

JSP and LM work on this regularly and the Single Central Record has been reviewed again by them and will continue to be at regular intervals throughout the year.

Governor Visits

These have been carried out and each Governor will report back to the FGB later in the meeting.

Terms of Reference

To ensure that all ToF R are reviewed in the Sub-Committee meetings

TW LM KM

The Minutes were accepted and approved as a true account of the meeting on 09/11/16.

4. AUDITED ACCOUNTS

The accounts have now been audited and accepted for 2015/16 and were sent to the EFA by the deadline and as noted are now also available to anyone on our Governors webpage. The auditors only picked up on some very small issues.

5. **SUB-COMMITTEES**

BUILDINGS

There are currently 2 Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) bids in

- 1) For new doors and windows, Fire doors
- 2) Safeguarding security This would include resurfacing the back playground which is unsafe for under Y3/4 for PE activities.
The much-needed CCTV and electronic gates at the front of school under Prevent which can be backed up by the issues around locality to Toddington Services as a vulnerable school.

There is also a Salix bid in for the LED lighting plan. This is a loan which is paid back with the savings that are made by using LED lighting over an 8-year period. If this is successful, then it will be bought in front of the FGB for Governors to consider. There is no pressure to accept the loan if the school is successful. There was such a short time scale to get the application form in that the school went ahead but commitment is not needed at this stage.

This would then leave the £7-8K capital income available to cyclical redecorations of the school which are very much needed, including the floors. and Y4 stairs.

Other committees have not met since the last FGB Meeting

6. **COMMUNITY LINKS**

DC advised the FGB that since that last FGB there have been the following links to the Toddington community:

Light up Toddington – Carols on the green (which due to the weather was inside!)

Plans include

Big Tidy Up – 18th March

Spring Festival -Ploughman's Lunches Dance and Art from school

Community garden

There has also been an open meeting in the village with regards to the fact that there is currently no rector since the Rev Ann left to take up a new position. The meeting was very well attended by parishioners past and present and is a very challenging time for the parish.

The feedback is that there is likely to be a part time appointment made for the position to our church mainly due to finances. This has caused some concern amongst parishioners and hold some issues for the school.

However, the school feels very confident that the links that it must support the children are strong and very enriching eg- visits from IMPACT the Methodist church and the Baptist church. Collective worship in the school is paramount and as soon as the appointment is made the links will increase again.

7. HEAD TEACHER REPORT

JSP reminded the FGB that the schools vision is

“To light a spark in every child”

Admissions

325 on the Role

Nursery is now 45 - with 8 new this term.

Capacity with current staffing is 58.

New applications for Reception for Sept 2017 currently stand at 67.

There is a Waiting list of 9 (Y2-2 Y3-2 Y4 -5)

SEND children needs increased and the intake includes children with ASD SALT SEMH needs.

The school has had 2 EHCPs awarded since last report – 2 (1x Yr 2 HI and xYr2 non HI)

There is some additional HAST SEND funding approx. 25K which is available to support schools where needs are not being met which includes additional visits from educational psychologists – the money is claimed back after the visits have been carried out. This can also possible be used for play therapy.

Attendance

The school target is 96.0% Attendance is currently 96.6%

There are 2 significant problems:

1 child who is moving to a different school due to housing issues. The family is having to move and the cost of continuing at Toddington is too great. The child is vulnerable and JSP wanted to flag to the governors the impact of continuity on a child's learning and friendship groups.

Also, one child has experienced a bereavement and is finding it very difficult to leave his mum. The school are supporting the family and it is being monitored. The school is liaising regularly with both families.

Lateness

A late book has been introduced which has been very successful and has reduced late arrivals into class.

Behaviour

There has been some change and there is a new plan for lunchtimes which is being led by Lisa Mallet SEN teacher JSP and LC. The behaviour log processes and behaviour policy remains the same.(To be reported in main meeting).

SEND

Recent assessments for children

Stage 3 Statement or EHCP 4 +1 awarded.

1 Dyslexia assessment (carried out privately).

HAST has bought a dyslexia screening tool and its possible that one person will be trained across the pyramid to carry out assessments. Current cost are anything from £250-£700 per child.

Current pupil profile

Hearing Impaired – 3

CLA – 2

Pupil Premium 14 – (Yr2 -4 Yr3-4 Yr4 – 6)

There are 2 “more able” pupil premium students Yr1 -1 and Yr3-1. This is an Ofsted focus and priority is to ensure that the progress gap is closed between PP children and non-PP children.

EYFS – 4 – Yr4

JSP explained to the FGB that these groups of students are a focus for the school but there is an enormous amount of hidden costs to supporting these children. And PP can support the school to E.g.- 1:1 precision teaching, 1:1 intervention programmes (Toe by Toe, Power of One) Daily monitoring TA led small group support. Clubs, visits Instrumental lessons.

Staffing

Mrs Scott went on Maternity leave Christmas and 2 new appointments have been made to cover her leave as Job share,

Rebecca Crane and Gemma Rivers. – Y1 parents have expressed some concerns about part time teachers and the concern is that the parents could have been more involved to acknowledge and alleviate the concerns.

