



ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL
celebrates life and learning



MINUTES OF GOVERNING BODY MEETING

HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2020 BY ZOOM

PRESENT: Mr. P. Owen Mrs. R Chambers Mrs. G. Geoghegan
 Mr. P. Glover Mr. A. Hurst Mrs. J. Rourke
 Mrs. F. Tiernan Mrs. N. Wylie

Clerk: Mrs. J. Ryan

1. Introduction and Welcome Prayer

The meeting began at 4.30pm with a prayer.

2. Apologies

Mrs. P. Talbot

Mrs. Knowles was absent, no apologies received.

3. Membership

Mrs. Chadwick's resignation was accepted. Jill Farrell, HBC, has been advised. There is a further vacancy for a foundation governor following Mrs. Sheridan's resignation.

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Items

No Pecuniary Interests were declared. Governors were reminded to complete and return the pecuniary interest form emailed on 11th September.

5. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Owen and Mrs. Rourke to continue in their roles as Chair and Vice Chair for a further year.

6. Agreement of Committee Membership and Designated Governors

Mrs. Tiernan explained the rationale behind the establishment of governor teams for subject areas. Governors confirmed they were happy with the team they had been paired with. It was agreed there would be a Standards Committee meeting in the spring term for governors to meet with their team.

TEAM	STEM	CREATIVE & HUMANITIES	SMSC / PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUBJECTS	Maths Science Design Technology Computing	English Art and Design Music History Geography PMFL	SEND RE PSHE PE Arts
SENIOR LEADER	Tony Hurst	Kate Woods Gill Geoghegan	Steph Lloyd-Green
SUBJECT LEADER	Jenny Wainwright Ashley Halliday Chloe Jones Vicky Faulkner Joanne Kaye	Megan Hayes Jasmine Joynson Peter Moss Dawn Barron	Annie McCann Kirsty France Ste Stalker Stuart Cooper
GOVERNORS	Phillip Glover Paul Owen Nina Wylie	Marisa Knowles Gill Geoghegan Rose Chambers	Claudine Ormesher Julie Rourke Paula Talbot

Designated roles and committees:

Name	Designated Role	Committee
Paul Owen	Chair Safeguarding, Safer recruitment trained	Finance/Resources, Pupil Support and Standards
Rose Chambers	Assessment	Standards
Gill Geoghegan	Pupil Premium	Standards
Phil Glover	Health and Safety	Finance/Resources
Mrs M Knowles		Pupil Support
Claudine Ormesher	Governor Training SEND	Finance/Resources
Julie Rourke	Vice Chair RE Mental Health/Wellbeing: staff	Finance/Resources Standards
Paula Talbot	Children in Care Mental Health/Wellbeing: pupils	Pupil Support
Faith Tiernan	Head Teacher Educational Visits	Finance/Resources Pupil Support

Name	Designated Role	Committee
	Mental Health/Wellbeing: staff	Standards
Vacancy (Foundation)		
Vacancy (LA)		
Mr. A. Hurst		Standards

7. Documentation

School Development Plan

Inspection feedback has been noted and taken on board things that need to be done. .

School Improvement Priorities

Action plans have been updated following a year of visible learning. Staff worked collaboratively to collate them. A governor described the wording as good.

Q: What does effect size 0.4 mean?

Mr. Hurst described how, within visible learning, there are tables of effect size to determine how effective a particular intervention is. For example, homework in primary schools has an effect size of 0.19 whereas it is 0.8 in secondary schools. 0.4 is the critical level. If the effect size is below 0.4 then the impact may not be worth the effort and it may be necessary to do something else.

Q: Who made that decision?

A: Worldwide research projects were collated into groups and the effect size was determined using a statistical calculation.

Governors were invited to attend the Visible Learning Foundation Day on Friday, 23rd October for staff.

Self Evaluation Summary

The format of the document now follows the inspection framework. Again, the inspection feedback has been taken on board.

Staff Handbook

Reviewed annually and is available for all staff so they are aware of school policies, procedures and responsibilities.

Covid-19 Risk Assessment

Governors agreed the document was very good and thorough. Mrs. Tiernan is exploring home learning and highlighted the barrier to digital learning for pupils without access to technology or wifi. She confirmed school is looking at becoming more digital but there would not be live online lessons due to safeguarding concerns. A governor explained that teachers in the secondary school talk over powerpoint presentations. It was agreed that parents have to sit and do the work with their children.

The first positive case occurred very quickly and books were hand-delivered the next day. The home learning packs provided during lockdown were praised by parents/carers.

Q: The RA says Y6 will go into different bubbles at the end of September. Will that now go ahead?

A: Not necessarily, now looking at after October half term but if there are more cases then definitely not but parents/carers are pushing for children to be taught in groups. However, if there was a positive case whole year groups would have to isolate.

