



MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BOARD

5th May 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
Laki Begum (LB)	Governor
Sam Hopcroft (SH)	Meeting Chair
Rvd. Anne Stevens (AS)	Governor
William Hall (WH)	Governor (Co-Chair)
Father Paschal Worton (PW)	Governor
Greg Watson (GW)	Governor
Hannah Martin (HM)	School Business Manager
Lucy Heard (LH)	Deputy Headteacher

Apologies	Role
Richard Walton (RW)	Chair of Governors
Simon Bland (SB)	Governor
Greg Powell (GP)	Governor
James Poole (JP)	Governor

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

Minutes of Meeting

	Agenda Item	Detail	Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	SH welcomed attendees. AS offered an opening prayer.	
2.	Apologies for absence	Apologies were accepted from RW, GP and SB. No apologies were received from JP.	
3.	Declarations of Interests	None.	
4.	Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising	Previous minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. SH noted the action re. governor roles which will be dealt with at the next meeting.	
5.	Spotlight on... Next Year's Curriculum	<p>SH hoped that next year would be more normal than this year, but noted the need to enable pupils' learning to catch-up given the impact of Covid-19 on this year's teaching.</p> <p>HT explained that the past year (since Feb 2020) has been difficult. The school has started to welcome visitors and additional workers (anyone delivering training/workshops, for example). The school is cognisant of the need to 'catch-up' but there is a focus on delivering pastoral care to enable this learning.</p> <p>Changes have been made to incorporate basic skills (arithmetic, stamina for learning, etc) into the curriculum. There is a focus on not diluting the broader curriculum to enable more basic english/mathematics skills.</p> <p>JB added that incorporating these basic skills has proven to be successful. Teachers are on-board and this is truly embedded. He hoped that this will continue indefinitely. He attended Y2 moderation training yesterday. He noted the importance of continued delivery of a broad curriculum including history, geography, DT, etc.</p> <p>LH explained that this enjoyment is evident in pupils' homework. She felt that this enjoyment would, therefore, improve reading, writing, mathematics, etc.</p> <p>SH was heartened to hear about this wider focus on arts subjects and fostering 'creativity'.</p> <p>AS asked how the school is ensuring that a satisfactory level of mathematics teaching is being ensured.</p> <p>LH explained that this taught daily and is incorporated into other subjects. She noted that the overall level of</p>	

		<p>mathematics teaching is increased, given utilisation of the basic skills sessions.</p> <p>PW asked about music teaching and how this will be accommodated given its expense.</p> <p>LH explained that this was adjusted as part of the recovery curriculum. It retains a high priority but Y5/6 no longer have 2 hours of music teaching per week. Brass band is the focus, with most pupils having 30+ minutes of peripatetic music lessons. Double music is reintroduced only in the summer term. She noted the level of impact on singing given Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>GW asked if the school would be doing things differently for the next 6/12/18 months, regardless of Covid-19 restrictions being lifted.</p> <p>LH agreed that maintaining a level of caution is important. She went to the attendance forum in Camden today. This highlighted an increase in the number of bubble closures in the south of the borough. Whilst the school looks forward to an increased level of freedoms, there is a level of parental anxiety which will need to be carefully managed.</p> <p>NR explained that she is proud that the school has needed to send so few pupils home over the Covid-19 period. She also agreed with the need to be cautious in the reopening of the school and activities.</p> <p>SH noted the importance of tutoring in mathematics, reading and writing, next year. He hoped that this would not come at the expense of broader learning.</p> <p>HT explained that there is a balance to be struck and that this will be given due consideration.</p>	
6.	Headteacher's Report	<p>HT gave an update:</p> <p>There have been no further cases of Covid-19, despite some local bubble closures at neighbouring schools.</p> <p>Staff are LFD tested and none have been positive.</p> <p>PCR tests have been given to pupils.</p> <p>There have been no changes to the risk assessments. Masks and visors remain mandatory for all visitors and cleaning is intensive. Staggered starts, etc, remain in place.</p>	

