



GILLESPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

MINUTES FROM

FULL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday 7th July 2021 online at 5.30pm

Attendees:

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| Claire Bolderson (CB) Chair of the Governors & Co-opted Governor | Dan Hamilton (DH) – Co-opted Governor |
| Mark Owen (MO) – Head teacher | Bhavini Doyle (BD) - Parent Governor |
| Sarah Bergin (SB) - Staff Governor | Katrina Moses (KM) – Deputy Head (Observer) |
| Mandy Kirby (MK) - Parent Governor | Sajni Patani (SP)- Co-opted Governor |
| Ashley Smith (AS) Vice -Chair & Co-opted Governor | Tess Lundy – Clerk |
| Cllr Theresa Debono – LA Governor | Jodie Reed (JR) - Parent Governor |
| Rejinder Bangar - Parent Governor | |

RED denotes absent

| Item no. | Item | Action |
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| 1. | <p><u>WELCOME & APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed all Governors and thanked them for attending the final FGB of the academic year.</p> <p>Apologies received from Cllr. Debono, Jodie Reed and Rejinder Bangar.</p> <p>Rejinder Bangar will be stepping down as a Parent Governor after many years of service to the school. The Chair thanked Rej for his work as Safeguarding Governor; he has been a credit to the governing body and will be missed.</p> <p>Rejinder Bangar will handover to Bhavini Doyle who will take over as Safeguarding Governor.</p> | RB, BD |
| 2. | <p><u>2d. National Database</u></p> <p>The Chair noted the National Database report for July 2021 stated Gillespie has 228 children on role. The head teachers report states the school has 232 children on roll. The head will check this and make necessary corrections.</p> | MO |

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| | <p><u>2e. Code of conduct</u></p> <p>The COC is available on Governorhub and has been sent to the Chair to send on to new Governors for review and signing. All new Governors should sign the schools COC upon joining the Governing body; any Governors who have not signed or reviewed the COC should now do so.</p> | |
| 3. | <p><u>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - Wednesday 3rd March 2021</u></p> <p>Minutes accepted as correct and ratified. Signed copy of minutes to be sent to clerk for uploading to Govhub.</p> | CB/ CLERK |
| 4. | <p><u>HEADS REPORT</u></p> <p>The full heads report can be found on Govhub hub via the link HERE</p> <p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>The Chair asked about children listed as persistent absentees noting they are mostly EHCP and vulnerable children. Were these children engaged online during the lockdown or completely absent from learning?</p> <p>The Head explained that some EHCP children did not attend school during the lockdown, despite being entitled to, because they were shielding.</p> <p>KM added that from September 2020, though there was an expectation that all children should be in school, some parents of highly vulnerable children had been reluctant for them to attend. Since the second national lockdown however, all children have been in school with some intermittent absences for medical reasons.</p> <p>However, KM confirmed that when not in school, all these children had been engaging fully with online learning, supported by the SENCO, Lyn, who continues to work closely with them.</p> <p>The Chair noted that a significant number of these EHCP children are in YR4. The implications for that year group, and for the general wellbeing of all EHCP / CEV children would be discussed at the next Learning Committee meeting (Wednesday 14th July 2021).</p> <p><u>Staff Movements</u></p> <p>The Head reported his confidence that the school has an excellent teaching staff in place for September 2021. An NQT has been recruited and will be well supported and mentored by a highly experienced teacher. Another experienced teacher will join reception class on a part time basis. Governors agreed these recruitments were positive.</p> <p><u>Staffing Consultation & Restructure</u></p> <p>The restructure of the lunchtime supervisor roles had gone well. There will now be consultations on how best to manage playtime after the disruption of the last year and a half. Parents, children and staff will be involved in discussions to develop the playtime experience for children to include more creative play, independence and exercise.</p> <p>Members of Gillespie staff will be visiting other schools to see how they use their play spaces.</p> | |

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| | <p>'Playground buddies' will be re-launched and a new senior TA will lead on this process. Consultation will take place in the Autumn term either online or in person.</p> <p><u>Safeguarding</u></p> <p>On Friday 3rd September, there will be Safeguarding training for all school staff. Governors are invited to attend and should tell the Head in advance if they intend to do so.</p> <p><u>Futurezone</u></p> <p>Futurezone activities continue though the usual leadership courses were suspended during the lockdowns..</p> <p>There is however a new national initiative on training. The Government will provide resources for accredited training in a number of areas. There are some parallels to the old leadership course with new provision added for early career teachers. The head will look into the details and report back to governors in the autumn term about the school's plans to utilise this resource.</p> <p><u>Harassment incidents</u></p> <p>The school reports there have been three harassment incidents, this is similar to the average reported over the last decade.</p> <p><u>Islington safeguarding alerts</u></p> <p>The new Safeguarding Governor asked whether a discrepancy over Islington's safeguarding alerts had been resolved. Alerts had only been sent to Heads. This meant what while The Head was away with Year 6 an alert was not seen. Islington has been advised of the need to send the alerts to school offices and this will happen from now on.</p> <p><u>School Roll</u></p> <p>There are a few places in some classes but there are no concerns about the roll. Any spaces are likely to be filled early in the new term. Nursery places remain an issue however and the school is using social media to promote the nursery and asking parents to do likewise.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Head for a very comprehensive report</p> | <p>ALL GOVS.</p> |
| <p>5.</p> | <p><u>Pupil progress and attainment.</u></p> <p>This will be discussed in depth at the next Learning Committee meeting. The Chair expressed pleasant surprise at the target tracker figures provided. Most children had not fallen as far behind as might have been expected in the disruption.</p> <p>KM explained that though many children did not make the 12 steps progress hoped for, they came very close and their learning will likely continue to accelerate. Some children who had been at risk of missing their targets before Lockdown have slipped back a bit, which is a cause for concern. Through Pupil Progress meetings, all those children had been clearly identified and intervention plans had been put in place. This is on top of the catch up programmes already underway.</p> <p>There are two children in YR4 who need additional external support. A Speech and Language assessment and a dyslexia assessment are being arranged</p> <p>The Chair noted that Writing was the one area where all classes were attaining at</p> | |

