

MINUTES TEACHING, LEARNING, PUPILS & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

5th May 2022 at 17:30

Governors

Will Young -Chair (Chair)	Y	Mark Chesher (Chair of Governors) - CoG	Y
Jemima Wade – Head teacher (HT)	Υ	Marwa Batah (MB)	Υ
Laura Brown – LB	A	Kareen Baker – KB	Y

* Y attended, A apologies approve, NA no apologies.

Clerk: Lena Seed

	ITEM	ACTION
1.	WELCOME/INTRODUCTION	
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the meeting was quorate.	
	Apologies were received and accepted from Laura Brown.	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	Governors were invited to declare business interests against any agenda item. None were declared.	
3	Minutes and Matters arising of previous meeting	
3.1	The minutes from the meeting on 10 th February 2022 were accepted as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.	
3.2	Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda:	
	Carried forward Wellbeing policy	нт
4.	SIP Update	
4.1	The Committee received the evaluated SIP.	
	INTERVENTIONS	
	The HT reported that although she was happy the inventions throughout the year	
	had been right for the children and their individual learning needs, the complexity of the different interventions had made direct Impact difficult to measure.	
	ATTENDANCE	
	Following strong attendance in the Autumn term, spring term had been impacted by a significant outbreak of chicken pox which had affected 160 children and impacted	

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	Q: Flipped and blended learning. To what extent did that go well and what was the impact?	
	The HT replied flipped learning was still used in maths but required use of	HT
	Chromebooks at home and not all children had access now that the Chromebooks	
	had been returned for use in class.	
	Q: is it a lack of resources?	
	HT replied that 10 or 12 families had school Chromebooks to enable them to do	
	maths homework and noted that in terms of teaching the focus for resources outside class time was mostly on catchup clubs	
	PARENT COMMUNICAITON	
	The HT was pleased that events with parents had resumed including Eid lunch and May day	
5	Data Update	
5.1	Spring term data and analysis	
	The Committee noted the data had been previously discussed and that children were making progress	
5.2	Disadvantaged/non-disadvantaged gaps including update on reading gaps for DA	
	Children	
	The Committee was pleased to note that in some year groups the gaps were diminishing and there was no evidence of systemic Disadvantage in the school.	
	The HT concurred and noted the Disadvantaged group was large in this school and that resources had been allocated on the basis of academic need.	
6.	Curriculum update on topics taught this new / new topics introduced and the updated overview for 22-23	
	The HT reported on the curriculum and noted it had been tweaked in September to ensure compliance.	
	EYSF	
	Work was ongoing in respect of the EYSF framework to enrich the learning opportunities. This included a focus on increased opportunities for role play and rich imaginative interaction and an update of the knowledge expectations around Geography & Science to make them more exciting.	
	KS1 & KS2	
	In KS1 and KS2 the Maths & Literacy curricula were unchanged and working well.	
	Humanities were being reviewed to create a sequential curriculum starting with Year 1 Geography from which the other years' curricula would be built. As a result of this process the school had trialled 'what unites - us what divides us' and had also developed an environmentally focused topic about the Polar Regions and a topic on North & South America	
	The History Year 1 curriculum would be reviewed, and sequenced and next year's units would be on the Victorian rather than the Tudors including a focus on what it was like to be a child in Victorian times.	

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The **Music** and **Art** teaching were good, and the school was looking forward to the specialist Music teacher returning to school.

In respect of **PE** the focus had been on what is right for the community not on competitive sport.

Q: what would competitive sport be in Camden?

The HT replied some schools provide football and running clubs; however, she was pleased that the school had coaches coming in three times per week and this term for example specialist small group sessions had been held for children with special needs.

Finally, the HT noted the IT lead was following a good scheme of works providing the children with opportunities to develop Coding such as making animations via html and python. The link with Camden Centre was also supporting IT learning.

7 Attendance

The HT reported on attendance

- Spring attendance 91.73% was extremely low.
- Mostly caused by the Chicken pox outbreak and disappointing following the excellent autumn attendance above the Camden average.
- small SEND gap relating in part to children on part-time timetables.
- Although attendance had improved since Easter unauthorised absences were now the rise due to long distance holidays.
- All travel absences were unauthorised.
- Camden as a Borough was under the spotlight of the DfE due to poor attendance with 6 specific schools targeted by the DfE.

