

Newton & Teign Local Board

Minutes: Wednesday 9th October 2019

Present: Lynda Cooper (Chair)
Ewa Ziubryniewicz
Kelly Yeo
Olivia Gentile
Jo Carter
Alice Eeles
Jason Keenan (prospective Governor)

Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Jo Carter, no response from Frances Swan

Declaration of Business Interests

There were no declarations of business interest.

Alice noted that there has been a permanent exclusion at Bearnese. This is moving through to panel review, so no further details were discussed.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of 27/06/2019 were approved and signed by the Chair, Lynda Cooper.

2. Matters Arising

- .1 Sarah Clarke to investigate adding information on MASH referral to school websites. Vic Pooler (Academy Head Hennock) confirmed by email that she would look into this.
- .2 Lynda to investigate plans for funding and bids. Lynda confirmed that there were now plans for a funding and bid requests to be handled centrally by the MAT; recruitment is underway.
- .3 Lynda to confirm when core offer (pupil premium) is available on school websites. Confirmed for Bearnese. For Hennock the pupil premium report is on there; the core offer is not yet live (Vic would like to make it a bit more 'parent friendly' before it goes up).

3. Procedural

.1 Safeguarding

Bearnese: Tracey Clarke has now been made Senior Teacher for safeguarding and is handling parent liaison. Alice updated the LGB on an ongoing MASH referral. Original referral had been accepted and social worker assigned, although signed off due to lack of family engagement. As this was the reason for the request, Alice has made a complaint. Subsequent social worker support has been accessed through Early Help. Child is currently at Section 17 (Child in Need) but may move to Section 47 (Child Protection). Family are engaging with school, attendance is high and children are responding to support. **CHALLENGE** What is the support provision for this family, and could it be enhanced? Involvement from school counsellor, teaching assistant, all staff aware of situation and need to be vigilant.

CAP (Child Assault Prevention) workshops have been held. Ewa attended and reported they were well-delivered with good uptake (c.15 parents).

Hennock: one family is accessing an Early Help service to support them. Vic has also met with a separate family around accessing Early Help and this is in the pipeline. Olivia Gentile has gone on Level 3 safeguarding training and is now deputy safeguarding officer alongside Nikki Racey. As Academy Head, Vic is now the designated safeguarding officer. CAP workshops are running this week and this is already helping to support safeguarding from a child's perspective.

.2 SEN

Bearnes: Becky Hawling has now been appointed SENCO. She was working 1.5 days p/wk on this last term, which has dropped to 1 day this year (due to funding). BH has now secured 4 new EHCPs, 3 with funding. Alice is interviewing for a new TA on Monday based on this. Some of the families with EHCPs (and one without) are now looking at specialist provision, with support from the school. Alice noted that SENCO reporting is now being streamlined across the MAT, and that an academy-wide policy of starting all students with SEN on Wave 1 (rather than the SEN register) is now being adopted, in line with quality first teaching.

Hennock: we have received a funding increase for a child with an EHCP for the amount of £7000. A plan will be put into place with parents and school on how this will further support the child. Vic has updated the SEND register following on from the Academy's SENDCo meeting. Provision maps are in place and Vic is monitoring interventions and quality first teaching.

4. Strategic

ACTION Lynda to circulate minutes from Directors Standards and Curriculum meeting (18/09/19).

Bearnes (pupil numbers): Alice and Kelly flagged that pre-school numbers are low (although similar to this point last year). **CHALLENGE** What steps are in place to manage this risk? Alice and Kelly noted that marketing is taking place. **CHALLENGE** Was there marketing last year, and how is this year's approach going to be more effective? Last year there was a leaflet drop, this year the plan is to be more targeted (promotion via social media). Kelly is also planning to start a toddler group to provide a pipeline of pupils (this will run monthly after half-term; Ewa noted that it shouldn't be held on a Friday to avoid a direct clash with the Avenue church's popular group). **CHALLENGE** Are pupils leaving the pre-school (i.e. are there active departures that might indicate a problem with the provision)? No, families join and stay, the low numbers have more to do with birthdays (pupils can join the term after they turn three), and possibly competition from other local providers. **CHALLENGE** Would offering wrap-around care/accepting pupils from 2 years old improve numbers? Potentially, although Bearnes have recently lost a funding bid to offer this provision and don't have alternative funding in place.

Bearnes (SATs): maths results were disappointing, one child was pivotal to this. Alice noted that data on ASP was confusing as it refers to 6 sets of results only (8 pupils took the SATs). This is being investigated. **CHALLENGE** Is holiday/booster support in place for KS2 students? Not during holidays, although there is termly booster support provided by an HLTA/PGCE student. The next two years will be challenging for SATs results, although Early Years predictions are looking good: 80%+ are GLD. This is due to the cohort (lower SEN) but also the impact of preschool (the pupils have been within the Bearnes system before starting).

ACTION Early Years data on website does not tally with figures given by staff in meeting; Alice to investigate and confirm.

5. Governance

Lynda let the LGB know about Governor training opportunities available through Babcock, and the forthcoming Devon Association of Governors annual conference (we should have a Board representative at this; Lynda can't attend but Ewa may be able to). Lynda flagged that this is now a focus for the MAT and all training should be tracked centrally. **ACTION** Lynda to re-circulate training information; Ewa to confirm attendance at DAG conference.

6. Focused Visits

Lynda noted that she isn't able to undertake weekly visits this term due to work commitments. She will focus on meeting the Academy Heads to discuss the ASIP. Lynda encouraged other Governors to visit both schools, and flagged the focus for this term on PE and pupil premium grants (checking policy, paperwork on website & actions, including an evaluation of previous annual plan). Jason agreed to conduct a website review for Hennock and Ewa for Bearnes.

ACTION Lynda to forward guidelines/checklist for online review.

7. Dates of future meetings

- Next meeting date: Wednesday 18th December, 4pm, Hennock

Meeting closed 5.30pm