Jane Spencer acknowledged this and said a letter to parents had gone out explaining the changes in both Year R and Year 1 in greater detail.

There is an increasing amount of class teachers who are part time and the FGB will need to monitor this going forwards to assess how the school should proceed. The part time teaching is of a high standard but continuity is key for the children.

LM and KM carried out a school Learning Walk and spoke to teachers about how they manage the cross over and plan as Part time teachers and felt confident that the current systems are working.

Kay Bartlet is also still away on LT sick leave.

Debbie Jessop NNEB has moved house and left the school after 17 years – she will be greatly missed.

Outcomes

There will be a progress review in February and an examination of actions to be taken then.

Quality Teaching and Learning

Target tracker in school will now include foundation subjects Modern Foreign Languages and Science.

Procession Teaching is continuing to have huge benefits to the children focussing on identified individual needs.

The school is outstanding in literacy interventions but needs to improve in maths interventions offered.

LC is currently looking at Maths interventions to promote in school.

The key to pupil success is outstanding teachers and JSp is confident that the increase in peer mentoring, peer observations and performance management will lead to an increase in outstanding staff.

There has been improved consistency with 2 staff who have had support via mentoring peer observation and coaching. New staff are to monitored after 1 month and all Full Time and Part Time staff will receive a review.

Professional development will be supported through the SLT staff and NQT mentor.

New Developments

A new payment system has been set up for parents to order their childrens lunches on line. There is also going to be the introduction of booking parent consultations via text.

IT – there are now 23 ipads in school

Lego kits have been super successful there are some children who are coding at very complex levels.

The Headteachers report included an update on IT and associated investment.

Governors Visits

See attachments from RC, KM, LM, DW

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SIAMS

LC explained that this was the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. – it is carried out every 3 years and the school is due to be re-inspected next term.

It will look at 2 areas and will include – how well the school, through its Christian ethos and character meets the needs of all learners? And what is the impact of collective worship on the whole school.

The inspection is like an Ofsted inspection and will be a whole day. It is very intense but LC states that she and the school are well prepared to demonstrate that the school meets the expectations and requirements.

The school and its Governors need to demonstrate that being a Christian School underpins everything that it done.

The school held meetings recently

1. To scrutinise the RE in the school – this was very pleasing as the expectations of this are great in school and it was lovely to see the extent of the work being carried out in RE
2. To look at the schools values system and how it underpins the childrens learning.

The last SIAMS inspection 3 yrs ago had 2 recommendations for action.

- 1) That the school policies did not reflect the Christianity within the school
- 2) The evaluation system of the school values to show their impact over time. – this has been very difficult to quantify and the whole staff team was involved in working to be able to achieve this.

The school is solid on its delivery of the values eg- 3 year rolling programme of values however a rebranding occurred to bring the values in line with the schools Christina ethos (eg- school value of perseverance was changed to the Christian value of endurance.)

It was decided that some case studies would be carried out to show the impact of the values on a child over time. These were very specific things that show the journey of a child over time and how they might learn and adopt a particular value. e.g. – a child who did not understand the word sorry or understand the value of forgiveness.

The whole staff team has carried out Understanding Christianity Training and delivery and the learning will be imbedded over the next 1-2 years.

JK DC and DW all met with LC to understand the work that is being carried out and to represent the FGB.

TW asked to be kept up to date with developments.

LC has compiled a huge amount of resources and has produced some crib sheets for summary information which a valuable. The website is to be updated

by later February and all information about RE and the Christian ethos of the school will be in one place to ensure comprehensive reading.

MATS and DMATS

TW had previously asked for a volunteer to represent TSG on the HAST MAT working party that was set up, Dee Walker volunteered and has been attending meetings for the school

JSP and TW had attended a conference in London about understanding MATS.

DW

The following points were discussed

- At local school level, all the accountability would go into the MAT
- Decisions and power would be devolved
- There is no fixed structure for a MAT eg can be different age groups and include schools that are not even close in proximity

TW asked Governors to consider some points

- Why would we want a MAT? -
- Does the school just want to wait to react to what it is given eg in the HAST pyramid or does the school wish to look for alternatives that may fit with the school ethos and values in a different way.
- The impact of the process of becoming a MAT on the school
- Impact of the result of becoming a MAT
- Does becoming a MAT change how the school accesses for instance funding through HAST

TW stated that things are happening very quickly now and with HAST re: MATS and it is a long-term commitment and the school cannot just change its mind and come out of a MAT.

The diocese would prefer a DMAT to protect the church status of the school. TW is meeting with David Morton about heading up a DMAT with 6 other schools. The A507 MAT is also a possibility with other church lower schools.

Things to consider

- Vision and values
- Systems for training
- How to deploy key leaders
- Shared terms and conditions for staff
- Recourses
- Quality Assurance
- Approaches to Governance
- WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR CHILDREN.

A working party will meet at 7pm on Mondays commencing 6th Feb to take this forward. LM/DW/TW also LC/LT/JS/RC – anyone else is welcome.

DW will also continue to attend the HAST meetings.

AOB –

JSP wanted to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of Jackie Stringer in the EYS dept.

JSP led the FGB in a closing Prayer

The Meeting closed at 10:15pm