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EYNESBURY Church of England (C) SCHOOL

MEETING OF GOVERNING BODY

HELD ON MONDAY 31 January 2018 at 7pm

Present:

Stewart Martin (Chair)	SM
Helen Rouse (Head teacher)	HR
Michael Freeman	MF
Kate George	KG
Sue Lea	SL
Sharie Neale	SN
Eileen Raggatt	ER
Andrew Underwood	AU
Karl Wainwright	KW

In attendance:

Tracey Crawshaw (Camclerk)	TC
Caroline Truman (Associate Member)	CT
Lauren West (Assistant Head teacher)	LW

The meeting opened at 7.05 pm
The meeting was quorate

S Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting. S Neale (SN) opened in prayer.

Housekeeping

Apologies for Absence

With Governors agreement: Mandy King (MK).

Without Governors agreement: None

No apologies given: None

Meeting Roles

Time Keeper – AU.

Observer – KW.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Meeting held on the 5 December 2017

The minutes from the meeting held on 5 December 2017, were agreed with minor corrections and were signed by the chair.

Matters Arising

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Page 2 – The clerk has circulated the OFSTED webinar training slides.

Page 3 – ER has updated the governor visits proforma to include a safeguarding section.

Correspondence

None

Committee Minutes

P&CC

The committee met on the 29 November 2017 (minutes have been circulated) and 23 January 2018 (minutes not yet circulated).

F&GP

The committee met on the 12 December 2017 (minutes have been circulated).

School Newsletter

No newsletters have been sent this half term. The next newsletter will be sent on Friday.

Any Other Business

- None.

MAIN AGENDA ITEMS

1. Register of Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

2. Membership

Foundation Governors – The Rectory has been let for 1 year, so there will not be a new rector in this time period. No one has come forward to fill the Foundation Governor vacancy. SN will be travelling for work and asked governors to consider an observer from the church to join the meeting in her absence.

Governors agreed to SN recommending an advisor to attend governor meetings in her absence.

Parent Governors – The parent elections will take place after half term. The clerk will resend the parent governor election letter.

3. Head's report inc SDP (Top Line), RAP and TOP (previously circulated)

The Head teachers report was circulated prior to the meeting. The following areas were discussed:

- 202 children were recorded in the January census.
- Application number for the Reception class for September are available

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and 47 parents have requested the school as their first choice place and over 90 have requested the school as either first or second place.

Governors felt this is a good reflection of the good reputation of the school in the local area and parents want their children to attend the school.

- Attendance has slipped slightly due to the impact of the flu virus (Spring Term) and chicken pox (Autumn Term). The average attendance is 94.5% which is 1.3% below the previous year and 0.9% below last year's national. Currently 24 children have been identified as persistently absent (<10%) from school. This compares with 8 children in 2016/17 identified as persistent absence. 4 of the children have significant medical needs. The Education Welfare Officer (EWO) has been involved with 2 children who have high level persistent absences and meetings are due to take place before half term. Attendance of Pupil Premium children is 93.6% and is down from last year by 2.1%. The EWO has advised the school to continue with the 3 letter system and court action against families will be carried out as necessary. Attendance is a concern and especially Pupil Premium children who are more vulnerable to high percentage absence. **Governors enquired if any of the children with medical needs are also Pupil Premium children. Yes, 2 of the children are and 2 other children have input from social care, one at the level of Child Protection.**
- Disadvantaged children (Pupil Premium) make up 20% of the school. A Pupil Premium review has taken place by the Local Authority (LA). The team observed intervention groups in Key Stage (KS) 1 and 2, which were noted as being highly effective. The team spoke with the Head teacher and SN (PP Governor). The review document has been received and requires some feedback from the Head teacher. The governors will receive a copy of the report once the feedback has been updated. The overall feedback was positive and there are areas for development. The Head teacher was pleased to advise governors that the leadership of the school was identified by the team as strong.
- Free school meal (FSM) numbers are stable.
- A child in Year 4 is at the final stages of completing an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). This child was close to being permanently excluded last year, so this is a huge step forward for the child. Five children in Nursery are receiving SEN support with the potential of 5 children in the 2018 Reception class having EHCPs. SEN need is not equally spread though the school (Years N, 2, 4 and 5). A review of the SEN provision has seen an increase in the needs for Early Help Assessment (EHA) and EHCPs. Thirty eight children were recorded in the January census as on the SEN register and this is above the national average. However not all children receiving intervention or small group work are on the SEN register and the school's provision maps represent a much bigger group of pupils. The level of identified SEN is reflective of the schools ability to manage this level of need rather than a true reflection of SEN across the school.
- There have been no fixed term exclusions since early September which is a significant improvement for last year. Nurture sessions introduced this year have had a positive impact. **Governors enquired what nurture groups are. The groups are run by the inclusion worker and Teaching Assistants working with a Family Worker from the locality team on Wednesday. The**

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group is made up of 7 Pupil Premium children and was the outcome of CAMH training undertaken by Mrs Theodoridis. Governors asked how long will the nurture group last. The school will run the groups as long as funding is available and where there is an identified need.