		<p>There has been a significant level of mobility as an effect of Covid-19.</p> <p>Pupils per year group are as follows: Nursery - 20 YR - 23 Y1 - 30 Y2 - 28 Y3 - 28 Y4 - 25 Y5 - 28 Y6 - 28</p> <p>210 pupils attend, in total.</p> <p>Since opening on 8th March, six new pupils have joined the school.</p> <p>Attendance (97%) is well above both the Camden and national averages.</p> <p>There are 20 confirmed nursery place acceptances, with one pending, for next year. There are 26, with three pending, for YR.</p> <p>Re. SEND, one Y6 child has had an EHCP application accepted, with one pending in Y2.</p> <p>CAMHS therapy will continue, and some face-to-face meetings with families have been held.</p> <p>More sessions for the Kids Network will be offered next year, but there is a cost implication of £500 per pupil which will need to be funded from the SEND budget.</p> <p>A drama therapist is in place, working with one child in isolation, and two children in a group session.</p> <p>Asthma and epipen training has been renewed for all staff. Speech and language and communications training for 2 NQTs has been completed.</p> <p>The school nurse attends school to complete height and weight checks for vulnerable children.</p>	
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		<p>Three new children require auto-injectors to manage their allergies.</p> <p>Re. Covid-19 catch-up, £500 has been allocated from a local charity.</p> <p>Re. quality of education, there is a focus on RE (as a CofE school). Work is of a high standard and the RE displays will be photographed and shared with parents.</p> <p>LH continued:</p> <p>The school works with a local drama company - Seen and Heard. They have professional actors who volunteer, and they have delivered workshops weekly with Y3. They will work with Y4 from the week after next. Children have been working in groups to design characters, sets, costumes, etc, and this is felt to be improving oracy.</p> <p>A drama specialist has been engaged and is offering one to one therapy with a pupil who has suffered a bereavement prior to CAMHS engagement.</p> <p>Y5/6 took part in a mock court trial re. an insurance claim, run by legal professionals. This was suspended as a result of Covid-19, given difficulties in remote delivery but was completed last week.</p> <p>Re. phonics, staff have been trained and £6k of funding was secured for this purpose. Resources will be revamped in June by providers, so purchases have been delayed to this point.</p> <p>Targeting of the lowest 20-40% is felt to be having a significant impact on attainment.</p> <p>Teachers' PDM will take place tomorrow. The focus will not be social injustice; rather achievement.</p> <p>HT noted the focus on learning about Bangladesh in Y5 - of import given the large Bangladeshi community served by the school.</p> <p>LH felt that having some classes in the hall and some accessing worship remotely was unavoidable and we were</p>	
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		<p>really looking forward to having the whole school community back in the hall for Worship again.</p> <p>JB gave an update on EYFS curriculum changes:</p> <p>There is a new statutory framework to be implemented from September. The majority is unchanged but there are some key changes.</p> <p>Within numeracy, there is now a focus on numerical patterns rather than shape.</p> <p>There is an increased focus on understanding the world through science, history and geography.</p> <p>The seven areas and the three prime areas remain unchanged.</p> <p>There are increasingly stringent requirements for YR - for example, counting beyond 20, writing a full sentence, etc. The aim is to increase standards prior to Y1, which is currently perceived to be a large academic gap.</p> <p>The school will continue moderation, in some form, but this will no longer be statutory.</p> <p>The 'exceeding' judgement has been removed for YR. The focus will be on meeting the 'expected' standard, therefore.</p> <p>A new emphasis on oral health has been included.</p> <p>The YR baseline assessment will replace Y2 SATs.</p> <p>.</p> <p>HT added that the RSE policy has been reviewed with parents. Both the policy and curriculum will go to governors for approval in June.</p> <p>Re. leadership and management, the EYFS team hosted the EYFS lead from St Peter's last week.</p> <p>Re. staffing, both NQTs are doing well. Last year's NQT has now been signed off. A further NQT will be recruited for next September.</p>	
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7.	Finance Update	<p>HM gave an update:</p> <p>Re. income: £18,781 less funding is expected for school's block funding, down 2% on last year. Nursery funding is expected to be around £123k. 18 places are budgeted for, as some usually drop out before September. Teaching staff expenses are budgeted to rise by 5% this year, despite the expected pay freeze.</p> <p>Savings have been made re. learning support, due to staff leaving the school not having been replaced.</p> <p>Total staff expenditure, teaching and support, is 80% of all expenditure. This is against a recommendation of 70%.</p> <p>Teaching and support staff insurance is not thought to offer value for money, following minimal payouts over the last two years, and has therefore been cancelled for support staff.</p> <p>Pupil premium expenditure is £121k. A further £6k is spent on their learning mentor.</p> <p>Re. premises, an additional £5k is budgeted for electrical works required over the summer. The forecast premises spend is forecast to be 20% lower, however.</p> <p>Learning resources have been budgeted in line with the learning and development plans. A new code for Covid-19 catch-up has been introduced.</p>	

