



This will be discussed later in the meeting and a working party has been established.

#### Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference have all been reviewed in the Sub-Committee meetings

TW LM KM

**The Minutes were accepted and approved as a true account of the meeting on 15/01/17.**

#### 4. Its Learning

TW explained that Tony Davies was going to talk to the meeting about its Learning, the schools' intranet platform. All governor' documents will be stored on the platform and not sent individually to governors before and after governing body meetings. Tony Davies will explain how this will work and give governors the necessary logons and passwords. It is hoped that the planning and administration of governing body meetings will be simplified.

**Tony  
Davies**

#### 5. Governing Body Objectives 2016/17

The governing body agreed the following objectives:

***Ensure that Governors are well prepared for the likely SIAMS inspection with agreed aim of retaining outstanding status for the school***

***Continue to embed our understanding of school data and ensure that Early Years foundation, Key Stage 1 & 2 priorities are met***

#### 6. MATS

DW reported back from the HAST working group that she attends on behalf of the school. HAST have appointed Cambridge Education as consultants for the process and have set up 2 workshops helping attendees to understand how to set up a MAT that representatives of the school are going to attend.

HAST are drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding to include all of the schools in the pyramid. DW states that there is no clear way forward but it is clear that this will happen. TW stated his concern about the time scales involved.

There is caution amongst the Lower Schools and Cambridge Education will be visiting all the schools to support them and help with clarity and understanding of the process.

St Georges is hosting a meeting for the Lower schools on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 7-8:15pm. NP discussed the format, which will be looking at the positive and negative aspects of a MAT and how it will affect the Lower School system. It is hoped that this will open up discussions with the other schools.

TW stated that there will be no decisions without further details.

JSP has been to a Diocese of St Albans meeting regarding MATS and we need to be mindful of this angle too.

#### 7. SIAMS

Please refer to LC – SIAMS UPDATE

LC has provided the Governors with a very thorough update of where the school is in preparation for the imminent SIAMS inspection.

- There is now a SIAMS tab on the website
- Positive feedback from parents on the newsletter updates
- LC would like a list of mobile numbers of Governors in preparation for the visit

JSP stated that LC has done an outstanding job in ensuring that the school is ready for the inspection and also in rolling out the Understanding Christianity

Pilot in school and has been asked by the Diocese of St Albans to share her experience to help other schools.

## **8 SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

JSP has invested in a different report for the school – The Arbor Report which is far more comprehensive and provides than other reports. (copy was sent to all Governors) The School Improvement Committee has decided that the school will purchase this report in future.

CO provided the Governors with the highlights of the report. –

- Early Years – the percentage of children with good development is rather low and there is a significant gender gap, but there is a high level of spring and summer born children.
- KS1 – these results are way above average in all 3 SATS subjects. What was even more striking was the number of children who are working above and at greater depth.
- The breakdown of the sub-groups shows handful of children not at the levels they should be at.

Closing the Gap was discussed which is the strategy to ensure that things such as social group do not act as a barrier to children achieving in relation to their peers. KM pointed out that there is often an overlap with these children with regards to SEN.

CO stated that the one thing the data does not give is Y4, but this comes from Local Government, and it is hard currently to now if the school has done well in comparison as there is not consistency in assessments across schools so drawing any conclusions is difficult.

### **PROGRESS**

Due to the above issues with regards to Y4 data in terms of Improvement the school has started to look at Target Tracker in more detail and this will be reviewed at the next sub-committee meeting. Year 4 across the LA are proposing submitting ARE results at 85% this year Any changes will be agreed before the data submission as necessary.

JSP added regarding school initiatives - that differentiated groups in Phonics teaching had increased and also the EY's targeting of pupils needing more support had helped to increase predicted outcomes, The school is committed and mindful of the need to improve in EYFS in some areas. Lessons have been drawn from last year and these strategies are now embedded. Ofsted looks at 3 year trends not 1 year cohort related changes. It is also likely that KS1 and EY may be moderated this year.

