

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY PERFORMANCE AND STANDARDS MEETING HELD TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2023; COMMENCING AT 5.30 P.M. AT WHITESTONE INFANT SCHOOL, MAGYAR CRESCENT, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

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

In The Chair – Mr. S. Shaw.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

Mr. Shaw, the chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs. F. Chadaway.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 8th November 2022 were read, agreed and signed by the Chair.

ACTION After a discussion, it was agreed that Mrs. Green with parent governors review the Newsletter status. Parents would receive email newsletters and paper copies only by request. GB suggested that a parents' noticeboard place on the playground. Action completed.

No governors had attended the "Sleep Workshop".

There were no matters arising.

3. Declaration of Interest.

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

Mr. Johnson declared an interest in items relating to Stockingford Academy, Nursery Hill Primary School and Trustee of Nuneaton Foodbank.

Mrs. Burdett declared an interested in items relating to Holy Spirit MAT.

4. Headteacher's Verbal Report.

Mrs. Green presented her verbal report.

At the start of this term, Mrs. Dixon, TA commenced at Whitestone. She is undertaking 1:1 and has received a full induction in to Whitestone.

The Caretaker leaves Whitestone at the end of January 2023. The post had been advertised and the closing date extended until 31st January 2023, allowing for further applications. Agency staff will cover the gap until a new Caretaker is appointed, but this is expensive.

Alternatively, we could appoint a Key Holder to lock and unlock the school. This would involve rearranging the cleaning duties.

A handy person would still be required to undertake maintenance duties. **Governors suggested that the post be advertised on Whitestone Community Forum Facebook.**

ACTION Governors suggested that the post of Caretaker be advertised on Whitestone Community Forum Facebook.

There have been two Child In Need cases and one Encompass Alert Case.

Mrs. Green had attended a serious case review of Safeguarding meeting. The main aim was that the agencies involved worked better together.

A governor stated that it is important that Early Help intervention is given to support families as soon as possible to prevent the case going further along the line and involving external agencies. GPs hold the most information at reviews.

Whitestone undertakes to support pupils with long terms of absence. This term forty-three letters have been sent out parents regarding absence. Communication is also made with parents via text and telephone calls. The outcome of poor attendance is reflected and effects lack of pupil progress.

Governors stated there are further sanctions for absence that could be taken, but Whitestone has never undertaken this procedure.

Safer Recruitment Training. Miss. Ivers (DH & DSL), Mrs. Green (DSL & Designated Teacher for CLA) and Mr. Johnson (Safeguarding Governor) are to undertake this training again as a refresher. Mrs. Burdett will undertake this at her own school.

There has been much pupil movement this term of leavers and starters. We now have the correct pupil numbers in Reception.

5. Review SSER and LIP data.

Whitestone judgement is 1/2 quality of education, 1/1 for personal development, 1/1 behaviour and attitudes and 1/2 Leadership and management.

Governors enquired on what decisions were the judgements based. Mrs. Green replied at the governor away day we explored many of the Ofsted judgement areas and explained reasoning behind each of the judgements. Prior to this Miss Ivers & Mrs Green consider the Ofsted criteria, the School Development Framework and progress against our LIP, as well as any other external reviews. To keep quality and ethos of the school "The Whitestone Way", of why we do this way or try another way to move the school on. If the school received any comments, we try to sort things out immediately.

A governor stated that this shows impact on what pupils say and asked would Ofsted talk to pupils. Mrs. Green replied that Ofsted do not allow staff to be in the room when they talk pupils during in an Inspection.

At the subject leadership meeting on 16th January 2023, Miss. Ivers had talked about Writing.

LIP same status is the same as last year. Attainment and more levelling up are the expectations of whole school. There will be a follow up book trawl next term. Learning walks with Miss. Ivers and Mrs. Green looking at writing for impact and a school walk.

Year 1, work on a two weeks cycle and over a number of days intensive teaching with emphasis on spelling, grammar and looking at writing for impact takes place.

Miss. Ivers meets with Mrs. Kilburn every week regarding work on spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Year 2, the new expensive hand writing books have had a great impact on pupils' handwriting. Intervention is put in place based on handwriting data. There is a big focus on writing this academic year.

Maths workshops are attended by staff to move the school forward. There are also whole school training sessions.

