

FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING

TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7PM

Membership

Name	Type	Attendance
Alison Vaughan	Co-Opted Governor Chair of Governors	Attended
Helen Walsh	Parent Governor Co-Vice-Chair of Governors	Attended
Dianne Bluemink	Co-opted Governor Co-Vice-Chair of Governors	Attended
Paul Beale	Parent Governor	<i>Apologies</i>
Katy Jackson	Parent Governor	Attended
Rebecca Goldberg	Parent Governor	Attended
Kay Carter	Parent Governor	Attended
Lucia Glynn	Co-opted Governor	Attended
Mike Greenwood	Co-opted Governor	Attended
Emel Ali	Co-opted Governor	Attended
Samantha Perkins	Co-opted Governor	Attended
Oliver Beach	Co-Opted Governor	<i>Apologies</i>
Claire Weir	Local Authority Governor	Attended
Shane Claridge	Staff Governor	Attended
Adrian Hall	Headteacher	Attended

Also in attendance:

Maria Panayiotou –Deputy Headteacher

Hannah Cleary – Clerk

Minutes (For the action log, see Appendix 1 attached to the minutes)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received and accepted from Paul Beale and Oliver Beach.

2. Subject Lead Presentations

- 2.1 The Governing Body received three presentations; Maths SATs analysis 2015/16, English Attainment 2015/16, and Inclusion Data Analysis 2016.
- 2.2 Cameron Taylor (Maths Lead) and Sarah Snead (EYFS Lead) presented the Maths SATs analysis 2015/16.
- 2.3 KS1: maths results for KS1 were strong in light of the changes to the new curriculum. Just as significant were the levels of progress made by pupils, with all children making significant progress. All children not achieving age related expectations were already taking part in interventions to diminish the difference by targeting gaps in their learning.
- 2.4 KS1: maths results: of the seven disadvantaged pupils who completed year 2 (current year 3), three had not met age related expectations, with one of these children being on the SEND register. The progress and attainment for all seven children was being closely monitored and tracked through the new maths tracking system and interventions were already in place to diminish the difference.
- 2.5 KS2: maths results were strong; demonstrating the effectiveness of the systems already in place. Most impressive was the value added to each pupil that evidenced robust progress (5%). The main challenge would be maintaining these high standards.
- 2.6 KS2: maths results: of the three disadvantaged pupils in year 6, all achieved age related expectations. Average scaled scores across all year groups were above the national level.
- 2.7 Cameron Taylor and Sarah Snead detailed the actions being taken in light of the results across EYFS, KS1 and KS2, including support for children not achieving the expected standards and increasing mastery and in depth learning across the spectrum of all abilities.
- 2.8 Kate Getley (English Lead) presented the English attainment 2015/16 analysis.
- 2.9 KS1: English attainment was strong despite the changes to the curriculum; with particular strengths in comparison to Local Authority and national averages. The results placed the school in the London Top Quartile (TQ) for Reading (TQ 78%/Rhodes Avenue 91%); and Writing (TQ 74.5%/Rhodes Avenue 86%).
- 2.10 Kate Getley described the actions being taken in response to the English results for KS1 which included interventions for children not achieving age related expectations, adapting teaching approaches to reading, a new spelling scheme and core texts to drive improvements in writing.
- 2.11 KS2: English attainment was very strong despite the changes to the curriculum; with particular strengths in comparison to Local Authority and national averages. The main challenge for the future was to maintain and increase attainment in 2016/17. The English assessments had been subjected to a robust and rigorous external moderation exercise that had confirmed the high levels of attainment.
- 2.12 English attainment between boys and girls was within a 5% difference for reading and writing, at or above expected. There was a reverse trend in greater depth: Reading (boys: 56%, girls 51%), and writing (boys 36%, girls 54%). Measures had already been introduced to narrow the gap, particularly in writing.
- 2.13 Kate Getley detailed the actions being taken in response to the English results for KS2, which included continued preparation for assessments, embedding the use of quality core texts to drive comprehension and speaking/listening/reading/writing skills and the implementation of handwriting, and spelling and grammar schemes across the school.
- 2.14 Emily Gazzard (Inclusion Manager) presented the Inclusion Data Analysis, which set out the attainment and progress for vulnerable groups which included children with

SEND needs, English as an Additional Language; and pupils entitled to Pupil Premium funding.