### **CURRICULUM SUB-COMMITTEE**

LC gave the committee a summary of Quality first teaching, Learning and Assessment.

#### **Safeguarding**

All Child protection, CIN and TAC meetings have continued as has the child protection log. LM monitors and reviews on a regular basis for the Governors. LM will come to school and ask questions to designated groups e.g. – school council around safety to ensure that children understand how to be safe at school.

JSP discussed the possibility of a new electronic Child Protection data management system called CPOMS. The system will help with record

keeping and should also help with ensuring safe secure transitions of information. She will feed back to the Governors after a HAST Heads meeting at which it will be requested for HAST to fund the roll out of this system across the pyramid.

#### Attendance

There are 2 concerns currently.

1x distance to travel due to being able to source affordable housing locally.

The child is now enrolling into a school in Luton where the family have resettled but the impact will be on the school attendance stats this year.

1x bereavement where the child is finding it very difficult to leave the parent and so is being home schooled until September.

1x child who has some medical issues which will impact their attendance.

All are being monitored and supported.

There is also 1x child whose parent has an extended gardening leave and so is taking the family away on an extended overseas trip. The absence will be unauthorised but does not fall within the sanction limits re: penalty charging. The parents have requested to take homework for the child to do whilst away and JSP is going to arrange this as it is a Y2 student who will be moderated later in the year.

RC asked if this would set a precedent.

Governors all felt that it was not many parents who would have the means or opportunity to take their children away like this but agreed that homework would not be given in future to such children.

There are also 3 children who are moving away from the area who will have an impact of the attendance figures as they are taking extended periods between leaving the school and enrolling in the new school overseas and until they register in the new school St Georges will hold the on-attendance figures.

#### Behaviour

Lots of hard work on early interventions by skilled Learning and SEND assistants. And LM and JSP went to a meeting regarding this, including a review of multi-agency working. A pilot is being undertaken in Dunstable in an attempt to in effect triage families to ensure they get all the support they need. Better communications will be key. JSP emails to state that St Georges would like to be considered at one of the co-bases. The Governors supported this.

Most incidents are where the child is only seen once – one off incidents. – However, all incidents are logged so patterns can be analysed.

Currently there are 3x issues in KS1 and 3 in KS2.

The normal interventions are not having any impact and LC has put together a proposal to JSP to put a plan in place to work with these children.

There are 3 lunchtime behaviour plans in place which has come down from 6 which is encouraging.

No racial incidents.

No exclusions.

#### SEN

Lisa Mallet provided a report for the Curriculum Sub-Committee (see which is on the school

There are currently 65 children with a SEND need in school. 5 of whom have a statement/Education Health and Care Plan with a wide range of needs not just speech and learning with a vast number of other agencies involved.

KM advised the Full Governing Body of a discussion that the Curriculum Sub-committee had at the last meeting regarding the outstanding issue around

difficulties in transitioning children with SEND funding in nursery that does not follow through to school with them. When reapplying it can take up to 18 months which causes issues for the child in not having the support they need, worry to parents and also the school picking up in terms of covering the cost of providing the support to ensure the child has the support that they need, and it is clear the current situation is flawed.

There is one child who JSP wished the Governors to consider carefully. The child's needs are so specific and extremely high that she has concerns about remaining in the school. The staff have been completely committed to supporting this child but the position is becoming untenable due to the high level of attention needed daily. The issue is getting the child the correct provision and JSP is concerned that this will not be available due to high demands across the area. The Questions to Governors is if after Easter there is still no place for this child what is to be done as the impact of this situation is so significant the FGB must become involved in the decision.

JSP

JSP also spoke about children with behaviour issues where the behaviour was a product of their needs not being met who are being excluded from schools in the area as there is not the right support for them in their school. There are not enough places in the provisions set up to accommodate children in these circumstances and she asked the Governors to consider whether St Georges could offer the new classroom facilities in the Huts as a specific provision for such children, but there would need to be a teacher funded.

