



# St George's Primary School

**St George's Primary School**

**Curriculum and Pastoral Committee Meeting**

**Thursday 25 February 2021**

**Virtual Meeting (via Google Meet) 5:30pm**

## **Present**

<b>Community Governors</b>	B. Clark A. Ward	Chair of C&P Committee
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<b>Parent Governors</b>	C. Scott
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<b>Staff Governors</b>	H. Rice B. Cassidy
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<b>Also Present</b>	K. Choudhary L. Horton G. Nathan T. Skarratts-Jackson	Clerk
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<b>Apologies</b>	A. Lee J. Marshall M. Wiggins P. Dunning C. Lucking
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## **Item 1      Welcome, Apologies and declarations of AoB**

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1.1      Noted and received as above.

## **Item 2      Minutes of previous meeting**

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2.1      Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record.

2.2      All actions from previous meeting have been completed or are to be discussed in the meeting.

### **Item 3            Matters Arising**

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- 3.1     **Saxon Camp:** C&PC informed that the contractor will be starting working in the next two weeks, which means that the rest of the equipment can be installed on the site.
- 3.2     **Science Lab:** C&PC reminded that the lab has now been open for a while and the school are looking forward to this resource being more widely used when the national lockdown ends.

### **Item 4            Committee Priorities for 2020/21**

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- 4.1     C&PC reminded that the decision was taken at previous meeting to accept the following priorities;
- Restoring school's curriculum offer
  - Supporting children to make up lost ground in learning
  - Children's mental health and well-being.

### **Item 5            DfE School Re-opening Plans**

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- 5.1     Circulated as part of the papers
- 5.2     C&PC reminded that SLT sent an email to all governors welcoming the [Prime Ministers announcement](#) that schools will reopen on 8 March 2021.
- 5.3     SLT stated that a school meeting is planned for tomorrow to further discuss next steps for the school however it was suggested that the changes to the guidance is not too dissimilar to pre-existing guidance and as such, implementation of the news plans should not prove too difficult a challenge.
- 5.4     SLT stated that the decision on whether or not to vaccinate teachers had been delegated from government to LAs and that it is disappointing to note that Wirral LA have taken the decision to only prioritise local school teachers with a vaccination programme in special provision school – not across the board.
- 5.5     C&PC asked are there any members of staff currently shielding?
- 5.6     **RESOLUTION:** Yes. 3 members of staff.

### **Item 6            COVID-19. What Is the Impact?**

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- 6.1     Circulated as part of the papers
- 6.2     SLT shared statistical reports on [impact on Covid-19](#) and how that should shape strategic plans going forward.
- 6.3     Broadly speaking, it was suggested that the studies confirm that children have fallen behind and that SEND and disadvantaged pupil gaps have widened and it

quantifies the scale of this learning loss. It reinforces the importance of continuing to invest in catch-up activities to enable children to recover the learning they have lost.

- 6.4 C&PC asked if there is any coloration between those that are struggling and the number of children in households?
- 6.5 **RESOLUTION:** The research generally shows some correlation related to economic circumstances but the biggest take away is that the disadvantaged gaps have widened.

## **Item 7            Emergency School Update**

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- 7.1 Circulated as part of the papers
- 7.2 SLT gave an update on the following;
- 7.3. **Numbers in school:** Circa 50% of pupils are in school and there is currently a waiting list.
  - 7.3.1 The school has used every pupil place available and every member of school staff to help meet the need of families.
- 7.4 **Safety plan and bubble isolations:** The school has seen an additional 4 bubbles isolated this year with no bubbles isolated at top site since Covid-19 pandemic began.
  - 7.4.1 SLT suggested that initial thinking around Covid-19 was that older children were more likely to spread the virus however this has not been the case.
- 7.5 **Laptop loans, Wireless Support:** The school has been able to provide a device to every child (not family) who has needed one a device. There are currently 98 laptops out on loan. Also met all wireless requests.
  - 7.5.1 As discussed in previous meeting, through DfE allocation, the school received 68 laptops, and C&PC informed that the school has just received an additional 16 laptops. As such, moving forward the school is going to have significant capacity to support learners with devices. School has invested in more devices and laptop trollies.
- 7.6 **Pastoral Care Work:** There has been an established pastoral team with school staff from each unit tasked with telephoning families to 'touch base' and the target was set to call once a fortnight and this goal has been achieved.
  - 7.6.1 The school has been able to help families by signposting various support services and organisations.
  - 7.6.2 The school has organised food hampers to those that have had need of them.
  - 7.6.3 The school has done a number of home visits to families where an increased 'wrap around' provision was needed.
  - 7.6.4 Anecdotal evidence suggests that both pupils and families are looking forward to the school reopening.

- 7.7 C&PC stated that they are incredibly proud of what school staff have achieved in very challenging circumstances.

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**Item 8 Remote Learning Audit**

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- 8.1 Circulated as part of the papers.
- 8.2 C&PC informed that the school's Remote Learning offer is statutory and were signposted to the [following link](#).
- 8.3 SLT stated that a school remote learning audit was initially completed by G. Nathan, S. Price and B. Cassidy. This was then reviewed by SLT and this document will constantly review the quality of the school offer.
- 8.4 No further questions from governors who felt the audit was comprehensive.