2.15 Governors raised a number of questions:

Q: What is the percentage of children eligible for Pupil Premium that also have SEND?

A: This varies across each year group; in the current year 2 there are 5 children with combined SEND, English as an Additional Language and who are entitled to Pupil Premium.

Q: Is the good practice at Rhodes Avenue being shared with other local schools?

A: Rhodes Avenue is part of the Network Learning Community that provides peer support and shares good practice with other schools. Rhodes Avenue teaching staff also undertake moderation activity for the Local Authority.

Q: Is there any comparable local school data available?

A: Efforts were made to collect comparable local data from other schools but there was insufficient data available to make any meaningful comparisons. Local school data isn't available from the Local Authority.

Q: How were the new maths assessment tests chosen?

A: The new maths assessment tests were selected on the basis that they were the most appropriate and could be used to support individuals in conjunction with the new tracking system, as well as providing mastery and in-depth opportunities. Whilst implementing the new assessment tracking system had required an investment of time initially; it was invaluable and enabled tailored support to be provided to every pupil, highlighting gaps in skill and knowledge that required intervention.

Q: What changes are being made to the approach to teaching reading?

A: A parent/carer information evening had been arranged in December 2016 to provide parents with information on the new approach, which would move away from guided reading groups and put the focus onto decoding, inference and comprehension skills. Interventions would provide the opportunity to access higher level texts that would also support development of the same skill sets.

Governors all expressed many thanks to all staff for their efforts in achieving such strong and impressive results across the school and were very pleased with the attainment and progress being made by all children.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no new declarations of interest.

4. Late items and order of business

4.1 There was one late item of business.

4.2 The Governing Body were extremely pleased to note that following the nomination they had submitted, the Chair had been shortlisted for Local Authority Governor of the Year.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

- 5.1 The minutes of the last meeting that took place on 20 September 2016 were **approved** as a true record and signed by the Chair.
- 5.2 The action log was reviewed. All actions had been completed or satisfactorily progressed.

6. Chair's Report

- 6.1 The Governing Body **agreed** to appoint Oliver Beach as the Lead STEM Governor, following a request from the Local Authority to give consideration to such an appointment.
- 6.2 The Governing Body **agreed** to appoint Helen Walsh as the Lead Governor for Assessment.
- 6.3 The Governing Body **agreed** to appoint Kay Carter as the Lead Governor for Inclusion.
- 6.4 The Governing Body discussed whether Governors could join meetings via Skype, or other remote communications channels. Due to the insecure nature of such connections the Governing Body **agreed** that such remote meeting arrangements were unsuitable.
- 6.5 The Chair highlighted the annual Governor's events that had been arranged in previous years for parents. Governors **agreed** that the arrangement of such an event should be discussed further by the Communications Committee at its' next meeting.
- 6.6 The Chair was pleased to advise that the Headteacher's performance review had been completed in October 2016. All targets from the previous year had been met, with new 2016/17 targets set. The Governing Body expressed their thanks to the Headteacher for his continued hard work and efforts that were providing demonstrable improvements as evidenced in the attainment and progress being made by all children in the school.

7. Headteacher's Report

- 7.1 The Headteacher presented the report as circulated with the agenda.
- 7.2 The report provided information on the current numbers on roll, an update on staffing including new appointments (2 new SMSAs), safeguarding, premises, behaviour and exclusions, attainment and progress, parent/carer engagement and significant school dates.
- 7.3 The Headteacher was very pleased with the attainment and progress across all year groups in 2015/16 (see item 2), although it would be important to continue to monitor the year 5 cohort closely due to that year group containing the highest number of SEND and PP pupils, as well as previous lower average attainment in KS1.
- 7.4 The parent consultation dates for 2017/18 would be advertised to parents early in the summer 2017 term in order to provide as much notice as possible, and in response to parental feedback.
- 7.5 A number of Governors **agreed** to attend and support the upcoming parent consultation sessions over 16 and 17 November.
- 7.6 The Governing Body reviewed and agreed the School Development Plan 2016/17. The Headteacher advised that future reports would include updates on progress against the School Development Plan priorities.

8. Future of the School Working Group

- 8.1 Governors **agreed** that a meeting of the working group would be arranged for 22 November 2016 at 4pm in the Headteacher's office.

