



Present: Fr David Clues (DC) – Chair
Amanda Healey (AH) – Headteacher
Sue Richardson (SR)
Rupert Bagilhole (RB)
Helen Barnett (HB)
Fiona Keeling (FK) – Associate Member (left after Item 6)

In attendance: Sharon MacKenzie (SM) – Clerk

Apologies: Rev Alice Whalley (AW)

Item	Discussion and Decisions
1.	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>The GB accepted the apologies of Rev Alice Whalley.</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>No interests were declared.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 19.05.15</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.</p>
4.	<p>Matters arising not covered elsewhere in minutes</p> <p>AH reported that attendance has now reached 95%, as a result of staff taking strong action. Governors noted that this hard work is to be celebrated.</p>
5.	<p>SATS results</p> <p>AH presented this year's Year 6 SATS results, which are extremely pleasing, making two consecutive years of good results. We're above the national average in all areas except L5 Maths.</p> <p>Governors recognised that in most aspects of English the school has improved or is close to improving. Also, recent governor visits have been focussing on Maths as this had been identified as a priority by the school. This has come through positively in the results.</p> <p>Governors will have a more detailed discussion at next week's FGB meeting.</p>



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6.	<p>Assessment without levels</p> <p>FK provided governors with an update. In order to be able to carry out a comparison next year, we are assessing with both methods (with and without levels) at the end of this year. The new system looks at depth of knowledge, not linear progression.</p> <p>FK reported that the school has been working with Darren Ellsum, who has been working with the LA on assessment methods. He has devised a new assessment language and we are expected to get 85% of children to the 'Met' stage, Age Related Expectations (ARE), which is significantly higher than before. At the end of the autumn term, ARE will be 'Emerging' and teachers will be really clear about where children need to get to.</p> <p>Q: If 85% of children are expected to have met ARE, then this is 25 children in a class of 30. Is this a realistic target for next year with the cohort that we have? A: We have already identified that this won't be possible for Year 6 in 2016 due to a child with a statement in that class and other factors.</p> <p>Q: Is the new system familiar to all teachers? A: They have been using it for part of the year so we are in a strong position compared to other local schools.</p> <p>FK showed governors a diagram which is a good visual aid to show where the children are on the scale – this is filled in three times a year and then used to identify intervention work.</p> <p>Ofsted don't mind which system we use, as long as we can explain it and show progress. We are using a similar system to other schools in our Partnership, which is enabling us to moderate pupils' work together. It is also useful for children, as they are aware of where they need to get to, rather than specific tasks they had with levels. The statements of Age Related Expectations will go in the back of the children's books and will be used in planning.</p> <p>Next week, teachers will be bringing us double assessments (new and old system), so we know where we are for September. We will then close off the old 'levels' system.</p> <p>Governors noted that it will be beneficial for children that they are in charge of their own learning and can think for themselves about how to move forward.</p> <p>Q: How we can we measure the impact this is having? A: It will be important for us to ensure consistency across the school to ensure progression.</p>



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	<p>AH and governors thanked FK for all her work in setting this up and asked for an update in the Autumn Term meeting. Also, it will be useful to look at a sample of children's books at a future meeting and to look at them on governors' visits.</p> <p>FK also reported that parents will be receiving information about where their child needs to get to so they can help them work towards this.</p> <p><i>FK left the meeting at this point.</i></p> <p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FK to provide update at next meeting – Clerk to add to agenda • Future agenda item – sample of children's work • Governors to incorporate monitoring into governors' visits
7.	<p>Staffing update</p> <p>AH reported that the school is fully staffed for September. Lucy Cooper will be joining us as the KS1 Co-ordinator. We will be keeping the Y2 teacher until Christmas so the Resources Committee will look at the revised budget on Monday. Lucy will be spending time in Y1 and Y2 to look at progression, and she also has a lot of Early Years skills.</p> <p>There was a strong field for the KS2 post and two governors were involved in the interviews. John Mills from West Blatchington Primary has been appointed, which is a school that moved up to Good this year so they have been in the same situation as us. AH and FK observed him teaching in his school, which has similar systems, so he will be familiar with our way of working. He will take the Y6 class as this is where his experience lies.</p> <p>We are moving forward next year with a stronger team, both teachers and support staff.</p>
8.	<p>Governors' Action Plan / HMI Monitoring Report</p> <p>Governors discussed the actions on the plan and this was updated by the clerk. The actions from the two governors' action plans will be incorporated into the school plan next year which AH is currently working on. AH and the clerk are looking at a work plan for the year to ensure the work is spread out evenly over the year. The clerk agreed to send out actions within a week of each meeting to improve the effectiveness of addressing actions.</p> <p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AH and Clerk to draft work plan for year • Clerk to send out actions after each meeting



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9.	<p>Governor Visits</p> <p>SR carried out a visit in Y1, where pupils were discussing a letter that one child had received from a university, which was inspiring for this age group. SR spent time with a teaching assistant (TA), who went through the backs of books. SR saw first-hand how essential the TA role is in supporting teachers.</p> <p>Governors agreed that the focus for next term would be Maths again. The schedule and focus of visits be discussed at the FGB meeting in September.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to add Governor Visits schedule to FGB agenda in September
10.	<p>Matters brought forward by the Chair</p> <p>There were none.</p>
11.	<p>Dates of future meetings</p> <p>Governors agreed that meetings should be spaced at appropriate intervals next year and this will be discussed at the FGB Business Meeting in September.</p>

Signed St. Hally.....

Date 11/11/15.....