The meeting started at the new time of 5:30pm.
LA started the meeting with a prayer. Governors were then welcomed by JS.

002 19/20 **What we are hoping to achieve this evening**

Governors unanimously agreed that they hope to achieve a productive start to a good school year.

003 19/20 **Any other business**

Pay Policy – to be discussed in policies.

004 19/20 **Apologies**

There were no apologies of absences

005 19/20 **Governing Body Membership**

There are three Governor vacancies; 1 for a foundation Governor and 2 for foundation trustee Governors. PCC hold their next meeting at the end of October and it is hoped that at this at least one new Governor will be decided.

006 19/20 **Declaration of Business Interests**

There were no declarations of business interests in the agenda of this meeting.

007 19/20 **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July had been previously distributed. They were agreed as correct as signed by JS.

Agreed

008 19/20 **Confidentiality**

There are no items to be marked as confidential.

009 19/20 **Matters arising and actions**

(113 14/15) Consider purchase re B Gregory – 'Bill's Bell'. Ongoing.

010 19/20 **Committees:**

Curriculum Committee – Chair CL

Not met.

Finance Committee – Chair JS

JS talked through the minutes. There was not much to report with actual expenditure roughly on track with the budget.

Personnel Committee – Chair JS

Not met.

Buildings and H&S Committee – Chair JS

Not met.

011 19/20

Headteacher's Report

JH talked briefly through the report which had been previously distributed. CP asked who MB was – Mick Betteridge (external advisor and appraisals). JH mentioned that he requires his Performance Management targets to be set. These will be agreed this term.

CP asked who will take the lead at the next SIAMS inspection. This involves a reasonable amount of preparation and the Governor being in school throughout the inspection. JS and LA agreed to take the lead, with the unanimous support of all Governors.

Agreed

JH mentioned how he has amended the format of PP reporting. HW suggested having a PP Governor who can prompt questions and challenge in all areas of discussion. Governors thought this an excellent idea. HW volunteered for the role and Governors unanimously agreed.

Agreed

012 19/20

Summer 2 summative data

JH has received historic data shortly before this meeting, and will report on it at the next meeting, along with relevant more-recent data.

013 19/20

REHO (Early Help Offer)

HW will be employed as SENCO from 14/10/19.

014 19/20

Sports Funding and Pupil Premium

Sports Funding

JH discussed how much more information is now available publicly and password protect on the school website. It was mentioned that the website was not presently available on mobile phones, but had been and will be again shortly – JH is chasing the issue.

KO's Sports Funding plans have been reviewed by JH, and a new spending plan is to be brought by JH to the next meeting for discussion and approval.

Pupil Premium

Discussed in the Headteachers Report.

015 19/20

Policies

JH mentioned that the new Pay Policy has just been released to schools, and advised that it was accepted without amendment.

In the Playtime policy CL noted the change of time for morning play. Governors discussed recent timing changes including how the start of the school day was amended from playtime to relaxed study. Parent Governors unanimously agreed that it was proving to be a success and SB reported that staff found it a much more productive start.

Governors approved the following policies:

- **Pay**
- **Appraising Teachers Performance**
- **Playtime**

Agreed

016 19/20

Benchmarking

Governors discussed the advantages and disadvantages in general, and specific differences presented.

017 19/20

School Improvement Plan

JH talked through the new and re-designed SIP mentioning a personalised curriculum to meet the needs of all children. CP asked how staff identified children who were vulnerable to making low progress. JH explained that this was not just PP children, and they are identified through knowing the children and using constant tracking.

CP asked how parents were communicated with. JH explained about 'structured conversations' to create positive working relationships. LA asked if there was anything that could encourage parents who were not as 'on-board' in encouraging their children. JH and HW agreed that this is about knowing the parents and children and treating all as individuals. MT pointed out that some parents (not necessarily our parents) believe that some areas of traditional parenting are now a schools responsibility, and agreed with JH and HW about the need of close and positive working relationships.

JS asked what the SIP could do not just for the lower achieving students, but to stretch and challenge the more able. JH explained that monitoring and differentiation would result in progress for all.

CP asked how the improvement of reading by 10% statement was measured. JH explained in detail about progress measures and year-on-year results.

JHF asked what information will the Governing Body receive about the SIP milestones. JH explained that school data will be presented at Governing Body meetings and will also be available on the school website (public or private area as appropriate).

018 19/20

SEF

JH talked through the SEF including how the SIAMS form is interwoven with general quality assurance. Evidence is provided on quality and evaluation with staff and Governors welcome to comment (the document is on a google drive keeping it dynamic and timely).

JHF asked what the RAG rating was based on. JH explained that presently the boundaries were his views on success and achievement.

019 19/20

Chairs Report

Nothing to report.

020 19/20

Extended Services / Explorers

Governors discussed NOR, potential, open days, advertising, the website and social media in relation to making Explorers more successful, self-sufficient and sustainable. CP reported that there is no change in the ongoing poor financial situation. HW asked if a sibling discount might encourage higher attendance. JH reported that parents do not seem to need the service. Governors agreed that having the extended provision attracts families to the school with them seeing it as a safety blanket 'should' they need it.

Governors discussed the chicken and egg situation in that presently it is not financially viable to keep it, but that the school will lose existing and potential families without it.

LA asked for it to be minuted how much the entire Governing Body appreciate the volunteers who manage Explorers.

- 021 19/20 **Parent View**
There are not currently enough responses to feedback the results.
- 022 19/20 **Governing Body meetings**
Governors discussed at length the number, duration and start times of all the meetings (full and committee). It was agreed that some meeting may start at 5:30pm with others at 7:30pm. No decisions were made to change anything else presently.
- 023 19/20 **Budget**
Discussed. Nothing to report.
- 024 19/20 **Virements, Approvals, Disposals and Transfers**
No requests.
- 025 19/20 **SEND**
HW to visit and review once in post. School are monitoring, assessing and updating a provision map.
- 026 19/20 **Safeguarding**
JS reported that over the summer a parent was verbally aggressive toward her in a very public place with regard to an internal school circumstance. The parent had assumed that JS knew of and was involved in the situation, possibly even as instigator. JS is concerned that this could happen to another Governor. It is felt that a way to prevent this happening again is to accurately notify all members of the school community what the roles and responsibilities of a Governor are, and are not.
- JHF suggested that it is mentioned in an informal way on the next school newsletter, stating that the role is school strategic leadership and not day-to-day activities.
- MT asked if JH had completed the Designated Safeguarding Lead training. JH replied not yet though identified that this was an urgent priority.
- MT asked if the school is still involved in the High Peak Primary Cluster (yes) and is the executive safeguarding lead still the head at Peak Dale (yes). Governors suggested that JH use this resource as interim support whilst awaiting DSL training. JH agreed and mentioned that an external expert would be highly valuable to the school on an ongoing basis.
- JH suggested forging links between the Governing Bodies to share best practice. Governors thought this was an excellent idea.
- 027 19/20 **Governor Visits**
Many Governors have visited school recently. There were no reports to read.
- LA visited school today for collective worship.
- 028 19/20 **Correspondence and Information for Governors**
Sent out via email within the last week.
- 029 19/20 **AOB**
Nothing further.
- What have we achieved that will make a difference to the children in our school?**
A positive start to the new academic year.

The meeting ended at 7:40pm.

Date of next meetings: **Monday 2nd December 2019**
Monday 3rd February 2020
Monday 30th March 2020
Monday 18th May 2020
Monday 13th July 2020

All meetings held in Taddington School.