

Hemingford Grey Primary School
Governing Body
Minutes of the Curriculum Committee Meeting
Held on Tuesday 18th June 2019 at 6:30pm

Present: Ruth Burrows (Committee Chair, RBu)
Jenny Jones (Committee Vice Chair, JJ)
Kirsten Marriott (Head, KM)
Danielle Jones (Deputy Head, DJ, observing)
Helen Peat (HP)
Rachel Brown (RBr)
Rick Howell (RH)
Grace Matthews (GM)
Clare Lowe (CL, present for items 1 and 2 only)
Michelle Parker (MP, Inclusion Manager, present for items 1 and 2 only)
Kathryn Miller (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence, declarations of interest

No apologies were received and no declarations of interest were made.

2. Behaviour Policy – The Restorative Approach

DJ and MP informed the governors about a new therapeutic approach we are developing as part of reviewing our Behaviour Policy. MP recently attended a 3 day 'train the trainer' course called 'Step On' and DJ already has experience of developing and implementing this approach. The approach links into the School Development Plan (SDP) in terms of our role in mental health and developing a therapeutic approach across the school.

Parent views on behaviour have been collated via electronic polls and questionnaires were sent out to staff to gather feedback, as well as examining the current Behaviour policy at a recent staff meeting. The feedback from this was that the policy does not accurately reflect how behaviour is managed in the school. We are planning to inform and involve parents/carers in this too, possibly by inviting them to attend a workshop.

The new Behaviour Policy will be a working document and will be very specific about how it should be adopted across the school. It is currently being written and will be operational from September 2019. It will be brought to the first Full GB meeting in September for governors to formally adopt.

Question: What happens if you have a child displaying extremely difficult behaviour? How would you create pro-social feelings from this situation?

Response: We would still initially put in a protective consequence for the safety of all involved. We would then plan an educational consequence to help them learn from this and to encourage pro-social behaviour.

Question: Do you still keep records of children who need to have these consequences put in place resulting from their behaviour?

Response: Yes we will still be recording and monitoring this.

Question: How will you approach children who just will not engage with this approach?

Response: Most children will be able to engage with this but for a small minority, they will have an individual plan in place which may require support from different external agencies.

Question: Would you involve the child or children who feel they have been wronged in some way, as part of the discussion with the child who is displaying challenging behaviour?

Response: We don't feel they would need to be present but the teachers will be trained to know how to go about repairing the situation with all involved. Those who have been wronged will be reassured that it has been dealt with, and we will be working towards ensuring all children trust in this.

3. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising:

a) Equality Policy Update (discussed at the last meeting of the Resources Committee)
COMPLETED. The Clerk has updated the policy on file and on the school website.

b) SEND Policy Review. **IN PROGRESS. RBu will meet with Michelle before the next meeting to finalise any changes.**

c) Review of the Curriculum Policy
IN PROGRESS. JJ displayed the Curriculum section of the school website and also referred to the document detailing what maintained schools must publish online for guidance. She highlighted specific areas which need further explanation and some of it needs updating. KM confirmed that she will do this by the end of this term.

Action: KM

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair of the Curriculum Committee.

4. National Curriculum Tests Review

KM confirmed that this has been completed and the school is compliant.

5. Foundation Stage Profile and KS1 Assessment

KM advised that this year we had our SATS procedures checked by the Local Authority. KM updated governors on KS1 results which have now been received:

- Year 1 phonics pass rate – 73%
- Year 2 retake phonics pass rate – 57%

Question: How many year 2 children completed the phonics retake?

Response: 9.

6. Agree Terms of Reference (ToR) for next academic year

The current ToR was circulated to governors prior to the meeting. RBu queried whether we need to hold a meeting every half term. It was agreed that, for now, we will plan to hold 5 meetings throughout the year and we will continue to consider the impact of each meeting to ensure they all add value in some way.

HP suggested the Committee could look further at the school delivering a 'broad and balanced curriculum' which is one of the key objectives of the new SDP. RBu will amend the ToR and it will be circulated to governors before the Full GB meeting in September.

Action: RBu

7. Mobility Issues – Car Parking

KM advised that there are ongoing parking issues. We currently have 2 families who we have allowed, for exceptional reasons, to park in our car park to the side of the school. We will be

providing them with a school permit to enable us to ensure the car park is being used appropriately. We will also be repairing some of the fencing over the summer which will also help to improve the parking situation.

8. AOB

- KM updated governors on the recent English and Maths tests. She observed all children getting on very well with answering the questions with no significant hesitations. KS1 staff felt the maths paper was particularly challenging and year 6 felt they were very well prepared for their maths paper.
- RBu confirmed she will be stepping down from her Committee Chair role next academic year and asked governors to consider if they would like to take this on from September.

Action: ALL

- JJ gave thanks to the Senior Leadership Team for all the work and effort they have put into developing the school this past year.

Meeting closed at 8.02pm.