



## MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BOARD

23rd March 2021, via Zoom 6.00pm start

Attendees	Role
Jules Belton (HT)	Governor (& Headteacher)
Nandini Ramakrishnan (NR)	Governor
Jason Bridgford (JB)	Governor
Zoe Bishop (ZB)	Governor
James Poole (JP)	Governor
Laki Begum (LB)	Governor
Sam Hopcroft (SH)	Governor
Rvd. Anne Stevens (AS)	Governor
William Hall (WH)	Governor
Father Paschal Worton (PW)	Governor
Hannah Martin (HM)	School Business Manager
Lucy Heard (LH)	Deputy Headteacher

Apologies	Role
Richard Walton (RW) - Chair of Governors	Chair of Governors
Greg Watson (GW)	Governor
Greg Powell (GP)	Governor
Simon Bland (SB)	Governor

*Minutes clerked by Deepti Bal (DB) – Clerk to Governors, St Mary's & St Pancras*

## Minutes of Meeting

Agenda Item	Detail	Action
-------------	--------	--------

1.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<p>WH welcomed attendees.</p> <p>PW offered an opening prayer.</p>	
2.	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	<p>Apologies were received from RW, GP, GW.</p> <p>No apologies were received from SB.</p>	
3.	<b>Declarations of Interests</b>	<p>None.</p>	
4.	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising</b>	<p>Previous minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	
5.	<b>Spotlight on... Reopening</b>	<p>WH noted the importance of the reopening, and ensuring that the governors are fully aware of what is going on at the school. Hence the theme of the Spotlight for this meeting.</p> <p>WH asked HT re. attendance, noting a concern around pupils who have not returned since the full reopening. HT gave an update: Attendance (96%) is above the Camden average (93%) and the national average.</p> <p>The whole school risk assessment has been updated. The school is no longer operating in a business as usual (BAU) manner - operating staggered entrances, playtime, preserving use of bubbles, etc.</p> <p>The school has implemented a catch-up curriculum, specifically focused on teaching and supporting children in their needs.</p> <p>No bubbles have had to be sent home since the reopening - just one, in October 2020, has been required to do so. All children are closely monitored for symptoms.</p> <p>ZB noted her approval of the school's procedures and the way in which these have been communicated so clearly to everyone. She extended her deep thanks, in particular, to the Reception teachers.</p> <p>JB commented on engagement with remote learning, explaining that pupils progress was variable. He added that the curriculum will need to be adapted to cover any learning gaps and this is the focus at present. Staff are really committed to ensuring that children can catch up as quickly as possible.</p> <p>AS asked about staff wellbeing.</p>	

		<p>HT explained that staff are pleased to be back in school, and she is always available should they wish to have a conversation. She felt that the staff are amongst the best in Camden in terms of their commitment and enthusiasm. That said, staff naturally appear to be tired as the end of term approaches. It is a mentally challenging environment to be in and staff are excelling.</p> <p>WH asked about monitoring of mental health issues.</p> <p>HT explained that wellbeing is discussed a lot, and relationships are felt to be open and frank. Mental health first aiders are on site, and worry boxes have been installed across the school for pupils to raise concerns.</p> <p>HT echoed JB's comment re. progress through lockdown and engagement with remote learning.</p> <p>JP noted guidance re. implementation of summer schools, asking if this would be done.</p> <p>HT explained that provision of an Easter school was considered. This would have necessitated staff on site so was not pursued as it would not have been feasible. Instead the school is partnering with Clock10 for Easter provision. Some additional activity may take place over the half term, however.</p> <p>JP asked if the Easter school offering would be targeted at specific groups or open to all.</p> <p>HT explained that, historically, this is for Y6 pupils. This will be different this year, but the targeting is still under consideration. She noted the vulnerable pupil register, and this may be used to determine the main beneficiaries.</p> <p>JP suggesting using a range of rather than a single indicator (e.g. FSM pupils or PP pupils) to determine need.</p> <p>JP asked if the Covid-19 catch-up funding is unlimited.</p> <p>HT explained that it is not. She added that children, understandably, have been most excited about being back with their friends and seeing their teachers, rather than education. She felt that the focus should not be on education at this point - rather, increasing levels of socialisation, offering creative opportunities, etc.</p> <p>HT added that she felt that 'over teaching' would be counterproductive.</p>	
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

