

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY PERFORMANCE AND STANDARDS MEETING HELD TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2020; COMMENCING AT 5.30 P.M. AT WHITESTONE INFANT SCHOOL, MAGYAR CRESCENT, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

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Present : Mrs. N. Green, Mr. C. Atkins, Mr. M. Hartopp, Mr. P. Johnson, Mr. D. Robinson, Mr. S. Shaw, Mrs. R. Warwick and Mr. P. Stokes.

In Attendance : Miss. J. Ivers (Deputy Head), Mrs. L. Knox (School Business Manager) and Miss. G. Matt (Clerk).

In The Chair – Mr. M. Hartopp.

Whitestone is now closed outside normal school hours. The performance and standards committee meeting was held over “Microsoft Teams”. All members declared that they were in a confidential environment for the duration of the meeting.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

The Chair, Mr. Hartopp welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs. H. Lewis, Mrs. P. Jones and Mr. G. Friswell.

2. Election of Chair.

In the Chair – The Clerk.

Mr. Hartopp. Proposed by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Shaw and agreed by the governors. There being no further nominations Mr. Hartopp was elected to serve as chair of the Performance and Standards committee for the academic year 2020/2021.

In the Chair – Mr. Hartopp.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 and Monday 22nd June 2020 were read, agreed and are to be signed at the next physical P&S meeting.

ACTION The School Business Manager (SBM) is presently chasing the issues of the poor condition of the outside temporary huts with the LA. Action completed. LA has allotted Whitestone £38,000 to have this work undertaken. Change the windows and skirting on the huts £20,000. Repair or replace the roof on the Reception outside classroom £18,000. Now waiting for quotes, prior to the work been undertaken. Action work completed on hut one.

ACTION After a discussion the governors agreed to hold an extra meeting in preparation for Ofsted to discuss how to track the data and the baseline trends for the past five years. Action on going. A tracking data group will meet on Tuesday 20th October 2020 to discuss the issues and report at a full GB meeting. Action completed.

ACTION The governors agreed to review the governor impact plan. Action on going. Mrs. Green to circulate to GB the last governor’s impact plan. Mrs. Green, Mr. Atkins, Mr. Hartopp and Mr. Johnson will meet on Wednesday 16th September 2020 to discuss. Action completed.

ACTION Mrs. Allen, Parent Support Advisor (PSA) and not Mrs. Johnson who is on maternity leave to share a report with governors at the full GB meeting on Tuesday 22nd September 2020. Action completed.

ACTION The GB agreed to Mrs. Green signing Whitestone up to the Significant Adult Provision scheme. Action completed.

ACTION Risk Assessment is to be amended and must be signed off by the GB and the LA. Action completed.

ACTION The Clerk will book Mr. Hartopp a place on the "PREVENT" online training course on Tuesday 7th July 2020; from 6.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. Action completed.

ACTION Mrs. Green will email the governing body meeting dates for 2020/2021 to the governors. Action completed.

At this point Mr. Atkins entered the meeting at 5.42 p.m.

4. Declaration of Interest.

Mr. Atkins declared an interest in items relating to Chetwynd Junior School, Eton College and the NGA.

Mr. Johnson declared an interest in items relating to Stockingford Academy.

5. Review LIP priorities from last year.

Mrs. Green reported that many priorities and actions have been achieved. There have been many successful outcomes. We must celebrate these regarding the difficulties of the past academic year due to Covid.

The governors thanked the staff for all their hard work and contribution into this report.

6. Review SSER.

Mrs. Green reported that the LIP and SSER work hand in hand together. There had been little change in the Ofsted categories this year from last year. Whitestone continues to have a strong SSER. There are concerns of providing PE under Covid. This is a working document that is regularly updated.

Governors enquired have many situations been revealed due to Covid and the many changes in school leaderships.

Mrs. Green replied that we try to move the objectives forward with secure judgements. The outcome impacted on pupils at home not undertaking home learning was evident. Pupils in these circumstances need parental support with home learning.

Governors enquired will there be a SSER Spring term 2021 update.

Mrs. Green replied yes and the update will provide details of how we have achieved progress from this term.

Governors held a discussion that resulted in the following action.

ACTION Governors agreed to form a SLT self-evaluation group with Mrs. Green to understand how to incorporate SSER into their role of governorship. To develop the Early Years link SLT.

The group would report at a full governing body meeting due to SSER being a document that all governors should have knowledge, especially relating to an Ofsted inspection. Ofsted would challenge Governors by asking questions relating to this document.

7. Agreed LIP priorities for this year.

The agreed LIP priorities for this year are – Catch Up and Recovery Plan re Covid, Develop Blended Learning and Support staff and pupils under Covid.

Teachers are working hard to support pupils with catch up under Covid lockdown. In Autumn 1, rapid progress was made in Read, Write, Inc (RWI). In Autumn 2, many pupils have been absent with progress scaled back. There have been many interventions.

Governors enquired regarding the present situation in school.

