

ASH GREEN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting

21 November 2016, 6pm

Present: Barry Collins (BC), Jo Dye (JD), Steve Elliott (SE), Don Faulkner (DF), Jodie Fazackerley (JF), Bob Metcalfe (BM), Colin Reeves (CR), Mungo Sheppard (MS), Heather Stout (HS), Robb Sutherland (RS), Kelly Taylor (KT)

Apologies: Sarah Kay (SK), Alice Cordingley (AC)

In attendance: Steve Mayfield (SM), Karen Lovelady (KL) Clerk

1. Welcome & apologies

Apologies as above, AC sent in late apologies (work) consent given to both.

HS co-option agreed unanimously based on skills; skills complement FGB skills base. KT & HS welcomed & introductions made. BC emphasised the importance of governor training; HS has completed governor induction training (2015/16) & KT has booked to attend a session in January. RS term of office ends 04/12/16 co-option for another 4yr term agreed unanimously.

2. Declaration of interest

None.

3. FGB Self Evaluation & Impact 2015/16

- FGB Self Evaluation

Governors revisited eight aspects of effective governance & 20 questions. Additional accountability/evidence/impact to Questions 10, 14, 15 & 20. Celebrated in all aspects that contribute to whole school effectiveness & impact on pupil outcomes. Actions on plan 2015/16 have been addressed with areas for further development forming a development plan for 2016/17. Review 2016/17 & Development Plan produced KL to circulate to all.

- Impact Statement

Draft impact statement tabled. Governors to assess impact for 2015/16 & email information to KL by 02/12/16. KL to circulate complete impact statement by 16/12/16.

4. Terms of Reference

- M5 Policy for Governance
- Resources Committee
- Standards & Effectiveness Committee
- Pay Committee
- Complaints & Disciplinary Committee
- Appeals Committee

All TORs approved.

5. Minutes of last meeting 27/09/16

Approved as an accurate record.

Proposed: DF Seconded: MS

Unanimously agreed

6. Matters arising

- Mission Statement – approved.

Item 13 Inspirational past pupils – S Archer will be delivering a training session on speech & language to 90 delegates from NHP CC's at AG. S Archer left AG in 2002, attended North Halifax Grammar School, and went to University gaining a 1st in Speech Therapy. S Archer has agreed to come into school in Jan '17 to talk to pupils.

Item 16 - past pupil from 1925 has been back in touch with answers to a list of questions from the School Council. A Hick/School Council plan to arrange a visit early in the New Year. Volunteers from the Addy are helping with the community Friday shopping & fund raising events in school.

Action

KL

All Governors
KL

All actions completed/addressed on agenda.

7. Committee minutes

- Pay Committee

School appraisal system is fair, robust & linked to performance.

- Resources Committee

Revised Oct '16 budget submitted to LA. Out of deficit, the marginal improvement is due to staffing & increased pupil numbers; 3yr forecast is in deficit. BM/AM has contacted the LA re: minibus drivers & outcome will be brought back to committee.

KT has been approached by a concerned support staff member to ask FGB if national/local educational funding cuts will affect jobs. FGB are confident & want to positively reassure all staff that due to good financial management for now there is no pressure to reduce staffing. The 3yr forecast is for deficit but extra funding streams will be investigated to support budget. KT thanked for bringing this to FGB attention & asks that MS/SM pass this information back to staff.

FGB agreed the need to push LA for increased split site funding as the amount currently received only covers 1/5 of the actual costs.

BM is under the impression from the LA that although education grants are no longer coming through to the LA that they are being directed straight to schools; MS to check with MA.

BC to get in touch with Andy Greenwood about using MUGA facility.

SM circulated website hits information; above average hits for a primary school.

Education Psychologist Service, CH/MS will monitor service delivery to ensure effective use.

- Standards & Effectiveness Committee

The meeting was detailed, productive with the focus on assessment & future focus on learning based on data. Committee looked at a sample of pupils' books & individual KPI sheets; evidence of clear effective targeting of individuals to ensure accelerated progress. Committee agreed that SM has put a lot of work into assessment with the projections being highly accurate; external quality assurance gained via T Warden. Highlighted issue with progress in reading & the need to evidence in school progress. SM thanked.

RS & CR booked on Understanding Your Data governor training 13 Dec '16. SM said that he is happy to meet with any governor to explain/answer any questions regarding data. RS & SM will meet prior to next S&E meeting.

Challenge

Q. Accessibility to the test, what does this mean?

A. The expectation for all children, regardless of SEND or very low entry, has produced 2015/16 testing which some of our less able pupils didn't have the experiences/reasoning to be able to answer the questions; less able children are expected to gain much more than able children.

Q. How do you protect the child, does the child know this?

*A. We didn't share any progress measures with the children. We did inform the parents of the standardised score. We are now measuring **all** pupils against national non-deprivation pupils. The DfE have accepted that accessibility to the tests for all pupils was flawed this year & will change for 2016/17. National variations with writing moderation has also been a massive issue; LA working on a whole LA primary plan to address.*

8. HT report, SIP 2016/17 Progress & Targets 2016/17

FGB agree that within the current Ofsted Framework school grade is 2.