		<p>No new leases are expected for this financial year. 30 laptops and ten Chromebooks were received from the DfE this year.</p> <p>No swimming lessons were possible this year.</p> <p>Learning resources are 5% of total budget for the year.</p> <p>SLA expenses are around £60k for the year (4% of budget).</p> <p>There is a predicted overspend of £95k, funded from the schools predicted carry forward of £213k.</p> <p>£81k surplus was achieved this year, however, largely as a result of the school being closed due to Covid-19.</p> <p>GW explained that the school usually beats its budget forecast but this is no good reason for the school to 'rest on its laurels'.</p> <p>NR noted her approval.</p> <p>Governors approved the budget.</p>	
8.	Premises Update	<p>HM gave an update:</p> <p>A fire drill has been completed in a time of one minute 40 seconds. All were registered within two minutes 20 seconds.</p> <p>The boiler was replaced over the Easter period.</p> <p>The EYFS canopy was replaced last week.</p> <p>Monthly temperature and light checks have been completed. Those lights which have failed are being replaced.</p> <p>AS has reviewed the single central record (SCR), and this has been signed off.</p> <p>Eight persons require DBS checks this term.</p> <p>ZB noted her approval at the fire drill times quoted.</p> <p>Governors thanked HM for her updates.</p>	
9.	Safeguarding Update	<p>HT gave an update:</p> <p>HT explained that an external dental team is invited into school once per year. Whittington Health Trust (WHT)</p>	

		<p>attended on 23rd April, applying a protective varnish to pupils teeth. The school was subsequently notified that the varnish used was out of date. WHT have advised that they expect no adverse effects but HT has escalated this to Camden and filed a formal complaint with WHT.</p> <p>On 29th April, staff and pupils reported a suspicious man on the school boundary looking into the playground. Camden have been notified, as have local schools. An image of the man was captured on CCTV and has been circulated. Police will be providing additional officers for the immediate future.</p> <p>One CIN case has been closed. One new referral has been made due to safeguarding concerns.</p>	
10.	Policies	<p>The following policies were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governors allowance ● Data protection ● Freedom of information ● Data retention ● Special leave ● Children uncollected from school ● Governor visits 	
11.	Training	<p>SH recommended Camden and LDBS training, both of which are being offered remotely.</p> <p>HT explained that this is not free. Should it not be utilised, the training budget will likely be reduced in future.</p> <p>Non-staff Governors took an action to book onto at least one training course prior to next meeting.</p>	<p>Non-staff governors to book onto at least one training course by next meeting.</p>
12.	Governor Visits	HT noted Father Pascal's visit.	

William Hall

Signed by Chair
and accepted as a true and accurate record of discussions.