- Governors are aware of the parental view and perception of bullying within the school. Bullying in the school is low and perception of parents is changing regarding bullying and the way the school deals with bullying.
- The updated Safeguarding notice board is in the staff room. SM will be reviewing and monitoring the Single Central Record at the end of each governing body meeting.
- External and internal moderation was discussed and staff have engaged with the monitoring in January.
- The spring term curriculum grids are on the school website and the notice board in the school reception area.
- The school has applied to undertake the Primary Science Quality Mark. Standards (report circulated) presented by LW
 - Below/Emerging/Developing has been redefined to ensure greater clarity of expectation across the staff team.
 - End of year targets are aspirational and currently look to be on track. Targets for years 2 & 6 are set by the Local Authority (LA).
 - Governors enquired regarding Year 2 and Year 5 Maths targets are they raised from last year. Yes, the targets have been raised in line with achievement from last year.
 - Year 1 Phonics screening is currently expected to be achieved by 25 out of the 30 pupils. Three pupils are significantly below and are receiving additional support. Governors enquired regarding national averages and if they change year on year. The averages tend to increase by a small amount each year.
 - Governors enquired if they could see comparative data with the national figures. Yes, this is possible for Phonics screening, Year 2 and 6.
 - Governors asked about the data for the end of the Autumn term and higher than expected secure results, can this be maintained? There will be a challenge to maintain the results and there may will be a small drop back, and this will be monitored. The data has shown improved results compared to last year. There has been a drive for improvement which has been evidenced by quality of Teaching and Learning, including standardised testing and more challenge for more able pupils. To help drive improvement 4 out of the 5 inset days have a focus on impact.
- The three main steps were discussed including monitoring:
 - 1) Challenge is to maintain the progress made in the Autumn term
 - 2) Extend more able pupils to meet secure by April (except in Maths in Y 1, 3, 4, 5 where curriculum cover will not allow this).
 - 3) Accelerating the progress of PP to ensure good progress in all areas in all Year groups.
- Governors enquired regarding the targets on page 1 (targets for the end of the year). Is it possible to have targets for the end of each term? There are no interim targets as the expectation is that all children achieve age related expectations and they will be working towards the all year. The expectation is that most pupils will move from developing to secure in the

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third term of the year when they have covered all of the curriculum.

4. **GDPR**

The Head teacher has attended training and the school will be compliant. Governors will organise a monitoring visit.

5. **Governor monitoring/Governor visits/Governor visits plan**

Governor monitoring visits are outlined in the internal monitoring section of the Head teachers report. Governors are to send reports to the Head teacher and should include links to the SEF. Feedback from Craig Duncan (LA advisor) included that Governor visits should lead to an area of development and have a focus and impact.

6. **Local Partnerships**

St Neots Schools Forum

There are no significant updates and Kimbolton Senior School has joined the forum.

7. **Foundation Governor update: Church School Distinctiveness**

Given in item 2.

8. **School Improvement Plan (SIP) (SIP priorities previously circulated)**

The draft SIP has been revised and made smaller and includes changes in visits from OFSTED. There is no evidence to suggest the school will be inadequate when OFSTED visit. Leadership and Management and Safeguarding are strong within the school. Expectations for staff and pupils have been high this year and there is a drive to reach them. At the end of the Spring term the Early Years data, Phonics and KS1 data will all be Good based on internal data outcomes, there is one cohort whose data would potential be Requires Improvement and the school is working hard to address this. Governors agreed that the school should be graded as Good as a self-evaluation judgement, with a limited number of areas Requiring Improvement.

Governors enquired regarding key priority 2 – Reading progress in KS2, how is this priority progressing? There is a large volume of evidence to show that high quality Reading is being developed in KS2 with an increased focus on written responses since September.

Behaviour has improved significantly as the school year has progressed. At the beginning of the year behaviour would have been assessed as Requires Improvement as some children were impacting the learning of other pupils in specific year groups. This has been improved to Good and the pupil survey in KS2 showed pupils are engaged and have a very good attitude to learning. To achieve outstanding the pupils will need to have impeccable behaviour. The school teaches that children are responsible for their own behaviour and learn from their mistakes, therefore although the school is ambitious to achieve

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improved outcomes for all, impeccable behaviour is unlikely to be reached where the school is driving for self-disciplined learners.

The SIP is being updated over the half term and the updated copy will be circulated to governors.

HR

Governors enquired regarding the analysis of the Parent Survey. Have the areas of concern regarding bullying been addressed. Yes, the Senior Leadership team have looked at the Parent Survey and bullying was an area of concern. The perception of bullying by parents has been misunderstood and the governors and staff have looked to support parents in their understanding of bullying. Governors agreed to review the feedback from the whole survey and MF and SM will look at creating an action plan. Governors can also reinforce the good work of the school regarding bullying such as the Bullying Policy.

MF/SM

9. **AOB**

Volunteer Day at the school is on the 10th February and governors were encouraged to attend (allotment and orchard trees).

Governor training plan will be discussed and the clerk will circulate the most up to date governor training record with the agenda.

The clerk encouraged governors to attend the Termly Briefing for Governors on the 6th February or 8th February at Cambridge Professional Development Centre.

10. **Meeting observations**

Agenda items had enough time and enabled full discussions.

Date of next meeting: Monday 19 March 2018.

The meeting closed at 9:25 pm

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Date