Q: Will there be SATs tests this year?

A: The dates have been released however this year has demonstrated they are not needed. Staff have met to discuss if children are on target.

Action: Mrs. Tiernan to identify which pupils do not have access to home technology and explore Satchel home learning platform.

8. Safeguarding Policy

The policy was updated in the summer holidays by Mrs. Geoghegan and Mrs. Harrington. Changes are highlighted in yellow; sections updated include relationships education, domestic violence, substance misuse and mental health. Governors ratified the Safeguarding Policy.

Mrs. Tiernan advised that five children in Year 6 who, at some point have had a social worker, are eligible for Third Space catch up learning and that school was able to demonstrate that vulnerable children were checked on during lockdown. HBC have appointed a new Keeping Children Safe in Education Officer so safeguarding, including training, within the authority will improve.

Action: Policy and updated KCSiE documents to be published on school website.

9. Reporting and Recording of Racial Incidents

None. However, there had been incidents of bullying during lockdown when children had more access to technology eg Instagram and tiktok.

Q: Have you spoken to pupils about suicide on tiktok?

A: No, don't want children to be aware and look for it. Mr. Hurst dealt with one about pledging allegiance to Pakistan. School will target parents re online safety and arrange for Community Police Officer to deliver a session to parents re online safety.

10. Premises Update

Mrs. Tiernan advised that Mrs. Luter is working full-time but the increased cleaning will have budgetary implications.

The replacement fence works are still ongoing. Cunliffes have been advised of the school's dissatisfaction with the quality of the workmanship and the time the installation is taking.

Mrs. Ryan advised that emergency repairs had been carried out on two skylights following heavy rain. Contractors will assess them during October half-term. Governors requested that the cost per individual skylight be ascertained so a repair schedule can be agreed.

11. Headteacher Update

Standards

Children will be assessed; Mr. Hurst will use an algorithm to calculate levels using results from tests completed in January and March and predicted scores. He has looked at Year 6 to identify concerns and children not on target.

Visible learning is having a positive impact and Mr. Woodhouse is meeting Mrs. Woods to look at where English and phonics are.

Q: Is there a measurement to determine the percentage loss due to lockdown regression?

A: Not yet. Not all pupils have completed baseline tests but that will give an indication of any red flags.

Q: Is there a recovery curriculum to make sure you know where all children are?

A: The company Maths No Problem has gone through the whole scheme of work and identified key performance indicators of what can be put with something else. This greatly helps with planning.

A governor advised that the Archdiocese did not want the term 'catch up' to be used as children will have acquired other skills during these unprecedented times and there is a need to optimise every opportunity. There was a discussion about the effectiveness of home learning for some pupils compared to others and the need to lessen the gap. Mrs. Tiernan advised that this is evidenced in the Pupil Premium strategy. In addition, the Holiday Activity Fund programme specifically targeted passive children who adapted very well to being back in school.

Q: Has outside support been given to staff for their mental health and wellbeing?

A: It has been tough but we have a good team in school and staff support each other. We also have three mental health first aiders.

Q: Have children been offered support?

A: A letter was sent asking if there was anything significant, covid-related or not. However, children are only with their class teacher and TA and some are unable to see or play with friends in other classes. Children will be asked how they are feeling after being back in school for a few weeks.

Action: Mrs. Tiernan to ask all staff to complete a sociogram to identify which children are isolated because their friends are in other classes.

Admissions

Mrs. Tiernan advised there had been a collective grievance in another authority regarding admissions.

One child has left the school to be home-schooled. The decision was related to the teaching of relationships and sex education. Another has moved to Yorkshire. Both places were in Year 5 and have been filled by a child whose parents had unsuccessfully appealed when their application was declined and another who had returned to the area from Scotland and requested a place in August.

Mrs. Tiernan advised there are currently 82 children in Year 2 at St. Bede's Infants and she anticipated appeals when next year's offers are finalised. The successful appeals this year have impacted on lunches and bubbles and an 11th class has had to be created however there is no space for a 12th class next year. .

12. Governor Training

Governors were reminded that Entrust have emailed their training programme and to keep building on their skills.

Mrs. Rourke informed governors that there are changes to RSE this year. She offered to deliver training and advised that more parents may, as Catholics, question what is taught.

13. Governor Day

This will be postponed until the Spring term. Governors asked to think about what they would like to do.

14. Correspondence to the Chair of Governors/Chair's Action

None.

15. Date and Time of Clerked Termly Meetings

Wednesday, 18th November, 2020 at 4.00pm

Wednesday, 17th March, 2021 at 4.00pm

Wednesday, 23rd June, 2021 at 4.00pm.

Action: Mrs. Ryan to contact Entrust to determine if clerk can attend meetings in school or if they will be held by Zoom.