



GILLESPIE PRIMARY, ISLINGTON
FULL GOVERNING BODY VIRTUAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2020 AT 6PM

Membership

Name	Type	Term expiry date	Attendance
Claire Bolderson	Co-Opted Governor Chair of Governors	09/10/2022	Present
Louise Russell	Parent Governor	10/11/2020	Present
Jodie Reed	Parent Governor	22/02/2021	Present
Mickel Gebreyohanes	Parent Governor	22/02/2021	Apologies
Rejinder Bangar	Parent Governor	09/02/2023	Apologies
Ashley Smith	Co-Opted Governor Vice-Chair of Governors	06/02/2022	Present
Tom Brind	Co-Opted Governor	06/02/2022	Apologies
Sanila Kaliq	Co-opted Governor	19/10/2023	Apologies
Sajni Patani	Co-Opted Governor	03/03/2024	Present
Dan Hamilton	Co-Opted Governor	03/03/2024	Present
Theresa Debono	Local Authority Governor	31/10/2021	Apologies
Sarah Bergin	Staff Governor	01/09/2023	Present
Mark Owen	Headteacher	N/A	Present

Also in attendance:

Katrina Moses – Deputy Headteacher

Lynwen Jones – Assistant Headteacher and SENCo

Hannah Hatchman – Clerk

Part I Minutes (For the action log, see Appendix 1 attached to the minutes)

1. Apologies for absence

- 1.1. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mickel Gebreyohanes, Rejinder Bangar, Theresa Debono Tom Brind and Sanila Kaliq.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1. All Governors had completed declaration of interest forms 2019/20.
 2.2. There were no other declarations of interest in relation to any items on the agenda or gifts/hospitality.



3. Notification of Any Other Urgent Business

3.1. There were no items of additional business raised.

4. Minutes of the last meetings and Matters Arising

4.1. The minutes of the last meetings held on 4 March 2020 and 2 June 2020 were **approved** as true records.

4.2. The Governing Body **reviewed** the action log at **Appendix 1** to the minutes. Both items were deferred to the new academic year. New Governors had been sent the induction manual.

5. Membership of the Governing Body

5.1. Membership would be discussed in detail at the next meeting in the autumn term.

5.3. There were no terms due to expire before the next meeting or any vacancies.

6. Chair's Report

6.1. There were no actions or correspondence to report since the last meeting.

7. Headteacher's Report

7.1. The Headteacher's Report had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

7.2. Governors asked **questions** as follows:

Q: How are nursery children going to be introduced to the setting and to the staff given that the usual home visits can not be managed?

A: Whilst there were no actual home visits planned; other arrangements had been put in place to provide support to families and children joining the nursery. Letters had been sent home and parents would be invited into school at the beginning of the autumn term. Children would also be invited to view settings and specific contact would be made with them via the communications home.

Q: How many Year 6 pupils have returned and how are they coping?

A: Twenty-eight Year 6 pupils will be attending school by the end of June. All children were now settled, and good standards of hygiene were in place including hand washing. PHSE and pastoral support for those still worried included worry jars in classrooms and an increase in sessions to support mental health and wellbeing. Pupils had enjoyed seeing their peers and being back at school.

Q: How many pupils are attending in Year 1?

A: Twenty-four are currently attending with more expected. Confidence had increased as families had seen others return successfully and safely.

Q: Are all children eligible for Pupil Premium attending in Year 1?



A: There are 2 eligible pupils. One family are reluctant to return although support and engagement continued. The second family were already attending along with a sibling in another year group.

Q: How will progress in phonics be measured?

A: Formal assessments had all been cancelled including the phonics test. Guidance was awaited from the DfE although it was considered that one possible option would be for pupils to take the test at the end of year 2 (as per the phonics re-sits).

Q: Are there any families you have not had contact with or are concerned about?

A: There have some been some concerns raised this week; however, all had been resolved. Regular contact and communication are taking place with all families including those who are vulnerable. Some families are resistant to engaging and the school continues to work hard with those families to maintain lines of communication.

Q: Are all vulnerable families participating in home learning?

A: The majority of all families are engaging positively and there are no major concerns, although it is difficult to ascertain how much work was being completed. A parent survey on home learning had been undertaken and it was hoped that responses would provide insight.

Q: What are the initial outcomes of the home learning survey to parents?

A: There have been 93 responses so far. Of these:

- Feelings about and coping with home learning: 43% said their children were coping well; 46% said they were generally ok' and 12% said they were often stressed and anxious
- 87% said their children had a quiet area in which to work
- 84% stated they could access the home learning easily
- 73% said there was a good balance between online and paper-based work
- 68% said children were completing the work on a weekly basis
- 60% said they had received feedback and support
- Overall feedback from parents was positive about the home learning albeit challenging for families with younger pupils

A summary of the survey responses would be brought to a future meeting along with an action plan of how any identified issues would be progressed.

