

# Governing Board

## Agenda & Minutes



Date 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Time 18:00	Location WHJS
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### Let *Your* Light Shine

Matthew 5

**We believe in a child focused approach which aims to challenge, support and engage all pupils and their families from our community**

**We offer exciting learning opportunities to unleash the creative minds of our school community**

**We aspire to create the minds of the future through innovation, passion and enthusiasm**

Member Present: Paul Davies – Head Teacher (PD) , Kathryn Knapp (KK), Chris McGowan (CMG), Gemma Duff (GD), Jon Walters (JW), Danny Millington (DM), Nicola Weeks (NW), Fiona Ashworth (FA), Karen Callow (KC) – via zoom.  Minutes taken by FA	Apologies: Jon Strefford, Abbie Dando
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TOPIC	NOTES
1. Welcome & Apologies	CMG welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies from JS and AD.
2. Pecuniary interests	No pecuniary interests.
3. Mins of previous meeting	Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as being a true record.
4. Chair's comments	CMG thanked everyone for their support over the past term, which has been challenging for a number of reasons, as commented on further below.

	<p>Abbie Dando has been struggling to attend meetings due to her work commitments and has agreed to stand down from being a Parent Governor at this time. However, her expertise is in PR and she is able to continue to provide PR support to the school. Should her work situation change in the future, she would be welcomed back as a Governor at this time. This does leave a vacancy for a Parent Governor. CMG raised this at the Parents Evening today and one person has expressed interest in becoming a Governor, but would like some more time to think about this. CMG to follow up.</p> <p>Spring term has been challenging particularly for PD and KK and CMG expressed the Governors appreciation for all their hard work.</p>
<p>5. Head-teachers report (verbal)</p>	<p>PD acknowledged that this has been a 'tough term', particularly around staffing issues as commented on further below.</p> <p>There was a really good Governor training session last week on monitoring and in particular encouragement for PD to 'RAG rate' the School Improvement Plan (SIP), which PD has updated and the SIP was circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>PD summarised the SIP update:</p> <p>Data drop currently being processed and will be discussed in T&amp;L Committee next week.</p> <p>Modelled writing teaching intervention is working well, the key bit is TA support during these sessions – PD and KK plan a series of staff meetings over the summer term to look at how TA input can be more effective.</p>

Maths is the key focus at present: Teaching Trios are working together to deliver this. Next step is to continue with this programme and monitoring is in place. Need to ensure there is 'buy in' across both schools.

Actions around MLT: continuing impressive leadership from MLT, with evidence of how they have stepped up to support KSI teachers with positive impact.

Formative Assessment: School can evidence that this is working well in most but not all classes and CTs can now make more reliable assessments.

Need to think about more meaningful moderation opportunities. Focus needs to be on PP and closing the gap between PP and non-disadvantaged children.

FSWs now have established clear roles and responsibilities and as a result some positive impacts with harder to engage families can be seen. Another coffee morning was held this week with good attendance and there was good attendance at SEN workshop and Phonics workshops.

Head Teacher surgeries – no one turned up for. Although the theme from Parents Eve today was a wish for greater face to face conversations with Senior Leadership Team /Class Teacher.

PD plans to have more opportunities for parents to come into school to work alongside their children as this has been affective in the past.

Life Learning – a project started last year was already embedded by the time of the OFSTED inspection. The use

of 'Stormbreak' is really effective and feedback from pupils is that they enjoy these breaks.

Over the past year, the Staff Mental Health awareness project has implemented strategies for boosting staff MH and awareness of the need to care for one another. Initiatives include 'random acts of kindness', motivational messages in staff Cloakrooms and encouraging all staff and Governors to complete Mentality training.

'Stormbreak Shine' is a programme the school may consider investing in. It is aimed at children with ELSA provision and provides links to home. There is a cost implication and maybe something that is not followed up until next academic year.

Outdoor Learning – provision is being used very regularly by Infants and Juniors. There has been local newspaper coverage. Jo Jones is writing the Outdoor Curriculum. INSET day on 14<sup>th</sup> June for OL Team and Governors are invited to attend.

Improvement to the indoor learning environment is also being made.

PD needs to think about next year's School Improvement Plan (SIP) and how Governors would like to be involved in this. He plans to do this over the Easter holidays.

Staffing: A confidential discussion took place and is recorded separately.

Governors agreed to advertise to replace one Infants School teacher who has resigned and will leave at the end of the summer term.

	<p><b>Phonics scores:</b></p> <p><b>Re-screened Yr 1s:</b> 67% passed already, which is higher than last year 65%. KK anticipates that there are a further 6 children who will pass by the end of the year which will bring this up to 82%. Children who are passing have high scores.</p> <p>KK confirmed that children with SEND are nowhere near passing and these children make up the remaining 18%.</p> <p>PD and KK said that Jo Day and Becky Waite have worked exceptionally well over the past year and SLT will be recommending that this is reflected in the annual performance reviews.</p> <p>Year 6 Beach Class are piloting next year's SATs papers next week.</p>
<p>6. Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Safeguarding</li> <li>b. Resourcing and Compliance</li> <li>c. Teaching &amp; Learning</li> </ul>	<p>Infants Monitoring Visit completed and all signed off. Juniors Monitoring Visit planned for June</p> <p>SFVS Approvals were signed.</p> <p>Phonics updated. Data drop KS2 should be produced prior to T&amp;L next week.</p>
<p>7. Governor monitoring visits</p>	<p>FA completed SEN/PP monitoring visit last week but will add in data drop and SEN info after T&amp;L meeting and circulate to Governors.</p>

<p>8. Whole Governing Body Training</p>	<p>Review of Training – those who took part in the training fed back had it had been a helpful session on monitoring. In particular, the need to keep SIP, Vision and Values in mind when completing monitoring visits. During the training we also discussed need to do regular questionnaires with parents and staff. Parents Questionnaires will be completed this week and next week at Parents Eve.</p> <p>Staff Questionnaire, KK wants to repeat the same staff MH questionnaire next term, as was done last year, to monitor whether MH Project initiatives have had an impact for staff. Therefore, Governors agreed to repeat the wider staff survey in the autumn.</p> <p>End of year review to be completed by Governors, to wrap of the year and reflect on what we think we have achieved.</p>
<p>9. AOB</p>	<p>SharePoint replacement of Gov Hub comes into place end of next week?</p> <p>Complaint by parent was initially investigated by CMG. Parent request this go to Stage 3 and a 2 hour meeting with parent was held this week and the Complaints Committee (JW, JS and FA). It is hoped that this will conclude the issue. One change has been recommended to the Absence Policy.</p> <p>September Open Days need to plan for these</p> <p>Diversity Steering Group being set up; KK, HB, PD and plan to carry out HCC Diversity Audit 19 April at 1.30 p.m.</p> <p>KK has been called for Jury Service 7<sup>th</sup> May for at least 10 days.</p>

	<p>Exit Interviews for staff leaving need to be completed.</p> <p>DM queried the impact of all these staff changes on children and acknowledged how difficult it is to explain to children what is happening, when the adults don't quite know what is going to happen. PD and KK acknowledged this and said that in all the decisions they make they are mindful of the impact on the children and try to keep changes to a minimum. They are aware that some children struggle more than others and if Governors become aware that some children are struggling with these changes to please let them know.</p>
<p>10. Next meeting date(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – 18:00 to 20:00 – St. Thomas' Infant School.</li> </ul>