



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY
 held at Grand Avenue School on
Monday 13th May at 7.30pm

| LA-1 | CO OPTED 8 | | PARENT -2 | STAFF 2 |
|------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| TBC | Jenny Gresson (Chair) | Richard Newman | David Magee (VC) | Shona Pitcher Headteacher (Ex Officio) |
| | Alexis Orlovac | Michele Harris | Farah Ahmad | Kirsty Maitland |
| | Archika Kumar | Connor Adams | | Shamama Tul Amber |
| | Ada Massett | Hannah Newell | | |

Associate Members: Matt McHale

Clerk/Minutes: Miss Lucy Richards

Bold = absent

| ITEM | MEETING STARTED AT: 7.30pm | ACTIONS |
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| 076 | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED | |
| | Alexis Orlovac Archika Kumar Connor Adams Kirsty Maitland | |
| 077 | OBSERVERS | |
| | None | |
| 078 | DECLARATIONS OF BUSINESS INTEREST | |
| | None | |
| 079 | MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD 4th MARCH & 18th MARCH | |

Signed/Initialled (Chair of FGB Committee): *JG*.....

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| | These were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meetings held. | |
| 080 | MATTERS ARISING | |
| | <p>053 - Shared parental leave - there has been no feedback on this following the HT meeting. Staff Governor Wellbeing meeting - there has been no date set yet for this meeting. Jenny and Ada will arrange a date and meet with the staff.</p> <p>Governor question: Have any other Governors signed up for EIF training? Clerk: Archika and Jenny have signed up for this.</p> <p>Governor question: Any updates on parking outside the school following a neighbourhood meeting? Response: There have been no developments following this meeting.</p> <p>Governor question: Have numbers of children enrolled for Nursery and Reception increased? Response: Yes, there have been additional applications for Nursery and there are some children who will be joining in the January intake.</p> <p>A short discussion followed on the option of implementing wraparound care for Nursery, The staffing and cost implications for the Nursery have been discussed and this will continue to be reviewed in the future. It was noted that Level 3 EY qualified staff would be required to work in the Nursery due to staffing ratios. Due to the hours that would be needed it is likely to be difficult to recruit for this.</p> <p>Governor question: Are there any plans to have music assemblies for older children? Response: These were already in place for the older children.</p> | Ask Sophie for School Council dates |
| 081 | GOVERNOR HEALTH CHECK | |
| | See separate document. | |
| 082 | GOVERNOR MATTERS | |
| | <p>a) Training - Monitoring and Filtering - needs a Governor to undertake this role.</p> <p>Children are not allowed to use mobile phones during the school day. School advises parents about the use of media/whatsapp groups and the use of mobile phones is built into the school's Behaviour Policy.</p> <p>Governor question: Do the school get involved if there are incidents that take place outside of school? Response: Yes and in some instances the school has advised the parent/carer to notify the incident to the police as it can be viewed as an offence.</p> <p>Governor question: Is the policy on mobile phones in the Behaviour policy? Response: Yes, it is in the SG policy and in the Behaviour policy.</p> <p>Governor question: Has the school been approached by the smartphone</p> | <p>Email Connor to ask if he would be prepared to take responsibility for the Monitoring and Filtering role.</p> <p>HT performance management panel. Need a third Governor on this panel.</p> <p>Email the Governor Corner</p> |

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| | <p>free childhood? Response: Not as yet. The school are very clear that mobile phones and the use of mobile phones is not allowed in school.</p> <p>Question: Is there something similar to the walking to school sign up that could be implemented for the use of mobile phones? Response: As part of Year 5 & 6 there are some points in the NC.</p> <p>There followed a discussion about the pressure on children and parents to buy the latest mobile phones/water bottles. It was noted that the school can provide guidance on these things but ultimately it is up to the parent/carer as to what they purchase for their children.</p> <p>b) <i>Governor visits</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Richard PE visit. ● Jenny - Sunshine Room - additional information in confidential minutes. ● eNews/Termly Newsletter - highlights <p>Sept 24 - DfE mandatory attendance guidance.</p> <p>Non-statutory guidance on mobile phones in school.</p> <p>Anti-racism pledge - schools were asked to sign up to this. It was noted that GA is already signed up to this.</p> <p>1. Falling roll. There are two schools in Kingston who fell into the falling roll category (there are several criteria for this). There is a pot of money, which if it is not spent, can be shared amongst schools who fall within this criteria. The heads of the other schools in the borough vote on this. If this is not agreed on the money is divided up amongst all schools. It was noted that the low birth rate is impacting the pupil numbers across the borough. The falling birth rate is a universal problem and there are other county's experiencing this decline in birth rate and therefore numbers on roll.</p> <p>Future training: Decolonising the music curriculum training is being held at Grand Avenue.</p> <p>c) Governor's Corner - Shamama will write the Summer input.</p> | <p>proforma to Shamama.</p> |
| <p>083</p> | <p>HEADTEACHER DASHBOARD</p> | |
| | <p>Governor question: Have there been any staff resignations? Response: Yes, one class teacher has resigned. Staff have until half-term to hand in their notice.</p> <p>Governor question: Could there be anymore resignations/maternity leave upcoming? Response: At the moment there are no further leavers/mat leaves expected. However, this may change in the next week.</p> <p>SP advised that the teacher role in the Sunshine room is a temporary contract. The school does want to renew this contract as this has proved very successful.</p> <p>Governor question: Do you anticipate any additional children needing to access the Sunshine room?</p> | |

