



KENTISH TOWN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL (CAMDEN)

**PUBLIC MINUTES
FULL MEETING OF THE BOARD
25TH NOVEMBER 2021 at 5.30PM**

In attendance:

| Governor Role | | Name | Present |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Foundation Governors (7): | | | |
| Ex Officio (1) | | Father Guy Willis | ✓ |
| LDBS (2) | | Colin Reader, Chair | ✓ |
| | | Shirley Skrentny | ✓ |
| PCC (2) | | Fan Yeung | ✓ |
| | | Rachel Wrangham | ✓ |
| Deanery Synod (2) | | Tom Dumbell | ✓ |
| | | Nigel Palmer | X |
| Non Foundation Governors (5) | | | |
| Staff (2): | Head Teacher (1) | James Humphries | ✓ |
| | Teaching Staff (1) | Karen Trussler | X |
| Parent Elected Governor | | Ellie Besley-Gould | ✓ |
| | | Graeme Caul | ✓ |
| Local Authority (LA) (1) | | Fiona Lovering | ✓ |
| Associate Members (2) | | | |
| Deputy Head Teacher | | Grant Jacobson | X |
| Support staff member | | Sarah Haag | X |
| | | Emma Benham | ✓ |
| | | Miriam Nadarajah | X |
| Others Present (1) | | | |
| Clerk: | | Pamela Ansley | ✓ |
| Observer: | | Rachel Davies | ✓ |

| | PART 1 – PUBLIC ITEMS | Actions/ Date |
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| 1 | Welcome, Introductions and Opening Prayer | |
| | The Chair formally welcomed Ellie to the Governing Board and Father Guy then opened in prayer. | |

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| 2 | Apologies for absence | |
| | Father Nigel, Grant, Sarah and Karen all sent their apologies. | |
| 3 | Helen Ridding, LDBS – Ofsted | |
| | <p>Helen Ridding outlined the Education Inspection Framework. Her presentation is attached.</p> <p>Helen outlined the two types of inspection that would happen in the event that we were inspected. A Section 5 or a Section 8.</p> <p>She advised that there will be no grading and the school would remain outstanding and the subsequent inspection would be a Section 5 inspection in a 1-2 years' time if KTS is no longer deemed to be outstanding. If there were serious concerns eg safeguarding, the section 8 inspection would automatically convert to a section 5 inspection.</p> <p>The following queries were raised.</p> <p>GQ: How can school remain outstanding when they are dealing with a new curriculum? Helen reiterated that so long as the school was doing everything they needed to be doing the school would stay the same as before unless a Section 5 was triggered due to a safeguarding concern.</p> <p>Helen advised that the judgment areas have changed.</p> <p>Governors were also encouraged to ensure that they know as much about the school as possible beginning with the vision, the strapline etc.</p> <p>Helen advised the Governors the process that would happen when the school received the phone call. There would be a lengthy discussion with the headteacher and the inspection would happen the next day.</p> <p>GQ: With regard to the point of "Leaders ensuring that children complete their programs of study" - what happens when they are leaving the class every day for additional phonics -.how do we ensure that this happens? Helen advised that by making sure what they miss when they leave the classroom, is followed up in subsequent lessons, and that they know their key knowledge of the subject this would be fine.</p> <p>GQ: Is there a different definition for disadvantaged children rather than just FSM children? Helen advised that they could all be grouped under the heading of vulnerable.</p> <p>The presentation ended and Helen was thanked for her attendance.</p> <p>Fiona, Rachel and Helen at this point left the meeting.</p> | |
| 4 | Minutes of the Previous meeting and matters arising | |
| | The minutes of the meeting were agreed with the amendment of paragraph 14 to read "may place considerable additional pressure on schools". | Action: Minutes of the meeting where agreed. |
| 5 | Reaction to falling pupil numbers | |

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| | FGB. | |
| 6 | Camden Education Strategy | |
| | <p>This document was also attached to these minutes. James ran through a few key elements of the presentation and drew everyone's attention particularly to the Entitlement Pledge. James advised Governors that this was very difficult to achieve for our SEN children as they could not access all of this without the funding to make it happen.</p> <p>GC: Does this not place an unreasonable burden on headteachers? Do we want to reply to this strategy individually or jointly? This was discussed and the Strategy would be circulated as it had the link for Governors to follow to do this. Rachel agreed to draft one to be sent on behalf of all Governors. She would send this to James and Governors for approval.</p> | Action: Rachel to draft a joint response. |
| 7 | Finance Update | |
| | Colin advised that there was nothing to report. We were exactly where we thought we would be at this point in the year. | |
| 8 | Questions relating to the Head's Report | |
| | <p>GQ: Training – there was nothing in the report about staff training? James advised that Grant and himself were enrolled on training for Race Identity and School Leadership and advised that a detailed list of staff training is always laid out in the Spring and Summer Heads Reports.</p> <p>GQ: With regard to Quality and Inspection – is there a crib sheet that Governors could have? James advised that there is lots of information about the school on the Governors Summary Presentation document presented to the last meeting and advised that he would produce a crib sheet for the 4 spotlights as set out in Helen Ridding's presentation.</p> <p>GQ: Are we combining the PP grant with the catch up funding to maximise results? James advised that we were doing this and these are also being used for arts and enrichment. Every class was now receiving some form of catch up provision and all tutors have been chosen by us.</p> <p>GQ: Under the heading of reading “the EBI of lowest 20% of pupils reading books matched their phonic attainment” – what does this mean? Emma advised that the children needed to be taught through phonetically decodable books. Emma explained that children also needed another book for them to read that was not phonetically decodable for enrichment purposes.</p> <p>GQ: What is the plan for those not reaching the threshold? Emma advised that in July the percentage was 35%. The strategy is that daily phonics revision will be taught for 6/8 weeks for gap filling purposes and catch up sessions. Emma is reassessing all the children now and after Christmas those who have not reached the threshold will continue with the sessions until July next year. Current assessments suggest 70% plus of the children in Y2 will meet standard in the phonic threshold test.</p> <p>GQ: Writing – provision is good but there is some spelling/punctuation that is not automatic. What are we doing there? James advised that we are going back to where we were before the pandemic. A lot of children did very little writing during that time as lots of lessons were online/virtual. Hilary Horton is coming in to lead staff on spelling/feedback and marking and there would also be a handwriting session in January.</p> | |

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| | <p>GQ: In terms of safeguarding concerns and support – has this improved? Have numbers gone up or down? James advised that numbers fluctuate and we are picking up that children and parents are struggling sometimes. In terms of access to services, social services are overwhelmed still and lots of concerns are going straight to Early Help where parental engagement is optional.</p> <p>GQ: What about the Leadership Team – do you have enough support? James advised that he and Grant are part of coaching groups which have been provided by the LDBS. Helen Ridding is always at the end of the phone as is Colin (CoG) and Bavaani Nanthabalan. James advised that the biggest challenge at present is staff sickness and staff's reactions to their own sickness.</p> | |
| 9 | Questions regarding the Committee Meeting minutes | |
| | There were no questions on the committee meeting minutes. | |
| | CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS | |
| 11 | Date of the next meeting | |
| | 17 th March 2022 at 5.30pm | |
| 12 | A.O.B. | |
| | Colin advised the Board that this would be Tom's last FGB meeting as he was moving on. Everyone thanked him for his contribution and he was presented with a card. Tom told everyone that it had been a great privilege being on the Board at Kentish Town CE School. | |
| | The Chair thanked everyone for their time and the meeting ended at 8pm. | |

Signed.....

Date.....

**Colin Reader,
Chair of Governors
Kentish Town C of E Primary School
Governing Board**