9. SEND

9.1 The Governing Body noted the SEND report circulated with the agenda.

10. Reports from Committees and Lead Governors

10.1 The Chair of the Premises and Health and Safety Committee updated Governors in respect of the ongoing overheating issues. The Chair would shortly be writing to the Local Authority to express concern at the length of time being taken to resolve the issues.

10.2 The Chair of the Resources Committee confirmed that the Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation had been circulated; these were **agreed** and signed by the Chair of Governors.

10.3 The Chair of the Curriculum Committee provided an update from the last meeting and confirmed that the minutes had been circulated to all Governors.

10.4 The Chair of the Communications Committee advised Governors that the new website had been reviewed at the last meeting and was looking very encouraging. In addition, the school had been approached by a number of businesses wishing to advertise their services at school events. The Governing Body **agreed** that this was not appropriate and the current policy prohibiting this activity should remain in place.

10.5 The Lead Governor for Safeguarding confirmed that there were no current issues.

10.6 The Lead Governor for ICT provided an update on the new school website and feedback given to the designer. Future updates would continue to be considered by the Communications Committee.

10.7 The Lead Governor for Inclusion advised that they had met with the school's Inclusion Manager to discuss attainment in early November 2016.

10.8 The Link Governor reminded Governors how to locate and access available training opportunities.

10.9 Governors discussed the possibility to arrange a group training session on school finance/budgets. This would be discussed again at the next meeting.

10.10 The Link Governor advised that a date would be arranged for new Governors to receive assessment training.

11. Policies

11.1 The Governing Body **approved** the following policies:

11.2 Data Protection Policy

11.3 Freedom of Information Policy

11.4 Health and Safety Policy

11.5 Managing Allegations Against Other Children (Local Authority Policy)

11.6 Helen Walsh and Claire Weir **agreed** to provide some wording to inform parents of the purposes of the Managing Allegations Against Other Children to Shane Claridge. This information would be uploaded on the school's website.

12. Governors Visits

12.1 The Chair explained that Governors should try and visit the school at least twice per academic year.

12.2 Such visits should be arranged in advance with details given of the nature of the visit; these details should also be provided to the Link Governor.

12.3 Dianne Bluemink advised that she had recently visited the nursery to undertake a monitoring visit. There were no issues to report.

12.4 The Chair advised that a monitoring visit to observe inclusion had been arranged for the end of November 2016. Kay Carter indicated that she would likely join this visit.

13. Governor Training

13.1 Governors had been asked to consider suitable topics for group training sessions to be delivered later in the academic year and had identified school finance/budgets as a potential topic (see minute 10.9).

13.2 Recently appointed Governors would be offered assessment training (see minute 10.10).

14. Possible Items for Future Agendas

14.1 The Governing Body discussed the potential to invite Tim Coulson to the 28 March 2017 meeting. Lucia Glynn **agreed** to find out if Mr Coulson was available.

15. Dates of Future meetings 2016/17

15.1 The Governing Body **agreed** the following dates:

Meeting	Date	Time
Future of the School Working Group	22 November 2016	4pm
Communications Committee	9 January 2017	6.30pm
Curriculum Committee	12 January 2017	6.30pm
Resources Committee Premises and Health and Safety Committee	13 January 2017	8.30am onwards
Full Governing Body	17 January 2017	7pm
Resources Committee Premises and Health and Safety Committee	24 March 2017	8.30am onwards
Full Governing Body	28 March 2017	7pm
Resources Committee Premises and Health and Safety Committee	5 May 2017	8.30am onwards
Full Governing Body	9 May 2017	7pm
Resources Committee Premises and Health and Safety Committee	7 July 2017	8.30am onwards
Full Governing Body	11 July 2017	7pm

15.2 There were no Part 2 items of business.

The meeting concluded at 9.25pm.

Appendix 1 – Action Log

Date added	Item	Owner	Date for next review
15/11/2016	Possibility to arrange a future annual Governor's event to be discussed by the Communications Committee at its' next meeting.	Communications Committee	17 January 2017
15/11/2016	Helen Walsh and Claire Weir to provide wording to inform parents of the purposes of the Managing Allegations Against Other Children to Shane Claridge.	Helen Walsh/Claire Weir	17 January 2017
15/11/2016	Lucia Glynn to find out if Mr Coulson available to attend 28 March 2017 FGB meeting.	Lucia Glynn	17 January 2017