



St George's Primary School

St George's Primary School
Curriculum and Pastoral Committee Meeting
Thursday 1st March 2018
Lower Site Meeting Room 5:30pm

Present

Community Governors

B. Clark
P. Walters
M. Wiggins

Chair of C&P Committee

Parent Governors

C. Scott

Staff Governors

B. Cassidy
L. Horton

Headteacher

Also Present

M. Chambers
T. Skarratts-Jackson
K. Choudhary
L. Binks

Clerk

Apologies

K. Wadcock
P. Dunning
R. Olsen
N. Sullivan

Item 1 Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of AoB

Chair welcomed the group and apologies were accepted as above.

B. Clark informed the group that he is a Governor at Weatherhead High School.

Item 2 Minutes of previous meeting

Accepted as a true and accurate record.

B. Cassidy informed C&PC that any policies that had recently been sent out for comment would look to be ratified at the upcoming FGB meeting. CP&C asked to consider the policies before FGB meeting. There was some confusion surrounding which Governors had been assigned which policy given the large quantity of policies – as per discussion in previous meeting.

ACTION CP7(03/18): K. Choudhary to confirm with C. Roberts which Governors have been tasked with checking which policy.

C&PC asked where the school is up to with the Skills Audit Process?

RESOLUTION: B. Clark informed the group that he had sent the information regarding allocation of committee representation in January '18 however there does seem to have been an issue with colleagues not receiving the email.

ACTION CP8(03/18): B. Clark to resend information regarding Skills Audit Process.

C&PC were informed that K. Choudhary had received some of the Safeguarding Training Certificates as per ACTION CP4(10/17). This is an ongoing action and K. Choudhary advised to contact C. Roberts for Governors certificates moving forward.

Item 3 Quality First Teaching Presentation

C&PC reminded that at the last meeting the Learning and Teaching Policy was ratified. Subsequently, Governors requested further information to ensure a consistent understanding of what Quality First Teaching (QFT) means at the school. As such, L. Binks delivered a presentation to C&PC.

The presentation clearly demonstrated what SLT are looking for in QFT and showed the raised level of aspiration within the school in meeting ARE for pupils.

C&PC asked how does the school measure outcomes?

RESOLUTION: SLT stated that outcomes are measured with data which can be drilled down to identify specific issues within cohorts over a long and short period. SLT will feedback to **Standards' Committee** on a regular basis.

C&PC asked how (given the varying levels of input from parents) does the school measure extra intervention from parents in conjunction with QFT?

RESOLUTION: SLT stated that this is a challenge and pupils who enjoy higher levels of home support are benefitted. Where home support levels are lower, the school has to focus support for these pupils to raise attainment levels.

SLT tabled a QFT Teaching Checklist and EYFS Group Expectations Grid for information

ACTION CP9(03/18): K. Choudhary to share presentation and tabled documents with C&PC electronically.

SLT stated that the Teaching and Learning Policy has really set the direction of travel for the school and staff have really embraced it.

Item 4 Long Term Curriculum Map

SLT stated that there are five areas of focus following an internal review and the recent OFSED inspection; MFL, History, Geography, Music and Art & Design. SLT are currently on a fact finding mission to discover best practice in these subject areas across the region.

SLT suggested this process is challenging given that there are some key decisions to be taken on whom the school will work with and this needs to be set by June '18 to ensure staff training in time for delivery in September '18.

C&PC asked is there any external funding available so the school can buy into staff training?

RESOLUTION: SLT stated that the school is currently exploring funding opportunities.

SLT intention is to feedback to C&PC at next meeting with a clear proposal and the direction of travel the school is moving forward.

ACTION CP10(03/18): SLT to provide update on Long Term Curriculum Map at next meeting.

Item 5 Safeguarding

C&PC informed that the school has recently conducted a Safeguarding audit with Greenleas Primary School as part of a Wallasey Alliance sharing best practice initiative.

SLT stated that every member of school staff is up to date with their Safeguard Training. This training is accredited by Educare and is part of the induction process for new members of staff. Also applied for volunteers.

TSJ in her role as designated safeguarding officer reminded C&PC that the school has a log of any safeguarding referrals (created June '17). To date there have been 122 referrals recorded. The vast majority of these referrals are appropriately dealt with internally by school staff with no need to escalate. School safeguarding team (HT, DHT, Learning mentors and Dragon Club safeguarding lead) meet termly to keep up to date on any legislation changes and keep abreast of any changes.

C&PC asked T. Skarratts-Jackson (in her capacity as school safeguarding lead) how much of her workload is taken in dealing with Safeguarding issues?

RESOLUTION: T. Skarratts-Jackson suggested that circa 10% but that is predominately for advice and guidance for staff - not intervention nor action.