Mrs. Green replied that one bubble returned to school, with a further two bubbles going off to isolate. Some isolating pupils have contact with families. Two bubbles have been absent twice. Class 10 will return on Monday 14th December 2020 and Class 8 will return on Wednesday 16th December 2020. Both these classes will receive extra intervention if required. The success is that Whitestone has remained open, although staffing has been stretched. TAs are moved on a weekly basis to where their skills are best used to support pupils' thorough out the school. It is a fluid situation.

Blended Learning. With remote learning, paper packs are used. Blended learning has been a huge learning curve for Whitestone. Not all homes have laptops for individual pupils to use. Pupils need the support of an adult when learning from home. There is home access to video lessons, provided by Whitestone; pupils could share these with their parents at the weekend. To upskill blended learning, we will enhance home learning with a workshop for parents.

In January 2021, there will be a "Remote Learning" Inset day for enhancing all staff skills.

There have been six Operation Encompass alerts during this term from lockdown. These include police involvement with domestic abuse and violence. At Whitestone, we contact all isolating pupils to focus on supporting them under the circumstances.

Governors enquired who supports these isolating pupils.

Mrs. Green replied that staff and TAs make contact. Mrs. Mathieson arranges virtual meetings.

Mrs. Green stated that home paper pack work is hard for pupils to undertake with the lack of social interactions.

There will need to alternative arrangements in place instead of the normal live Governor Day, originally scheduled for January 2021.

Governors stated that they could observe updates of folder progress via photographs.

8. Agree Curriculum Plans.

The governors discussed and agreed the curriculum plans that are on the school website.

ACTION The governors discussed and agreed the curriculum plans that are on the school website.

9. Website Updates.

All up dates regarding the recovery progress made to date regarding lockdown are now on the school's website. The long term planning aim is virtual tours and blended learning.

Governors enquired how the Cultural Capital was been delivered now that school trips have been cancelled.

Mrs. Green replied that the Cultural Capital has gone virtual; e.g. a tour of art galleries. Whitestone is having a virtual pantomime next week. The Vicar from Holy Trinity Church, Attleborough has delivered a virtual assembly to the pupils.

We are looking forward to the Summer term 2021 when hopefully live educational visits will take place.

Plan A and B is to mix intervention year pupils ONLY when safety issues allow. To commence fitness clubs at lunchtime in the Summer term 2021. These are positive plans to meet our statutory duties.

Mrs. Green thanked Mr. Robinson for updating items on the website, who had attended a LA course on this topic.

Governors enquired how many visits had been made to the school's website.

Mrs. Green replied that the school's website has received over 44,000.

Mrs. Green reported that a nomination have been received for the Parent governor vacancy.

10 Behaviour For Learning Policy.

Mrs. Green reported that Behaviour for Learning Policy was is a draft form and will be presented when in final format to governors.

Mrs. Green reported that the government had stated that Friday 18th December 2020, the last day of term could be used as an Inset Day. The school would be closed to all pupils. This Inset Day would replace a future Inset day for which the topic and speaker had already been booked. The parents have been given notice of future Inset dates to allow for childcare arrangements etc. The LA will send a letter out to all schools later on this week.

At this point Mr. Atkins left the meeting at 6.30 p.m.

Governors asked Mrs. Green for her opinion on the situation.

Mrs. Green replied that there was not enough notice given, future Inset days were already planned. Parents would have problems in arranging childcare provision and work would have to be sent home to all isolating pupils. It was a non-goer.

Governors were in agreement with Mrs. Green.

Miss. Ivers gave a presentation on measuring the impact of Covid-19 on pupil outcomes. There is much data on Governor Hub.

Autumn Term. Pupils in Year 1 and Year 2, reading not as strong as expected. RWI used for support. Reading has the biggest outcome going forward.

Spring term 2020 to Autumn term 2020. There has been a dip this term in PP and non-PP reading and writing. PP showing a dip in maths. We are tracking progress data across reading, writing and maths. Year 1 and Year 2 progress more than expected, strong. This might not be age related.

PP making good progress in “narrowing the gap” in reading.

There had been lots of disruption during 2020 and Covid has been a big impact on learning. This has been identified for making progress. The data will be updated in Spring term 2021; there are ongoing issues for staff when planning.

Governors enquired were the PP figures lower than expected in correlation with pupils not doing home learning.

Miss. Ivers replied this is variable.

Governors enquired why PP are not performing.

Miss Ivers replied that national figures report that social and demographic factors are a major factor. “Narrowing the gap” has many complex issues often based on the individual pupils learning circumstances.

Mrs. Green stated that school absence rates were higher amongst PP pupils and is an issue that impacts on their education development.

Governor thanked Miss. Ivers for her easy to follow data graphs and presentation.

11. Governor Training/Visits.

There was no governor training or visits to report.

12. Correspondence.

The Clerk has emailed the Governors Information from the L.A.

13. Any Other Business.

There was no any other business.

14. Dates of next meetings.

Governor Day – Monday 11th January 2021 (postponed due to restrictios)

Governing Body – Tuesday 26th January 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m.

Performance and Standards – Tuesday 2nd March 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

FRSC – Tuesday 30th March 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Governing Body – Tuesday 18th May 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m.

Performance and Standards – Tuesday 22nd June 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Pay Committee – Tuesday 6th July 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

FRSC – Tuesday 13th July 2021; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.05 p.m.

Date Signed

(Chair)