Q: How are teachers now in school balancing the need to manage class-based and home learning?

A: Time is being provided to teachers on a daily basis in addition to their weekly non-contact time, for them to prepare home learning activities and this is working well.

Q: Is contact made when work is not completed – for all families, not just those who are most vulnerable?



A: If pupils are not responding via the home learning platforms contact is made with the home. If no response is received this is escalated to SLT. There were no silent families and support is being provided to those who have difficulty completing work.

Q: Is the FSM voucher system now operating smoothly?

A: Yes, vouchers are still being issued though to fewer families now that some children are back in school. A reminder to families who may now be eligible to apply for support would be placed in the weekly school newsletter.

Q: What will the arrangements be for teachers' performance management?

A: Formal guidance is awaited from the DfE and HR advice was being sought.

- 7.3. Governors **thanked** the Head teacher for providing a detailed report and for answering questions.

8. Covid-19 Risk Assessment

- 8.1. The Governing Body had reviewed the risk assessment in detail at its last meeting held on 12 June 2020. There had not been any significant changes since the last meeting. Minor changes included movement and navigation around the school to further minimise contact. The updated Risk Assessment would be circulated to governors and put on the website.
- 8.2. The proposal remained to admit Reception children from 22 June 2020.
- 8.2. The Governing Body **agreed** the risk assessment including the proposal to admit Reception children from 22 June 2020.

9. Science for Life Update

- 9.1 Dan Hamilton and the Headteacher provided an update on science for life as follows:
- A meeting had been held with the Local Authority, Dan Hamilton, the Institute of Physics and Dame Alice Owen Foundation regarding the potential to recruit an additional member of staff to support expanding the provision to secondary schools;
 - A potential candidate had been identified for the role to expand provision into secondary schools although an advert had been placed;
 - Positive online networking and posting on social media continued to take place to promote the work for Science for Life and make links with other like-minded organisations;
 - There may be a slight reduction in overall funding although this was not expected to adversely impact the work of the project;
 - Dan Hamilton would continue to monitor and provide updates at future meetings.

10. Budget 2020/21



- 10.1. The Governing Body **noted** the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 13 May 2020 where the budget had been agreed.
- 10.2 The Governing Body **ratified** the budget 2020/21.

11. Planning Ahead: 2020/21

- 11.1. The Chair asked Governors to consider how monitoring could work from the new academic year including the process; lead Governor roles/appointments; and the overall meeting/governance structure.
- 11.2. Whilst circumstances remained uncertain it was challenging to predict the guidance that would be in place from September although announcements were expected regarding the recovery curriculum and support measures to close learning gaps.
- 11.3. The Governing Body discussed the potential to provide support for year groups other than EYFS, 1 and 6. Guidance had been sought from the LA as to whether it would be possible for years 1 and 6 to finish school on 10 July to allow the admittance of other years. The guidance received from the LA was currently unclear as to whether year groups could be exchanged; rather than all accommodated on site at the same time.
- 11.4. Whilst the Governing Body were supportive of the proposals to admit other year groups whilst finishing the term for years 1 and 6 on 10 July' it was agreed that further clarification would be sought from the Local Authority and an update provided.

12. Policies

- 12.1. The Governing Body **approved** the Virtual Meeting Policy.
- 12.2. The RSE Policy remained under development. The deadline for completion and introduction of compulsory RSE has been extended by the government to summer 2021

13. Governor Monitoring, Development and Training

- 13.1. Dan Harrison and Sajni Patni had attended a two-session virtual Governor induction training delivered by the Local Authority on 4 and 11 June.

14. Any Other Business

- 14.1. There were no items of other business raised.

15. Dates of Future meetings 2020/21

- 15.1. The Governing Body **agreed** the following dates:



Meeting	Date
Learning Committee	8 July 2020
FGB	14 October 2020 at 6pm

The meeting concluded at 7.35pm.

Signed 

Date: 3rd July 2020



Appendix 1 – Action Log

Date added	Item	Owner	Date for next review
04/03/2020	Group training to be discussed at the next meeting.	FGB	autumn 2020
04/03/2020	RSE to be brought to the next meeting for approval.	HT/FGB	autumn 2020
04/03/2020	Science for Life Social Media to be updated.	HT	autumn 2020
04/03/2020	New Governors to be sent induction material.	Chair	complete