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| | <p>significantly lower than age related expectations.</p> <p>The Head explained that the SLT and YR4, 5 and 6 Teachers had expected this. Remote learning online is not well suited to the kind of thorough writing and marking feedback children are used to. Writing will be a priority in the next School Improvement plan.</p> <p>SB is looking forward to taking the lead on improving writing next year.</p> <p>Further data and an explanation of the data on pupil progress and attainment can be found here</p> | |
| 6. | <p>UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT (RA) Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to RA approved three weeks ago • Staff to wear masks during any 1-1 staff, small group discussions, and incidental meetings in communal areas. Social distancing and bubbles to be kept for the time being. – This will continue for the last three days of school despite the Government rules change on July 19th 2021 • Head is waiting for the latest DFE safety guidelines that have not come through as yet. • From September 2021, autumn term it is expected there will be no requirement for adults to wear masks, social distancing and bubbles for children will end. However, more information is needed on the details and on plans for the future testing rules. • It is expected that whole-class isolation will end. If a child tests positive, they will isolate, leaving the rest of the class in school. <p>Assemblies, practice for the music show and the science show have all taken place successfully outside in the playground. Parents may be invited into an outside space for the YR6 show but all current safety protocols will remain in place until the term ends.</p> <p>The Chair suggested careful communication to parents of the decision to keep existing protocols in place as many may be expecting otherwise given the government's announcements about July 19th.</p> <p>The risk assessment will be reviewed again just before school opens in September 2021. Governors agreed that the Head, the Chair and the Vice Chair should work on it and send it out to Governors for approval once completed.</p> | <p>MO</p> <p>MO, CB, AS</p> |
| 7. | <p>REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Finance Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final year budget was approved at the last finance committee meeting. • There was a 2020-2021 surplus carry forward of £46K over three years • Overall, the staffing restructure, redundancies and pension costs were a little lower than anticipated. The budget suggested £13,873 but the final figure was £11,280, a saving of £2.5K, which is good news. • Finance committee will meet in Autumn term to monitor the budget and review the financial audit <p>Governors can see full details of the report from the finance committee on Govhub HERE</p> <p>* The Budget has been reviewed and approved by the Governors accordingly.</p> <p><u>Safeguarding Committee</u></p> | <p>SP</p> |

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| | <p>The new Safeguarding Governor BD will meet with the head in the autumn term. Handover from RB will be done in school. RB and BD to liaise and organise suitable time.</p> <p>* Safeguarding training September 3rd 2021. Governors are encouraged to sign up</p> <p>The Chair will review all vacant posts on the board with a view to filling committee and link Governor roles in the new term.</p> <p><u>Learning Committee</u></p> <p>Governors were reminded about the next meeting, at 6pm on Wednesday 14th July.</p> | <p>BD, MO RB</p> <p>CB</p> |
| 8 | <p><u>Science for life</u></p> <p>The LA remains keen to develop a borough wide strategy. This includes expanding the number of 'roving scientists' to support Scientist in Residence, Megan, in rolling out the scheme into more schools. There have been expressions of interest from other primaries and some interest at secondary level.</p> <p>However, The Head reported that the recent recruitment drive failed to appoint anyone suitable so the posts will be re-advertised in Jan 2022. The head commended Megan on her hard work from which the children are benefiting greatly</p> | |
| 9. | <p><u>Governor Training</u></p> <p>BD and MK have completed the Governor induction-training programme. BD has completed Safeguarding Training</p> | |
| 10 | <p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>N/A</p> | |
| 11 | <p>FUTURE MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Chair and Head to set next year's meeting dates and send through to Governors and clerk.</p> | <p>CB / MO</p> |

PART TWO – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

If there are items to be discussed under Part 2, please put the items below on a new sheet.

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| 11. | <p>CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS</p> <p>None</p> | |
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| | <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC</p> | |
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There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 18.47 pm.

Tess Lundy - Clerk to Governors

Islington Governor Services Islington Council

CHAIR:



DATE: 20.10.2021



**GILLESPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL
ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING OF
7TH JULY 2021**

| ITEM | ACTION | BY |
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| 2. | Head to confirm current roll figure and update FGB in Autumn FGB meeting. | MO |
| 3. | Chair to sign ratified minutes for March 3 rd 2021 and return to Tess at countess.lundy@islington.gov.uk for filing and upload to Govhub. | CB, Clerk MO |
| 4. | Safeguarding training September 3 rd 2021. Governors who have not attended this training are | MO, ALL GOVS |

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| | encouraged to sign up by letting the head know they wish to attend. | |
| 6. | Head to communicate to parents that all social distancing and current Covid safety measures will remain in place after July 19 th for the last three days of the summer term. | MO |
| 6. | Risk Assessment to be reviewed early September by Head, Chair and Vice Chair, before school re-opens before circulation to all Governors for review. | MO, CB, AS |
| 6. | Governors to review updates Risk assessment following review by Head, Chair and Vice Chair in September. | ALL GOVS |
| 7. | Safeguarding Governor handover- Rejinder Bangar to liaise with Bini Doyle to come into school for handover | RB, BD, MO |
| 7. | Chair to send out list of vacant posts on the board to fill committee and link Governor vacancies. | CB |
| 11. | Chair and Head to liaise and set next year's committee and FGB meeting dates. FGB meeting dates to be sent to clerk for upload to Govhub and to pass to ISL Governor services. | CB, MO |