



Minutes of the meeting of the Curriculum committee on November 21st at 1.30pm

Present: Juliette Ash (chair), Sarah Awuye (head), Jo Reeder (assistant head), Zoe Banfield (assistant head), Elisabeth Jay (governor), Emma Compton-Burnett (governor), Katharine Wilson (governor & clerk).

1 Declarations of Interest

None.

2 Apologies and minutes

Apologies were received from Tom Albinson, who is moving on to a new post in the New Year. His replacement is unlikely to be in post before mid 2019.

The minutes of the meeting of 9th October were approved and are uploaded to the website..

Yvonne Pinner was warmly thanked for her many years of exceptional service as chair of the curriculum committee. E C-B was welcomed by the committee.

Action: The minutes of 9th October and 13th July will be signed off at FGB

3 Matters arising not on the agenda

The numbering system for the SDIP 18/19 was clarified. Meetings will reflect the SDIP priorities. While the tracking of the first three priorities is already covered by the **Governor Staff Links** policy, Priority 4: 'to ensure all staff are aspirational for all pupils and each other' will be tracked at curriculum committee and elsewhere. Priority 5: 'to develop middle leadership' will be directly linked to governors.

Action: JA to update the reporting rota with associated numbers and upload it to the GHub

4 SDIP for Curricom

Safeguarding

Nothing to report.

Pupil premium (see report)

How does pupil premium work?

Pupil premium is extra funding provided for children living in low income households, forces and looked after children. JR explained that owing to the unavailability of data, comparisons had to be made between end of Key stage 2 data for 2016-17 and whole school data for 2017-18. Objectives are based on the last academic year to be in line with Ofsted tracking.

How is the school doing in comparison to the rest of Oxfordshire?

Figures for pupil premium attainment are low throughout Oxfordshire. The difficulties of a dispersed cohort mean that figures are likely to be lower than e.g. London.

Strategies are in progress with particular regard to writing, nurture and parental engagement.

The setting up of 'The place to be' with Sarah Hiner has entailed a small overspend but is proving successful with all pupils.

After School Club is no longer funded for disadvantaged pupils except in exceptional circumstances, as there is no automatic impact on attainment. Club places are funded and SA will ensure that Sarah Hiner and parents are fully aware of this.

Action: SH to be updated by ZB/BS on free places/range of clubs available for PP children

Sport premium report

How has swimming provision changed?

Swimming provision has changed from all yr 3 and all yr 4 to a more focused provision in just year 4 in order to more closely target non-swimmers, so that everyone can swim by the end of the course. (Currently P & J at 85% of year 6's able to confidently swim 25m rather than National curriculum expectation of 100%). Additional KS2 staff have been trained to teach/support the swimming lessons that are held at the Ferry pool. Governors asked how can we get to 100% cover. The challenges of additional children joining after year 4 and classes being timetabled to swim together means it is not currently possible to offer even more sessions to non swimmers but this is being explored.

What is 'Maths of the Day'?

Active maths (e.g. maths hopscotch) is now being practised to encourage pupils. Governors praised this active approach.

Children have been retrained on playground apparatus skills, and the playground is now being zoned to ensure fairness of use, in particular of the astroturf. Current efforts are

being devoted to improving outdoor play opportunities for KS1. Congratulations to the staff on the expanded range of extra-curricular activities.

How is the Daily Mile being administered?

Pupils should be running the daily mile at least three times a week and Rob Miles is working with teachers to ensure consistency in particular across classrooms of the same year group but also amongst year groups.

Baseline data

Objectives based on last year's data and the school comes in above national expectations in most respects. Continued efforts with phonics and writing, especially with boys, disadvantaged pupils and those with special needs. Low figures in Year 3 reflect a change in the cohort.

EYFS – now achieving a good level of development. Managing feelings and behaviour remains challenging. Staff reported results were slightly different between the classes but they have been checked and moderated. The age banding system means that some summer born children may be faced with particularly high expectations.

Governors stressed the importance of being aspirational for all children, and of communicating expectations to parents. School will liaise with NACE, a charity which enhances the performance of able children.

Behaviour (and for learning)

Data moderated by ZB and Rob Miles. Common threads include boys fighting during playtime. Governors noted the correlation with one or two classrooms and this is being further explored.

How does the school deal with excluding behaviour?

Staff talk with pupils about how we care for each other. Teachers and teaching assistants are working together on actively managing the playground during breaks.

5 Policies for review

Alignment exercise:

Library and **Creative Arts** have been removed as these policies are now surplus to requirements. The **Dyslexia** policy will be absorbed into the **SEND** policy.

The **Equality** objectives are focussed on encouraging parental engagement, provision for disadvantaged pupils and transition for new pupils with English as an additional language. This remains a significant issue for the school, as there are a high proportion of pupils with

little or no English, and little additional help available. Governors expressed concern, and JA will bring the issue back to the committee later in the year.

Governors commended the simplified **Home-School Agreement**, but added that the common thread of our distinctive Christian values could be emphasised further in the section relating to the child. JR will amend accordingly, and also add in that homework should be acknowledged by staff.

Governor-Staff Links policy: see above for linking of governors to SDIP priorities. While these governors will undertake visits to school in addition to the Governor Open days, SA stressed that governors were also welcome to come in to discuss the subjects they were linked to.

Action: JA to add equality policy to a meeting later in the year.

6 AOB

Policies for discussion next calendar year: **Sport, Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions, Homework, Anti-Bullying, RE, SEND, PSHE, Handwriting.**

Date of next meeting

January 21st 2019.

The meeting closed at 3.05pm.