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**Item 9 Update on Remote Learning**

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- 9.1 Circulated as part of the papers.
- 9.2 G. Nathan delivered a presentation highlighting examples on best practice remote learning. The slides included information on the following;
- Connection to Families and Students
  - Instructional Time
  - Student Engagement Aligned to Standards
  - Equity, Choice and Flexibility
  - Feedback on Student Work
  - Collaboration among Students
  - Social and Emotional Learning
- 9.3 C&PC asked if, as a result of lockdown, the ICT skills of all involved with the school have vastly improved?
- 9.4 **RESOLUTION:** Absolutely. Both pupils and staff and as such, the school is excited about blended learning opportunities moving forward.
- 9.5 C&PC asked if DfE has provided the promised allocation of laptops to the school.
- 9.6 **RESOLUTION:** Yes – and the school has added to this total (including charging trolleys). The school now has three additional sets of 32 laptops (96).

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**Item 10 Standards Committee Reports**

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- 10.1 Circulated as part of the papers.
- 10.2 C&PC informed that due to current lockdown restrictions, that meetings between link Governors and SLT were held remotely.
- 10.3 Broadly speaking, the reports focused around remote learning.
- 10.4 SLT suggested that the opportunity to have fuller discussion with link governors outside of the normal circa 15min break out session during Standards Committee

meeting was well received asked if some consideration could be given to changing Standard Committee format to a blended meeting.

- 10.5 **ACTION 1(02/21):** B. Cassidy to contact P. Dunning to discussion options around Standard Committee format.

#### **Item 11      Update on the Jump Ahead Tuition Programme**

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- 11.1 Circulated as part of the papers.
- 11.2 SLT highlighted that the aims of this programme have been published on the school's [website](#).
- 11.3 C&PC reminded that the decision was taken to pause the launch of the tuition program until April 2021, following the decision to partially close schools in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 11.4 SLT envisage that the Jump Ahead Tuition program will initially run from April 2021 to July 2022 with £108k funding allocated. This combine's £64k from the government's 'Catch Up Tuition' grant, possible 24K from next round of funding and £20k from school's budget.
- 11.5 SLT stated that they would not be allocating this funding towards boot camp approach towards 'catch up' focused English and Maths, but rather a more holistic curriculum offer.
- 11.6 C&PC stated that this ringfenced allocation is great news and provides an opportunity for the school to flex its curriculum offer to meet pupil need.

#### **Item 12      Oracy Project**

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- 12.1 Circulated as part of the papers.
- 12.2 L. Horton delivered a short presentation on Oracy project and key aims. The slides included information on the following;
- What is Oracy?
  - Why do we need to develop Oracy?
  - The Voice 21 Project
  - Oracy Benchmarks
  - The journey so far...
  - Poetry in Voice
  - Our Vision
- 12.3 C&PC informed that the school has managed a to secure a discount with The Voice 21 project as they have secured a network group of 15 other schools. The cost will be over 3 years (£1.2k/ £2.2k/ £1.2k)
- 12.4 Governors commented on the exciting prospect of this project and thanked L. Horton.

### Item 13      Planning for Growth

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- 13.1    Circulated as part of the papers.
- 13.2    SLT shared plans for curriculum growth over the next 3 years.
- 13.3    Plans include;
- Maintain investment in support staff in EYFS and KS1 with additional teaching support.
  - Invest in expansion of KS2 to 5 classes.
  - Invest in outdoor learning teacher.
  - Invest in additional SEND support (E Psych coaching, Dyslexia training, SENDCO to support teaching and learning provision etc).
  - Invest in blended learning.
- 13.3    C&PC informed (as discussed in the recent R&PC) that the recent announcement on the funding formula now means that rather than facing the challenge of managing a deficit of £150k in the school budget, the school is now looking at growth in funding of c.£160k. This best-case scenario means that the school can maintain its planning around curriculum development and maintaining all the staff that are currently contracted.
- 13.4    C&PC asked is the creation of new posts sustainable post the 3-year plan?
- 13.5    **RESOLUTION:** Yes, if the government does not significantly change/ decrease the funding formula.

### Item 14      Updated Safer Recruitment Policy

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- 14.1    Circulated as part of the papers.
- 14.2    C&PC informed that they must vote to approve updated policy and guidance.
- 14.3    B. Clark noted the comprehensive changes to the policy.
- 14.4    **DECISION TAKEN:** C&PC approved the policy **RATIFIED**

### Item 15      Committee Training Requests for 2020/21

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- 15.1    SLT suggested that training on Scholar data reports would be of use to governors.
- 15.2    **ACTION 2 (02/21):** T. Skarratts-Jackson to contact K. Choudhary to training date proposal towards the end of the summer term for circulation.

### Item 16      AOB

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- 16.1    None

**Item 17      Date and focus of next meeting**

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17.1 C&PC suggested that the following be the focus of the next meeting;

- SDP update
- Plans for 2021/22
- Safeguarding Report
- LAC Report

17.2 Meeting finished at 7:00pm

17.3 **Next meeting:** Thursday 6 May 2021 @ 5:30pm

Item	Summary of actions from meeting	Whom	Date to be completed
10.5	<b><u>ACTION 1(02/21):</u></b> B. Cassidy to contact P. Dunning to discussion options around Standard Committee format.	B. Cassidy	March 2021
15.2	<b><u>ACTION 2 (02/21):</u></b> T. Skarratts-Jackson to contact K. Choudhary to training date proposal towards the end of the summer term for circulation.	T. Skarratts-Jackson	March 2021