Challenge

Q. Governors are aware of how difficult it was at times last year, how well is everything at the start of this year?

A. We have a lot of positives: pastoral work; secondment has made a big difference at the upper site.

SIP Key Issue 1

Q. Is British Values the same as Citizenship?

A. British Values are already intrinsic through the curriculum. Staff will carry out a mapping exercise (staff meeting 29 Nov) to show provision which will also map RE, SMSC, PSHCE & Assemblies.

BM/MA

MS/SM

MS/MA
BC

Q. EY focus on GLD projections is a monthly evolving target standard for EY?

A. SM sign posted target sheets. GLD for 2016/17 is 63% in reception. Monthly target setting is a standard item on KS meetings & staff are now able to put targets in place based on the new curriculum. Reception needs a lot more focused adult led activity & an extra staff member in class from Jan '17 will enable this. Extra adult has been taken from Y1; this staffing plan will ensure continuity.

Q. EY new outdoor environments did not come to fruition, why, how much are we talking about?

A. The cost would be into 5 figures. This will be discussed again with EY staff as we do need to reinvigorate outdoor provision but we need find a middle ground regarding finance.

Q. Governors agree on the importance of EY provision as everything starts here, can we get MA involved in sourcing funding streams?

A. Yes, will create priorities & source funding, possibly through FOAG & target volunteers e.g. Lloyds.

SIP Key Issue 2

Q. Staff surveys, what format will they be?

A. Hard copy for this year but are looking at electronic options for the future. The parent survey will probably be kept hard copy to be completed at parents' evenings.

SIP Key Issue 3

Q. Dec milestone "80% teachers' planning is effective in meeting the needs of RAP pupils." What are you doing to ensure this target is met?

A. Have had a focus on this & staff are happy that planning meets the needs of RAP pupils.

Targets

Q. Y3 targets are low, what are we doing particularly with reading?

A. Y3 target is set to achieve higher than previous years.

Q. What are we doing about KS2 writing?

A. The hope is that we can continue to maintain the pace in KS1 which will impact on KS2 pupil outcomes. Current KS2 started on the old curriculum & have had to catch up.

Q. Y3 & 4 maths ?

A. We will have value added by Y6.

Q. Have Y4 some exceptional readers?

A. We would expect mid to high 70's by Y6. The value of one child is 2% & we should have 5% increase per subject per year.

Q. Is this where targeted intervention can make all the difference?

A. Yes absolutely. Staff are doing an unbelievable job owning the data & targeting effective intervention. Staff can evidence accelerated progress through the books. SM works closely with all staff in continual assessment.

Q. Y6 targets, how do they compare to last year?

A. Expectation is higher & progress much higher. SM has reverse engineered data to calculate a raw score to convert to targets; a progress measure above -1 is needed.

9. SIP Monitoring report from TW

TW praised SM & the school assessment & tracking system. Leadership ensure staff progression & succession planning.

Challenge

Q. The report is very positive. Does TW pick up on things we're missing, flag issues not already picked up by staff?

A. TW is very good at picking up things from the data & responding to issues signposted by staff. TW offers effective challenge & supports the appraisal governors.

Q. What difference does TW make?

A. Provides external validation, quality assurance & brings experience from the wider educational sector. TW main focus in the last couple of years has been on assessment.

10. SEF

Data has been updated. MS to add disadvantaged groups. Governors agree that it is important to describe who our children are. No pupils here receive home tutoring. It is impossible for our

children to gain entry to Grammar School. Our pastoral system provides a learning environment for children who have difficulty accessing learning effectively in the classroom.

11. Pupil Premium report

MS reported that LA Head of Learning felt our deployment of PP funding is really good practice. Our most deprived pupils are now being measured against national non-deprivation.

Challenge

Q. What difference is there between the upper site & lower site?

A. A massive difference, if we subtract the lower site results in Reading(which were low in progress) we are broadly in line with LA/National average. We have a large percentage of disadvantaged pupils & this funding is massively improving families' lives through the work of the IPT.

PP report approved, to be posted on website.

KL

12. Safeguarding

No immediate issues.

H Monaghan, school based social worker, will provide a written report for future FGB meetings which will include escalating & de-escalating numbers of CP plans, CIN, EISA, CLA & any concerns. He will also be invited to attend future Resource Committee meetings to provide updates. SM to work with HM on reporting format.

Add to
planner
SM/HM

13. Mat/Academy

No new information. Trinity Academy not extended MAT at primary level yet. Government have said that no forced academisation will be done based on 2015/16 results; nationally there appears to be a slowdown of conversion. But the other side of this LA services/funding are being stripped from the LA. MS is very well placed at the moment with Primary Heads/LA/Cluster to keep governors informed.

14. Policy review

- **M30 Pay Policy & M32 Appraisal**

Governors approved M30 & M32.

15. Correspondence

Key findings from the 2016 Primary School electronic Health Needs Assessment.

KL circulated contact details for link governors & staff leads; will email as well.

16. AOB

Request to write off After School Club debt owed by parents, total = £148.50. Governors agreed that all actions to recover the debt have been carried out; write off approved.

17. DONM

06/02/17

Meeting closed 9.05pm

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____