



KENTISH TOWN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day**

Love – Equality – Compassion

PUBLIC MINUTES FULL MEETING OF THE BOARD 13th MARCH 2024 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, Vice Chair		✓
PCC (2)	Beata Goodwin		✓
	Rachel Wrangham		✓
Deanery Synod (2)	Gaby Chan Stroud		✓
	Nigel Palmer		X
Non Foundation Governors (5)			
Staff (2):	Head Teacher (1)	James Humphries	✓
	Teaching Staff (1)	Karen Trussler	✓
Parent Elected Governor		Ellie Besley-Gould	X
		Graeme Caul	✓
Local Authority (LA) (1)		Hilary Horton	✓
Associate Members (2)			
Deputy Head Teacher		Grant Jacobson	✓
Support staff member		Sarah Haag	X
		Miriam Nadarajah	✓
Others Present (1)			
Clerk:		Pamela Ansley	✓

	PART 1 – PUBLIC ITEMS	Actions/ Date
1	Opening Prayer, Welcome, introductions and Apologies for Absence	

	Father Guy opened in prayer. Apologies had been received from Ellie and Father Nigel. Sarah, Ryan and Emma were also not in attendance.	
2	Declarations of Interest	
	Rachel Wrangham – sits on the SEN Scrutiny panel for Camden. Hilary Horton – Advisor for Grow.	
3	Membership	
	The Chair advised that Rachel's term will end at the last meeting of the year and that this was also Gaby's last meeting following her resignation. A thank you card and gift was presented to Gaby. Thanks was also given to Ellie for agreeing to be the new Safeguarding Governor.	
4	Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising	
	No comments on the minutes of the last meeting so these were agreed. There were no matters arising.	
5	Safeguarding Report	
	<p>Rachel thanked Grant for the provision of the safeguarding report and asked for any questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel advised that it was not enormously different from last time with some staff still needing to complete training and not much change regarding the vulnerable children. • There was slight change on internet searches with hacking being a new topic being searched. • Rachel also highlighted the importance of safeguarding staff as well as children. • The safeguarding of victims of bullying long term was also a focus going forward; and • There was work happening on a 360 online safety review. <p>GQ: A Governor suggested a Wellbeing Champion? Could this be a Governor? James asked the suggesting Governor to look into what this role might entail and come back to him.</p> <p>At this point a potential Governor joined the meeting to observe proceedings.</p> <p>GQ: CFC advised that they have been looking at the movement of children. James informed the Board that we have a few vacancies within the school. There was no issue around the school or safeguarding this was just regular movement.</p> <p>GQ: Governor's responsibility when off rolling children for home schooling was queried? James readvised the meeting that before we off roll children for home schooling the Local Authority checks that the necessary arrangements are place.</p> <p>GQ: Concern was raised about the 16% of children persistently absent. Governors were advised that this did not mean absent every day but more 10% absent against the amount of days they could have attended for.</p> <p>GQ: Are we seeing that children are not coming into school due to mental health reasons? James advised that we were not.</p> <p>Rachel thanked Grant again for his input and Grant for Rachel's input also.</p>	

6	Heads Report.	
	<p>James invited questions from Governors.</p> <p>GQ: Applications for the Nursery? We have had 11 applications. We have asked our website hosting company to ensure that the Nursery promotional video is first and foremost on the home page. Rachel had also agreed to share this as she did before.</p> <p>GQ: Are other schools having the same problem? James advised that some schools have actually had to close their nurseries. We were full for September for Reception class whilst other schools quite close to us are not full.</p> <p>Curriculum – James advised that Mary Thorne had visited with Johnny in the Autumn Term and the sequencing of the History curriculum was all completed. Johnny had done a great job on this. The Curriculum and Monitoring committee had also looked at this with Johnny.</p> <p>SEND Review – this report was attached. Strengths were listed and next steps also. There was a celebration and validation of the sessions led by support staff. Governors asked how this was being communicated to support staff? James advised that highlights were shared with staff in a briefing this week but as the report was still in draft form it would be done more formally very soon. There was a suggestion that we have an update on SEN more regularly. Thanks to Grant and Miriam and the whole TA Team for their hard work. Thank you also to Father Guy and Beata Goodwin for their attendance during the review.</p> <p>The reviewer is booked to do a 2 hour session with staff on managing challenging behaviour from parents and their own wellbeing on 30th April.</p> <p>Teaching staff – no-one is intending to move on and James had met with the teachers regarding what classes they would like to teach next year and what CPD they would like to do.</p> <p>GQ: What about Ryan and Emma? James advised that Ryan and Emma's posts are in place for next year.</p> <p>Staffing – particularly challenging as our Year 5 teacher was off long term. Thank you to Marcia for covering. There are a number of support staff off at the moment – some receiving treatments, norovirus, mental health to name a few. We have three extra staff supporting. This was a Camden wide issue not a KTS one.</p> <p>Emma is working in Year 6 helping with their attainment.</p>	
7	SEND Vision	
	<p>Miriam advised that we had signed up to a Research project called Pathway where we take part to see if it works before the creators parcel it up for release. We have also purchased another curriculum to look at and we have also visited Swiss Cottage school.</p> <p>Rachel left the meeting at 6.25pm.</p>	
8	Update on Resource Base SLAs and funding	
	<p>Leadership were currently in conversation with the Local Authority regarding this and matters were going in the right direction. Governors would be asked to get involved if we found that we were unable to set a</p>	

	budget due to the underfunding of the Resource Bases.	
9	Nursery and Reception admissions	
	<p>Already discussed – any questions?</p> <p>GQ: Would you consider accepting an in-year place in the anticipation that there might be movement later in the year? Yes we could do this if we knew someone was leaving soon.</p> <p>GQ: Reception admissions? We have four children with an EHCP coming into Reception with 1 more in consultation. There are also 3 in the Nursery which were moving up so this would ultimately mean that one third of the class will have an EHCP.</p> <p>GQ: Can you put a cap on numbers with an EHCP? James advised that no cap was possible.</p> <p>GQ: At what point would it happen that we are no longer able to call ourselves a mainstream school? James advised that if we needed to develop a unit module this would mean that we were not be able to call ourselves a mainstream school.</p> <p>GQ: Are we at the tipping point in any classes? Yes there is one class in which this is the case.</p> <p>GC: No staff wanting to move on – this says a lot.</p> <p>GQ: The children's needs are so complex – are the teaching assistant staff happy with this? James advised that we offer really good training opportunities and staff are very committed.</p>	
10	Ratify the SFVS and Budget 24	
	<p>Father Guy proposed that we adopt the SFVS and Grant seconded the motion. The Chair signed the SFVS.</p> <p>Budget – As advised we were currently speaking to the Camden SEN Department regarding unpaid funding. We are due to meet with an external CPP and Governors offered to come in also to meet with them.</p> <p>GQ: The new SEN Curriculum – is there funding for this? Grant advised that there was no funding for this and that we were funding it ourselves.</p> <p>Governors were advised that unless we heard anything earlier there would be an update on 3rd July.</p>	Action: SFVS was adopted.
11	Questions regarding Committee Meeting minutes	
	No comments.	
12	Date and time of the next meeting	
	3 rd July 2024 at 4.00pm.	
13	AOB	
	None.	

14	Confidential items	
	Meeting ended at 7.30pm	

Signed.....

Date.....3.7.24

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