C&PC asked does the school get adequate support from LA?

RESOLUTION: Yes. SLT stated that LA are great support mechanism, especially through assigned locality social worker. Are concerns about ESWO and early intervention. The only thing that the school does outside of the LA network is school staff training.

Wallasey Cluster One Stop Shop Support Leaflet was tabled for information.

Item 6 Signposting

See Item 5.

Item 7 Attendance

February '18 Attendance Data (comparative against Autumn '17) was tabled at the meeting for information.

SLT stated that all areas of attendance have improved however the data suggests that there are still certain issues with persistent absence and there is concern given that these absences sit within Pupil Premium cohort. The challenges in this area have been signposted toward Learning Mentors for further investigation i.e phone calls, home visits etc. In addition, the school has involved external partners to help address this issue.

SLT is becoming increasingly frustrated with the current status quo where once the school has exhausted its efforts with attendance, there is not enough strong action taken by the ESWO service.

The school is conducting Attendance Panels and is due to meet with circa 10 families over the coming days to address attendance levels below 85% to see if there are any unknown underlying issues that the school can assist with.

C&PC asked who sits on the panel?

RESOLUTION: L. Horton, B. Cassidy, Sam Board (Leaning Mentor) and Steve Clayton (Education Social Worker).

C&PC asked does the school use 85% as a hard line criteria? What other factors are taken into account?

RESOLUTION: C&PC informed that the school looks for patterns in absence over a period of time to identify persistent absence. For example, where a pupil is absent in a number of incidents that always occur on a Friday. The school does not invite families where there is an identified medical issue that may affect attendance.

SLT suggested that Attendance Panels are challenging as often it is a parent's initial reaction not to attend which then leaves the school having to chase and endeavour until they manage to see the parent.

SLT stated that although there is some concern as discussed, the direction of travel is good and the school now overall sits above the National Average.

SLT stated that they envisage the annual challenge of attendance given summer holidays is looming – a challenge faced by all schools. The school is looking to adopt a tough line on unauthorised absences.

C&PC asked if the LA imposes fines?

RESOLUTION: Yes, they do but it is not consistent enough and there is a lot of work being undertaken by Head teachers to make this a lot more robust. SLT stated that the school needs support from other agencies in combating this annual challenge.

Item 8 Behaviour

BC shared this year's behaviour tracking data.

The school is tracking behaviour within individual classes and year group to get the best possible picture. Within classes staff look at varying cohorts i.e boys, girls, PP and SLT receive daily reports. As such, any issues or patterns are identified early.

SLT clearly stated that they are very happy with pupil's behaviour across the school.

C&PC thanked school staff for their endeavours in this area.

Item 9 Elective Education

B. Cassidy informed C&PC that the new Director of Children's Services has written to all Head teachers and Chair of Governors because (in some cases) there has been a clear pattern of Head teachers encouraging parents to take their children out of school to home educate. This would avoid exclusions which have a negative impact on the school's statistics. B. Cassidy suggested that this is a significant issue.

B. Cassidy informed the group that he will report to group on any pupil (anonymised) that is home taught to remain transparent now that the group is aware of this worrying trend.

Item 10 NCMP Data

B. Cassidy presented data on screen on national child data around health. The data suggests that the school sits favourability when compared with national averages.

SLT are happy with the direction of travel of pupils when compared with other schools within Wirral and feel this is a reflection on the schools' endeavours to promote health and wellbeing - including funding secured (or heavily subsidised) for 23 sports or wellbeing sessions which has enjoyed an 85% uptake. In addition, the school has 415 pupils attending health and fitness clubs outside of the curriculum. SLT highlighted that all this provision is new and was not in place at the same period last year.

C&PC were informed that Governors should have seen this information in previous years however it was suggested that they had not seen it – nor been signposted toward it in years past.

Item 11 Date and focus of next meeting

Meeting Finished @ 7:00pm

Date of next meeting – Thursday 3rd May @ 5:30pm

Chair Sign Off

Date

Item	Summary of actions from C&P meeting	Whom	Date to be completed
2	<u>CP7(03/18)</u> : K. Choudhary to confirm with C. Roberts which Governors have been tasked with checking which policy.	K. Choudhary C. Roberts	March '18
2	<u>CP8(03/18)</u> : B. Clark to resend information regarding Skills Audit Process.	B. Clark	March '18
3	<u>CP9(03/18)</u> : K. Choudhary to share presentation and tabled documents with C&PC electronically.	K. Choudhary	March '18
4	<u>CP10(03/18)</u> : SLT to provide update on Long Term Curriculum Map at next meeting.	SLT	May '18