KM DC

All Governors were keen to explore this and action should be taken to do and KM is to draft a letter and DC will find out who the counsellor is in Central Beds who leads on Education.

### **Finance and Personnel**

TW summarised the latest position regarding the financial outcome for this year. The latest projections suggest a deficit of £22.5K. However it was noted that JT had been overly cautious in her forecasting assumptions and JSP confirmed that the school would not incur a deficit.

#### **Staffing**

Currently creating higher costs due to maternity leave, and the cover being 2x job share posts. But as previously discussed the high standard of teaching that is clearly better for the childrens education outweighs the additional cost for the 2 teachers. There is also additional sick leave and an extra nursery nurse being recruited to enable the increase offer and children in Early Years.

#### **Benchmarking**

It is a requirement that the school carries out benchmarking and it is a valuable informative exercise. The school had always believed that it had a very high investment in its Teaching Assistants (TA) however looking at local comparisons in other schools St Georges is roughly in the middle in terms of costs for TA's

Potential income to come to school before the end of the financial year

Insurance money from long term sick leave and maternity cover

SEND money outstanding

JSP work as CBLE in other schools for SI ,training/support

### **Head Teachers Report**

#### **Items not already covered as below.**

#### **Mobility**

4 children have moved to a new house this term therefore leaving the school and we have 5 new children.

The waiting list currently stands at

EY -0            Y3 -2  
Y1 – 2           Y4 - 5  
Y2 -2

**There is also 1 result of an appeal pending**

Attendance

JSP has taken a decision that if parents decide to take their children out during school term then staff will be under no obligation to set any work for the child to take with them due to the amount of work this would generate.

Reporting data

JSP stated that as all Governors thought that the Arbor Report was more accessible the school should move to purchasing it to help review progress and standards again next year

Safeguarding

JSP discussed the possibility of a new electronic Child Protection data management system called CPOMS. The system will help with record keeping and should also help with ensuring safe secure transitions of information. She will feed back to the Governors after a HAST Heads meeting at which it will be requested for HAST to fund the roll out of this system across the pyramid. Costs are approximately £895 for 2 years.

Governors Website page Thanks to CO who has done a tremendous job. A volunteer was asked for to look at the Governors pages and report back. LM volunteered.3 photos outstanding.

EYFS update

30 hour offer in Early Years, pre-school age. JSP proposed to run the same offer as currently for one more year to fully imbed and also to protect Toddington Child Care.

- Compliance Tracker – Useful new summary tool. JT and JSP will compile a list of documents that each sub-committee is responsible for.
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- Self-evaluation work for governors
- 360 Reviews that were held previously– dates and times will be set for mid-June to include Teachers, Teaching Support staff, Admin staff, Governors and children. This will include – safeguarding, pupil Premium and Children who are Looked After, PE and SEND

JSP

LM

JSP stated that the Governors should keep in mind that the breadth of educational offer at St Georges is fantastic and that needs to be in the forefront of everything that we do, to ensure that this continues as funding and budget priorities may require us to make changes next year.

**COMMUNITY LINKS**

It is planned that there will be a part time Rector at the church from April and so the school is delighted. This will ensure that the children get lots of contact to enhance their links to the church. This will be alongside the links with the Methodist Church and IMPACT.

There is the Parish Big Litter Pick this Saturday

The St Georges Celebration and the Spring Festival take place 1 April and children of the school will be performing in these events.

**School 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration.** JT explained about a new Facebook page set up to reach out to those who have previously been at the school far and wide. The plans are coming together and will be a whole school and hopefully, a community wide celebration.

**AOB**

The Attendance Policy has been amended and office staff and teachers had had an input into the structure. It lays out very clearly expectations and also rewards systems.

The FGB accepted and adopted the new policy.

**ACTION**

It was Bob Heal's last meeting and thanks and appreciation were given to Bob for all of the many years of service he has given to the school.

JSP led the FGB in a closing Prayer.

**The Meeting closed at 9:25pm**

**Date Of Next Meeting – 24/05/17**