		<p>PW asked about 'Philosophy for Children' as a space for children to share their feelings.</p> <p>HT confirmed that the school has continued with this offering, although the time allocated has been cut from 60 minutes to 30 minutes.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Headteacher's Report</b>	<p>HT gave an update:</p> <p>The school reopened on 8th March. There has been more 'mobility' both inside and outside of school, and this is common across other local schools.</p> <p>Pupil numbers are at 227 and Pupil Premium (PP) is around 50%.</p> <p>The Child in Need (CIN) register is closely monitored.</p> <p>Camden noted, during the CPP visit, that the school has continued with 'strategic measures' despite the impact of lockdown - rather than 'fire-fighting'.</p> <p>Phonics and safeguarding were both prioritised, and some additional projects have taken place (Shakespeare project, Camden music service symphonia, etc).</p> <p>Book monitoring and CPD both continue.</p> <p>It has not been possible to continue with the Stars Gold achievement.</p> <p>Staff surveys, CPP reports, attendance tracking, etc, have all continued and show positive results.</p> <p>Training has been offered on a remote basis.</p> <p>WH asked for an approval of term dates.</p> <p>HT explained these are based on Camden's dates, with a training day to be held on Friday 22nd July.</p> <p>PW noted a typing error (one of the dates saying 2020 rather than 2021).</p> <p>Governors approved the term dates.</p> <p>SH asked whether Camden have forecasted pupil numbers for the coming years, and what the school is doing in relation to this.</p>	

		<p>HT explained that they do, and she will distribute this projection. They are forecasting a decline for the next 8-10 years.</p> <p>WH explained that the Finance Committee consider place planning in relation to future budgeting.</p> <p>AS explained that there is no current view on the impact of Covid-19 on the city centre, post pandemic. She noted that there may be a significant move to the suburbs, and HS2 may also have an impact.</p> <p>WH asked that governors give thought to how they can be more visible in school and ensure that they are as accessible as possible.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Finance Update</b>	<p>HT gave an update:</p> <p>£14,960 is projected for Covid-19 funding. The majority of expenses have not been exceptional (and therefore not claimable).</p> <p>High-needs funding is expected to drop, next year.</p> <p>A drop in EHCP funding is also expected. Funding will drop from around £10k to £6k for the lower band; from £15k to £11k for the higher band.</p> <p>A budget meeting will be scheduled for w/c 19th or 26th April, and will be booked next week.</p> <p>The SFVS report will not be reviewed in detail. Four targets have been set. There is a need to report the budget to governors six times per year, rather than quarterly. There is a requirement that governors are given the opportunity to challenge contracts re. goods and services. A contracts register will be created and presented to governors. The school fund accounts (for charity donations, etc) will be reviewed by another school's Business Manager in due course.</p> <p>A functioning hot water boiler will be in place by Easter.</p> <p>A five year electrical test is due this summer, at a cost of around £8k (not including any remedial work). No decorations will be possible, therefore.</p> <p>The glass canopy will be repaired w/c 26th April.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Policies</b>	Governors approved the following policies:	

		<p><u>Collective worship</u></p> <p><u>Bankline</u></p> <p><u>Health and Safety</u></p> <p><u>Anti-bullying</u> - SH noted that this referred to a Lead Governor. Governors agreed to re-visit Link Governor roles at a future meeting. Current Link Governors were confirmed as those on the website.</p> <p><u>Inclusion</u></p> <p>Governors also confirmed that they had no amendments to and approved the policies presented in February:</p> <p>Staff Handbook including Premises Reminders SEND Policy Medicine Policy Charging and Remissions Policy Religious Education Policy Whistleblowing Policy</p>	
9.	<b>Training</b>	<p>JP noted the availability of safer recruitment training.</p> <p>HT explained that all governors must report training to Elizabeth who will add this to the log. JP agreed to let Elizabeth know of his recent training.</p>	

*Minutes reviewed and approved by FGB on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021*

*Signed by Chair*



*and accepted as a true and accurate record of discussions.*