



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

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CEO: W. T. Hermon

20/01/21

Minutes

Teaching, Learning and Achievement Committee Spring 2021
Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 9.30am remotely via zoom

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Claire Paul (Chair), Trudy Rudge (Vice), Carol Green, Will Hermon (CEO)

Not Present: Tim Woodward (sent apologies during meeting due to internet access down)

In attendance: Jo Callow (EHT), Toni Martin (Governance Officer)

2. Declarations of Interest/Pecuniary Interests relevant to this Agenda

None declared.

3. Confirm minutes of previous TLA Spring (30th Sep 2020) and matters arising

Action for recovery schedules progress and impact to full Board. Done, also covered in item 5 below.

Committee agreed minutes and the Chair will sign a copy when normality resumes.

4. Confidential Agenda Items

None.

5. Review Recovery Schedules and Impact

a. Attainment & Progress

WH gave a brief update surrounding the situation this term. He noted that some schools completed internal assessment last term to check that children are making good progress. However, we are now in lockdown again, remote learning is in place, plans for assessment this term will now not happen because the children are not in school and so it will be difficult to assess progress and attainment. WH is confident that the recovery schedule was having an impact but now the children are out of school again, this will have a knock on effect. Internal testing will occur in May/June if possible so we can ascertain the progress each child has made. WH noted that internal testing may not be popular but it is important to know where these children are at, and the committee agreed that the children still need to get used to taking tests so it is not such a shock when things get back to normal. **What will we use for internal assessments?** WH explained what might be done and that it will be done sympathetically. It was noted that we are still required to report to parents on the progress of EYFS children. It was noted that laptops and ipads are trickling into the schools for children to use at home if they don't have IT available. Safeguarding is being closely monitored and issues are

being followed up daily. **Do parents need to give school notice to send children in or just turn up?** No, they have to let school know prior otherwise it is difficult to plan the safety aspects, school meals and provision. **The children that are in school, are they getting a meal?** Yes a hot meal in school on a reduced menu, and those at home are getting Chartwell food parcels, and will be moving to voucher system very soon. It was also noted that Heads are having to regularly update risk assessments and ensure the safety of children and staff in school which increases work load significantly. WH noted that Heads feel very responsible for the safety of children and staff, especially difficult given that there are more children eligible to be in school this time.

b. Monitoring and moderation/Improvement Officers Reports

The Academy Improvement Officers (AIOs) have been remotely monitoring the school provision, including the remote learning offer. **Are AIOs able to have an impact at the moment?** WH confirmed that they are and they are having weekly discussions with Heads. Exceptions reports were made available to the committee. Remote learning has been mandated by the government and parents are required to engage; in some cases, liaison with parents has been necessary to achieve this. The remote learning on the whole is working well, but there are a few areas that need tweaking to ensure we offer the best that we can.

6. Review Improvement

a. Future MAT Improvement Plan

Recovery schedule replaced usual MAT improvement plan. WH noted that it is difficult to write a new improvement plan with priorities until the situation is known. Committee agreed that no point producing one yet and WH should wait until later in the term until we know what the situation is.

b. OFSTED/SIAMS Preparation/Actions

Unlikely to have Ofsted or SIAMS inspections until later in 2021 or 2022 depending on Covid situation.

7. Review T&L:

a. Pupil Admissions and Numbers

Numbers fairly static at present without too much mobility. Numbers for September yet to be confirmed and the new Launceston Primary School may have an impact in due course when it opens.

b. Curriculum Implementation

Difficult to achieve with remote learning but on the whole there is still quite a broad curriculum. It was noted that there are plenty of other resources on offer from other sources such as BBC home learning programmes.

c. British Values

In place and nothing to report.

d. Website Compliance

School websites checked regularly and Academy Improvement Officer will do a check later this year but his focus at the moment is remote learning. **SEN offer is on the school website, how much of this offer is being met?** This was explained in detail and noted that vulnerable children are being taught in school as a priority.

e. Parental Engagement

This will be done later in the term.

8. Policy Review

Mental Health and Well-Being – approved.

Education of Children in Care – approved.

Online Safety – **carry forward to full Board meeting**. This is to be reviewed annually instead of 2 yearly from now on.

British Values – approved.

Drug Awareness – approved.

9. AOB

WH noted that he will send out periodic updates to Directors, but not necessarily a weekly update unless there is anything new to brief on. Directors were invited to send in questions/challenges as they have them through TM.

It was noted that staff are to be tested for Covid every Monday and Thursday using the lateral flow method. It increases workload but is reassuring for staff and parents.

10. DONM

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 9.30am either remotely via zoom or at the central office (TBC)

Meeting closed at 10.40am

TJH Martin

ADMAT Governance Officer

Distribution List:

W. Hermon – CEO Director C. Paul – Director (Chair) T. Woodward – Director	T. Rudge – Director C. Green - Director J. Callow – Ex-Officio Observer
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