

FGB Meeting Minutes 3 April 2019 PART ONE

Present:

Elaine Joyce (EJ)
Adam Boshoff (ACB)
James Bingham (JB)
Andrew Turner (AJT)
Carol Edmans (CE)

Victoria Abbott (VA) Aaron Twaits (AaT) Laura Edmends (LE) Steve Turnbull (ST) Nicola Riley (NR)

In attendance:

Pam Langridge (Clerk) Sara Cox (Deputy Head)

Apologies

None received

Declarations of Interest

CE declared married to ST. ST declared married to CE. EJ related to staff member.

Constitution

1 x Foundation vacancy.

EJ has contacted all the recommended sources without success.

ACB suggested Governors contact local Chamber of Commerce.

ST asked if we were any closed in understanding our legal position in the GLP and was advised there had been no further developments.

Matters to be raised

None.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Agreed.

Any Non Agenda issues

None.

Policies

Governors were advised that all the updated policies had been uploaded to Governor Files for reference.

Governors were advised Relationships and Sex Education policy is currently on hold awaiting government guidelines.

Supporting Children with Medical Conditions is a work in progress, awaiting further information on storage and location of EpiPens.



Updates from Chair

None.

Head Teacher Report

Governors were encouraged to ask questions around the HT report rather than the report being read out.

ACB thanked VA for the clearer commentary around the data which made it easier to interpret.

JB asked if the % for Year R Knowledge of the World was similar to previous years and was advised that is has been historically low in the spring data and catches up over the course of the academic year where more of the curriculum content is covered.

AJT asked about the difference in results of Class 1 and 2 in Year R and was advised additional joint moderation would be undertaken to ensure it was not a difference of teacher understanding.

Governors discussed the possible benefits of swapping the location of staff / resources across classrooms half way through the year to help with observations and data particularly around art & design.

Governors noted the positive impact of the playground equipment on physical development data.

ST requested a few sentences of explanation around any 'red' figures in future reports to remind governors that whilst attainment appeared low it was due to content not yet being taught. This would alleviate and answer queries.

JB asked what could be done to improve the data around boys and art. It is anticipated this will have improved in next set of figures and Governors look forward to receiving the report after the Easter holidays. JB offered his assistance in this area.

AJT noted comments in the HT report around judgements and gathering evidence and asked if there was a lack of faith in the teacher assessments and judgements. Governors were advised that historically there had been in one year group but with continued learning, training and support they were confident this wouldn't reoccur. All agreed external ratification is useful.

AaT asked how many progress steps should be expected and was advised from Autumn to Summer 5 steps.

Step progress is different in each year group:

Yr R Autumn 1 to Summer 2 and its 5 steps progress

Yr 1 Autumn 1 to Summer 2 and its 5 steps progress

Yr 2 Summer 2 of the previous year to summer 2 and it is 6 steps



ACB asked if the PPG absenteeism is a cause for concern to Governors and was advised that all the necessary steps (letters and referrals) are in hand supported by the EWO.

EJ asked if there were any concerns about end of year outcomes for any of the year groups. Governors were advised there were no areas for concern.

EJ asked what aspects the school was focusing on to ensure best outcomes? Booster SATs, Phonics, Booster groups for greater depth learners are all areas of focus for next term.

EJ requested a Venn diagram to illustrate how many SEN / PPG / EAL overlap so that it was clear exactly how many children actually needed additional help and support to make good progress.

Governors recognised a good set of data and potential end of year outcomes and asked for their thanks to be passed to all teaching and support staff.

IPR Report

Governors were advised that new teaching initiatives are being piloted within the school in KS1 with a focus on resilient and independent learners. Must Do Days have been very popular with children and staff have decided single subject activities during the day were easier to manage than cross curricular activities.

NR asked how this style of learning worked in the afternoon without the LSA support. As this is a trial period the school will review as they go and may look at afternoon LSA support in the future or trialling the learning across the key stage with 12 adults in support.

Governors recognised that change could be unsettling for staff and asked that LSA's and teachers be given the opportunity to raise concerns and be listened to and that all initiatives be reviewed and discussed.

Governors asked if a different learning style may affect future admissions and LE asked if it would affect the transition from infant to junior school.

AaT asked if there was data that would support the positive impact of the style of learning.

Governors thanked staff and look forward to update on progress.

Governor Visits & Training

AaT reported on Woodland School visit raising two concerns of lateness of arrival and skills progression / repetition of tasks.

JB asked if assessments should be undertaken during the sessions and was advised that staff had asked not to carry out formal observations as they thought it would change the feel of the day.



AB asked why the Woodland learning wasn't represented within the school more widely.

ST shared report on safeguarding visit and queried retention periods.

Chair thanked Governors for their reports and encouraged future visits.

AJT explained some of the Charterhouse students had been visiting to read with the Moss Lane pupils. He asked how we could evaluate the impact of these visits going forward. A systematic approach would be required. Could the older pupils assist with intervention group work in the future. EJ suggested a writing group. It was agreed AJT and SC would meet to implement the tracking of the impact to individual pupils.

Additional Learning Space

Governors were shown pictures of a model unit after VA, ACB and AaT visited. EJ asked for full costings including installation, set up and connectivity.

Governors agreed in principle they were happy with the product and the idea to spend capital on additional learning space, depending on final and full costs.

Meeting Review

Governors agreed unanimously to the provision of an additional learning space.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 8 May 2019 6.15pm