8 Staffing update

The HT provided a substantial update on staffing and reported the year had started with skeleton staff due to budget constraints meaning all teachers had been class based which had been very challenging. The TA structure had also been very tight with no 1:1 provision and the climate for Recruitment of new staff had also been exceptionally difficult.

Funding for an additional teacher had been received with the arrival of the Afghan children. This funding had also provided some additional support with midday supervisors both of which had helped ease the workload.

The anticipation is that 2 or 3 class teacher vacancies will arise by the end of the year and with 1 ECT currently in their first year it would be important to recruit a balance of affordability and experience.

The HT invited Governors to sit on the interview panel.

Longer term the HT reported on the need to build for the future and create a better balance between capacity and budget:

• both the AHT and DHT were on a full-time teaching timetable and if given some time out of the classroom to focus on Senco and Instructional coaching

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- respectively would continue their own development and support the team as a whole.
- Depending on resignations the school may have a significant number of new teachers next year which also would also mean leaders need to have time out of class to work on staff development.
- 2 agency TAs had been offered a 2 year fixed contract to provide stability for both them and the school.
- Middays supervisors were being progressed onto TA's where they show prospects.
- Would also like to take the Art teacher out of class for a few days.

In conclusion the HT noted Staffing was key and she and the Bursar were considering a number of models.. All the changes would be aimed at protecting provision, making standards better and creating support for development.

STAFF WELLEING

The committee noted the staff questionnaire was good and that with the exception of 1 member of staff everyone appeared content.

The HT agreed and noted the following

- staff inset day had been good and meaningful discussions had been had around what the school was good at and what the school could do better with no big issues raised.
- the wellbeing yoga sessions had been well received.
- TA's had bene offered CPD opportunities with the Open University including excellent certified courses on AHDT and ASD.
- People once again busily booking trips wanting to do things with the children.

9. Pupil wellbeing

9.1 Stirling Scale

The HT reported as follows

- Completed with years 4 -6.
- Year 6s score much less well.
- Top 20 children with the lowest scores were for the most part children with complexities and mostly in year 5 and 6.
- Year 6 children highlighting nervousness about SATs.
- Follow up to be completed in the summer with year 6
- No school counsellor and external support also less available than previously so impact limited to teachers being aware of concerns and able to tweak their interaction.
- Also, children are able to see Kareen Baker as the mental health first aider.
- Notable difference to last Stirling scale in November 2020 is that everyone is more moderate/more in the middle
- Where comparable current year 6s had improved a little since the previous Stirling scale.

9.2 Safeguarding & behaviour

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	The Committee received the Safeguarding & Behaviour report and noted a significant increase in purple cards (previously yellow) particularly among the older boys.	
	The HT noted this was caused in 1 part by the Afghan boys and secondly by football	
	in year 5 which was very competitive.	
	On the whole behaviour was good with no exclusions.	
	Safeguarding audit	
	The Committee noted the safeguarding report had noted a need for the Safeguarding link governor to feed have a focus for each visit and to report back to the FGB.	
	Action:	
	Clerk to include Safeguarding update in agenda	
	Governors safeguarding training to be reviewed.	
10	Monitoring reports	
	MB reported she had attended the induction training and had noted the highlight around more detailed curriculum planning. This had been a Good insight and tied in with the HT's report on curriculum planning for 2022-2023.	
	Approval: MB was appointed curriculum Link Governor and it was agreed she would come into school in early July to complete a curriculum review	
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	The Vice Chair of governors reported he would be stepping back as governor from September for a minimum of 1 year The Chair of Governors reported a new potential community governor had been in school to meet with the HT and he hoped she could be co-opted at the summer FGB	
14	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	
	None	
15	Date of next meeting	
	30/6/22 FGB 5 pm	

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chair thanked those present for attending and closed the Meeting at 19:21

Minutes accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

Will Young, Chair of Argyle Primary School TLPC Committee

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