



Present: Katie Blood (HT), Tony Firmin (T&L Chair), Ian Beggs, Francesca Urquhart

In attendance: Tom Way - Clerk to Governors, Fiona Keeling (Deputy HT)

Apologies: Catherine Wilson, Dan MacIntyre

Quorum: 4 out of 6 governors were present. The meeting was quorate (at least 50% attending).

Questions from the governors to the HT and DHT are highlighted in **bold**.

1. Welcome / apologies for absence and declarations of interest

[The Teaching & Learning Committee was held online via Microsoft Teams]

Governors acknowledged CW and DM's apologies given in advance of the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

2. Minutes of T&L committee meeting held on 19.11.20 accuracy / matters arising

Governors agreed that the minutes were an accurate representation of the meeting.

The following actions have been met:

- The Clerk sent the list of previous outstanding actions to TF/HT for review
- The HT and TF have looked at the SIP points relating to the T&L committee to specify on the ToR [*there was a further discussion around focusing the ToR when the time is right*]
- The HT has discussed Pupil Premium monitoring with BE

Matters arising, not otherwise on the agenda:

There was a broader discussion around linking in governors with subjects and possibly restructuring FGB meetings.



ACTIONS

2.1 HT to discuss SIAMS self-evaluation toolkit with BE – *Ongoing (will follow up when circumstances are appropriate again)*

2.2 HT to send list of school meetings to governors – *Ongoing (postponed until Sept 2021)*

3. Headteacher's update

A) End of Term 2 data

The HT attempted to share the school data via Microsoft Teams but this was not possible for all governors to view.

The DHT advised that when pupils came back in September the teachers reassessed the pupils in their class and that there is data for each class from the beginning of the Autumn Term and for the end of the Autumn Term. The data shows that children did have gaps in their learning, seemingly as a result of the lockdown; however, progress had been made by most pupils in the Autumn Term.

With a new lockdown for the majority of the Spring Term, it is highly likely that data will be sparse and progress limited.

The DHT further advised that teachers have been trying to fill in the gaps from last year via online teaching but that it is difficult for them to balance this whilst also providing new content that is of sufficient quality.

IB agreed with the DHT that moving pupils on through remote learning is difficult and that this requires constant ongoing dialogue with pupils and their families and that it is difficult to do this with all individuals.

The DHT advised that the teachers have eyes on all of the pupils that they can and that learning is taking place every day online, but that in terms of pupil progress it is difficult to assess them remotely and that they try to follow this up with home calls, messages etc but that the quality of work is different than when it is produced in the classroom. IB further advised that staff know what is considered to be satisfactory work for children but that parents aren't aware of this nor do they generally have the background academic knowledge.

The DHT advised that when providing feedback, they can only push pupils so much with getting them to repeat their attempts at work that the pupil might consider to be completed as it is more difficult to ensure that the pupil feels supported outside of the classroom environment. IB further advised that they are trying to be supportive more than anything else at the moment as they are not always aware of the current circumstances for the pupils at home and that they don't want to criticise them too harshly.



The HT advised that they are seeing some progress in the development of activities for pupils, and that they will get accustomed to home standards of work first and then try to work upwards from there.

The DHT advised that they personally feel that what the school is providing is pretty good given the current situation but that unfortunately it is not possible to produce reliable data currently.

How is the IT access currently for pupils at home?

The HT advised that it is pretty good, though there are some issues with data allowance and Wifi connections. The HT further advised that there are approximately 10 pupils who are not in school and not accessing learning from home currently and that this is more to do with lack of home IT facilities, and that the school are working on this, though it can be difficult to get answers from parents when working with them to resolve the situation. The DHT advised that the staff in school on a Monday share out the home calls made to the families whose children are struggling to engage with the learning, but that there are limits to what they can do with this. The HT further advised that they are trying to support the families whilst also trying to help them to take responsibility for this themselves.

FU observed that the school has managed to close the feedback loop with the See Saw educational app and commented that this is good progress as teachers can now easily provide direct feedback for pupils on their work.

B) Feedback in the context of the school's position in the current lockdown

The DHT advised that teachers are constantly changing their practice and getting feedback from pupils and parents as to what works better. IB advised that they are negotiating lessons with the class and listening to their feedback and that they discuss suggestions with the pupils as to what would work best for following lessons.

Is the school offering provision for SEND pupils?

The HT advised that staff are finding ways to accommodate this and that some teachers are able to offer personalised learning over the See Saw app for those children who need it.

Is the online setup like teaching a whole class, or more like teaching 30 different individuals?

The DHT advised that they can receive 30 different responses at one time as opposed to how things might have been previously bounced around in the classroom, and that See



Saw is good for creating personalised tasks discreetly for pupils that don't respond as well to other types of learning.

The HT advised that differentiation was implemented in the school before and that they are working towards improving differentiation online and that now they know that this will be the situation for longer they will work on developing this further.

FU offered their thanks and congratulations to the staff for their adaptability, and commented that it is a huge strength of the school that the staff know their students so well.

The HT provided a summary of the following points relating to in-school provision:

- There are 15 pupils accessing provision at the school daily and approximately 25 over the course of the week
- There are different activities taking place during the day e.g. PE and baking but all pupils focus on their remote learning in the morning.
- The food bank is up and running and Amy Charlton has been managing the food vouchers well
- The HT has been ensuring that parents know that there are things that the school can support them with Lateral flow-testing of staff started this week (for asymptomatic cases)
- The school has received 24 Chromebooks from the government and has also received 10 Chromebooks donated by Albion in the community
- There have been no staff with Covid-19 symptoms since Christmas

4. Policy Reviews

A) Terms of Reference (point 5c)

Governors agreed to postpone this further review of the Terms of Reference to the July FGB meeting as the current and future meetings structure will most likely have changed by then.

B) Behaviour policy

The HT confirmed that they had circulated this to governors shortly before the meeting.

The HT advised that they have only updated this superficially from the school's previous policy with titles and headers and that it is not really different from the policy agreed two years ago.

Governors agreed to email with any issues that they may wish to highlight regarding the policy by Friday 5th February.



ACTIONS

4.1 Governors to email the HT/Clerk with any issues relating to the Behaviour policy by 5th February

5. Urgent Business not on agenda

TF advised that the Chair had contacted them suggesting that a presentation could be given by the home-learning team and the HT agreed that they will look into this.

Has the recruitment for Reception deadline passed?

The HT advised that the deadline has passed and they have received the first indicative numbers, and that the school looks to be in a very similar position to this time last year with reasonable numbers for reception but that it is too early to say for sure. The HT further advised that the school will lose 20 pupils from Yr6 at the end of this year, so they will need 20 or more, and that they may be on track for this. There was a broader discussion around this and local housing developments/the local area in general.

The DHT commented that the HT is doing a great job during a difficult time, and all governors agreed that this should be noted, and TF seconded this and asked for the governors' thanks to be passed on to every single member of staff at the school.

The meeting closed at 6:37pm

Signed[signed copy kept in school office]..... Chair of Teaching & Learning Committee

Date.....

The next meeting will be the FGB held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 5.45 pm.