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| | <p>Response: At the moment this is unknown. However, with the new intake of children in Reception there may be additional children who need this support.</p> <p>Governor question: Are there any year groups where there is a particular concern?</p> <p>Response: Across the board it is writing which is still the lowest area and reading is high across the board.</p> <p>School absence is at approximately 95%, this is being monitored constantly. Racist incidents - this has increased on last year but it was noted that part of this is around children learning. Once incidents are investigated it is found that children are more aware of the use of language and once fully unpicked not all incidents are found to be racist.</p> <p>Governor question: What is half a suspension?</p> <p>Response: This is half a day suspension.</p> <p>There is a more robust system in place for logging behaviour incidents and this accounts for the increased number of reports that have been made. In addition, more issues have been reported and logged this year in respect of safeguarding concerns.</p> <p>The ESTA numbers are high. There are currently twelve children in the ESTA, the SLA is eight. Some children are waiting for alternative placements to become available, however, there is a lack of space in the borough in specialist placements.</p> <p>There have been several children who have joined year 6 and have accessed the end of year 6 assessments. They have shown good progress in a short period of time.</p> <p>Governor question: Has there been any benchmarking undertaken in respect of staffing levels?</p> <p>Response: Yes. The findings show the school were low in the SLT. However, it was noted that the school have a higher number of staff in the classroom and are high on TA's. The school has tried hard to maintain these levels to provide the additional support in the classroom. It was noted that we have a well trained and high quality body of TA's.</p> <p>Premises report: Is there an update on the acoustics for the main hall?</p> <p>Response: Hannah will be able to update more in R&F.</p> <p>Governor comment: The timings of the fire evacuation was impressive for a school of this size. The cost for a new fire alarm system was briefly discussed, again more detail will be provided by the School Business Manager in the next R&F committee meeting.</p> <p>Governor question: Is there an annual ground maintenance plan?</p> <p>Response: There is a gardening team that comes into school but this has been reduced further to minimise the costs.</p> <p>Car park leak - this has been resolved.</p> | |
| 084 | SIP REPORT | |

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| | <p>Questioning is the focus of visits for Governors for the summer term. An updated proforma will be shared with Governors.</p> <p>There has been a discussion with Katie around how children in younger years cope with understanding the level of behaviour which is expected. It was suggested that teachers could discuss with the children how they should behave.</p> <p>Wellbeing meeting with staff - date will be set.</p> | |
| 086 | ESTA REPORT | |
| | <p>Governor question: This was a very positive review and excellent evidence. How often is there an ESTA review?</p> <p>Response: Every three years. There were three external parties who came in for this review.</p> <p>There followed a discussion on home learning. It was noted that it is difficult to get the right balance to ensure that this is accessible for all families. Home learning focuses on key skills, spelling, punctuation, grammar and maths. There is the added option of topic which is optional and allows for some additional learning should families wish to undertake this. It was noted that the mathematics offers differentiation for children.</p> <p>Outcomes - this showed that all children were making good progress.</p> <p>Governor question: How do children know what their targets are? Where can they access this?</p> <p>Response: Children are able to see this in classrooms.</p> | |
| 086 | SDP REPORT - GOVERNORS SECTION | |
| | <p>This was reviewed at C&C in depth.</p> <p>There will be a review of the continuous provision in the Autumn 2024.</p> | |
| 087 | FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEES | |
| | <p>Minutes will be shared at the next committee meetings.</p> | |
| 088 | SAFEGUARDING | |
| | <p>The school have purchased an additional buy-in called Wellbeing which supports Edaware. This is a system which is used by other schools. This monitors what children are accessing and brings up a flag if there are inappropriate searches made. Each child will require an individual log in to ensure that any searches can be identified accurately. It was noted that the school has a very strict filtering system already but this new system will ensure that they are not accessing inappropriate websites.</p> <p>This will be viewed with a consideration around the context of the searches that are being looked up. I.e. should the children be researching a specific topic then it would be likely that some key words they are searching will come up.</p> <p>Governor question: How much searching do children do?</p> | |

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| | <p>Response: The children use the computers a lot to research their work/topics.</p> <p>Jenny and Alexis came into school for their safeguarding visit. During their visit they met with some vulnerable children in Year 2,3,4,5 & 6. All of these children advised that they had access to devices at home and 80% had access to devices in the bedroom. The children said that if they had concerns that they would approach a person in school. Children found it easier to write things down as they all have worry boxes in their classroom.</p> | |
| 089 | ANY AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT FGB | |
| | Standard agenda items - this will be the last meeting of this academic year. | |
| 090 | AOB | |
| | <p>Admissions Policy - this is a new policy for the school. This was a structure from the Key and the school have amended this to include relevant points. It was noted that the school doesn't control their own admissions policy, this is determined by Kingston LA.</p> <p>Friday 14th June - Governor coffee morning 9am -10am. Jenny, Farah and Shamama to attend.</p> <p>Website - a new website for the school is being built. SLT have met with the designers who have provided the structure of the site. The video will be updated and add new photos will be added. The new website should be up and running very soon.</p> | Governors to read and will take to R&F for full review. Add to R&F agenda for Autumn 2024. |
| 091 | SCHOOL COUNCIL | |
| | No updates. | |
| 092 | MINUTES OF THIS MEETING CONFIDENTIALITY | |
| | See confidential minutes. | |
| 093 | CLOSE OF MEETING: 9.33pm DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 1st July 2024 | |

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