Maths interventions are having a positive impact. In maths more challenging activities and embedded approach have been introduced. Everyone works in the same direction. There will be a maths audit later in this term. At Whitestone we talk about how we learn best.

Mental health and wellbeing, there has been training with Mental Health Leader. Mr. Stokes, Mental Health governor is supporting Whitestone in this area.

Staff Prevent Training on Monday 23rd January at 3.30 p.m. Governors are invited to attend. Mr. Hartopp is the Prevent governor.

Mrs. Green is the Mental Health Lead Practitioner.

6. Current Pupil Progress and Attainment.

Mrs. Green reported that she pleased with progress made this term across the whole school.

Governors remarked that the data information was easy to follow.

A governor stated that with PP progress that there was still a gap, also between girls and boys. Mrs. Green replied that every academic year the cohorts are different. Although there is attainment, progress is the main factor. At Whitestone, all pupils get the individual support that they require. Mrs. Green would send all governors a copy of the video "Race for Life", which covers this topic.

A governor enquired when would the PP pupils catch up and would any bench marking show this. When Miss. Ivers had undertaken a PP review. Not all pupils at age related are making progress and we must look at how this can be addressed. Mrs. Green stated that we must look at all the barriers and there are many ways to approach this. Parent support plays a vital part in this.

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

A governor stated it would be interesting to observe progress that Whitestone pupils have made at Chetwynd. It would be a good underpin to support our work for Ofsted. Mrs. Green had a copy of all the data for Warwickshire schools and would bring this along to a future meeting.

ACTION Mrs. Green had a copy of all the data for Warwickshire schools and would bring this along to a future meeting.

In cases where pupils are not making progress and intervention is not successful, the situation is reviewed. There are robust targets, with more focus on writing this year.

SEND 92% of pupils made at least expected progress.

Governors enquired what was being undertaken to address the gender gap. Mrs. Green replied there is an action plan for Early Years. Miss. Ivers stated "O" track would be used.

7. Review Effectiveness of Pupil Premium.

Review effectiveness of Pupil Premium data would be available at the next P&S meeting.

Read, Write, Inc (RWI) was used to catch up in Phonics pre Covid. There is TA 1:1 tuition, focus on lowest 10% of pupils, 10 pupils and 8 working below expectation. We look at the cost per pupil.

In Year 1 - high impact. Year 2 - PP made accelerated in RWI. Pupils targeted with before and after school clubs. There would be a trial of breakfast clubs regarding the take up numbers.

Staff are undertaking 1: 1 interview with pupils.

8. Policies.

Staff Behaviour Policy. After a discussion, the governors agreed this policy. The Staff Behaviour Policy was then signed off and dated by the chair.

Governors Code of Conduct Policy (NGA). After a discussion, the governors agreed this policy. Governors Code of Conduct Policy (NGA) was then signed off and dated by the chair.

Attendance Policy. After a discussion, the governors agreed this policy. Attendance Policy was then sent to Mr. Johnson (Attendance governor) to sign off and date.

ACTION Mr. Johnson (Attendance governor) would give an Attendance report at the next full GB meeting.

9. Correspondence.

The Clerk has emailed the Governors Information from the LA.

10. Any Other Business.

The chair asked Mrs. Green the situation regarding the forthcoming teacher strikes and the effect on Whitestone.

Mrs. Green reported that the strikes dates were, Wednesday 1st February 2023, Wednesday 1st March 2023, Wednesday 15th March 2023 and Thursday 16th March 2023. Five teachers could be involved.

Striking staff are not paid; they do not have to tell Mrs. Green if asked they are striking if asked.

There has been no directive from the LA.

Mrs. Green would try to inform parents of the situation at the end of this week.

In the case of partial school closure vulnerable pupils and keyworkers children would be allowed to attend.

Governors discussed the situation.

The final decision to open or close the school lies with the Head.

14. Dates of next meetings.

Governor Day – Tuesday 7th February 2023 – All Day.

Governing Body – Tuesday 28th February 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m.

FRSC – Tuesday 28th March 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Governing Body – Tuesday 16th May 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m.

Performance and Standards – Tuesday 27th June 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Pay Committee – Tuesday 4th July 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

FRSC – Tuesday 11th July 2023; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.

Date Signed

(Chair)