

St Catherine's Church of England School



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Chair of Governors – J Wonnacott

02/02/2021

Minutes Spring Term 1 – 2021 **Local Governing Board; St Catherine's Church of England School** **Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 1.30pm remotely via zoom**

1. Join Meeting

All participants had audio and video connection.

2. Welcome and Apologies

Present: James Wonnacott (Chair), Margaret Young, Libby Phillpotts, Pippa Warner (HoS), Louise Hussey (EHT)

Not Present: Brendan Maguire (Vice)

In Attendance: Toni Martin (Governance Officer)

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened with a prayer. He noted that Connie Smith had to resign due to moving back to America but in her absence thanked her for her support and noted that she will be missed.

3. Declarations of Interest Relevant to this Agenda

None.

4. Confirm Minutes of LGB last meeting (25th November 2020) and Matters Arising

- Complete SSS on-line safer recruitment training (JW, MY). **To be done C/F**
- CS – PPG review with LH in December (virtually) – *completed on 26 Nov 2020. Discussed some areas of PPG plan that have been put on hold because of school closures but work continues to be done to help disadvantaged children.*
- CS – SEND discussion with SENDCO (virtually) – *carried forward to Jan 2021 but will now not be completed as CS resigned.*
- BM – discussion with Head after half term regarding recovery provision (data) and impact (virtually) – *carry forward to 12 January 2021 at 1.30pm. Discussion included JW too. Data was limited, and the relevance of it was discussed because now lockdown may put children behind again. Some elements of the recovery programme are continuing in remote learning where possible and the focus is on core subjects.*
- MY – pupil voice meeting (via zoom if necessary). *A meeting was completed last term and **LH will arrange a pupil voice meeting for MY with key worker children before the next meeting (C/F).***
- JW – discussion with Head fortnightly, include discussion on recovery and impact. *Regular discussions taking place, next one due on 23rd February.*

LGB agreed minutes and a copy will be provided for the Chair to sign when normality resumes.

5. **Current Situation Update**

Weekly reviews and risk assessments provided to governors. Number of children in school at the moment is around 50-58 per day within 4 bubbles. Blended learning approach is going very well and all teachers carrying out live lessons every day. The engagement on Teams is increasing. Blended learning includes live lessons, recorded lessons and work set for the children; all done with the visible learning ethos. Different forms of feedback are given to children. LH gave some more detail about some of the provision and ways that workload can be reduced for teachers when using class dojo. Staff are meeting every Monday where safeguarding is discussed. Staff are very, very busy but morale is generally good and the staff are very supportive of each other which does help the staff to cope. LH discussed some of the issues when children don't engage with home learning. LH noted that although SIAMs inspections are on hold, there is much evidence to inform the SIAMs process at this time.

The governors discussed some initiatives and the provision. LH noted some of the mental health initiatives that are in place. **Is there a visible impact on children's mental health?** LH noted that there are some concerns and help is being given where it can be. **Given the strain on staff, we assume that formal monitoring is not taking place?** The governors discussed feedback to children, and LH noted that formal monitoring is not being done as this is considered unfair at this time. However, LH is looking at the provision and providing advice where necessary but confirmed she is witnessing high quality teaching so is not concerned. It was also noted that staff have high expectations with regard to standards of teaching.

Governors noted that the staff are doing a fantastic job and pass on their thanks to the staff. They also noted that the weekly updates are very useful.

6. **Future Plans**

Schools will not be open before 8th March. SATs and all external tests such as KS1 phonics and EYFS tests also cancelled. All assessments will be done internally.

Interviewing 2nd week in February for a post to cover maternity.

7. **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding concerns have been and continue to be dealt with. LH noted some general examples but did not give specific details of individuals. SCR up to date.

8. **NPQH Update**

LP updated the governors on her NPQH. She is working on metacognition and noted elements of her research including the links to visible learning. She noted the staff briefings and some lessons that have been implemented to trial aspects of this project. These lessons started in the Autumn term but they are not suitable for remote learning so this is on hold now. One of the biggest challenges is getting children to take feedback and then reflect and improve on their learning following the feedback. The governors acknowledged that this is fascinating work and although it is more difficult at this time, no doubt LP is seeing things that wouldn't normally be seen during the course of normal schooling. **How will you quantify improvement?** Data will be taken on children engagement but in future will be based on teacher assessment as formal assessments are cancelled.

9. **Policies**

None.

10. Any Other Business

Discussion took place on the recruitment of new governors; ideally 2 parent governors and 2 co-opted from the community. The use of SharePoint was explained.

11. DONM

Date of next meeting Thursday 11th March 2021 at 1.30pm via zoom

Meeting closed at 3pm.

TJH Martin

ADMAT Governance Officer

Distribution List:

J. Wonnacott – Chair/Foundation Governor

M. Young – Foundation Governor

B. Maguire – Vice Chair/Foundation governor

L. Phillpotts – Staff Governor

L. Hussey – St Catherine's Head Teacher

P. Warner – Head of School

W. Hermon – CEO

Trust Board