



**MINUTES
GILLESPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 15 October 2025, 6pm**

In attendance

**Michael Padfield (Committee Chair)
Mark Owen (Headteacher)
Shelley Wragg
Tiffanie Lee
Shruti Dkolakia
Dan Hamilton**

Apologies

**Deborah Lee
Ashley Smith
Fin Craig
Alicia Jumman**

Actions

LC agreed to request follow-up sessions on:

1. Let's Think English and the Skills Builder Programme
2. The Healthy School Status and progress towards the Gold Award
3. The approach to supporting SEND and complex needs pupils

LC agreed that those sessions would be made open to the School's Parent Community insofar as possible.

Introduction and School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Michael began the meeting by thanking Mark and his colleagues for the preparation of the SIP. These minutes should be read alongside the SIP. Mark outlined the purpose of the SIP, and the collaborative process by which it is finalised. That usually includes engagement with the LC at the end of the previous academic year. The SIP is a mechanism which allows the school to consider relevant data, and ensure the curriculum is as rich and diverse as possible, while being applied fairly to all children across the school.

School Improvement Plan

The Learning Committee then worked through the SIP.

Shelley talked the Committee through the staged rollout of the Let's Think English programme, explaining that it would lead to cognitive acceleration in English. She covered some of the history of the programme and predecessor programmes, and the rollout from September 2026 across KS1 and KS2. LTE provides materials and ways of teaching that will build on existing lesson plans. She covered the reasons for choosing English rather than numeracy (not least the outstanding existing

scores the school has in numeracy), and the likely future government focus on oracy. Shelley also covered the Skills Builder programme, which Hassan would be leading (in addition to his roles on maths). The Committee agreed that they would welcome a session on LTE and SBP later in the year, to understand more about them and to understand plans for rollout.

Mark outlined the School's Plan to secure a Gold Award in the Healthy School Status. The school has to select one particular aspect of child health on which to focus, and will focus on children's mental wellbeing. The Committee discussed the reasons for choosing that aspect of health, including the need to support children in learning tools to manage emotional regulation. The Committee agreed that they would welcome a future session on Healthy Schools status, the process required, and progress later in the year.

Mark passed on Lyn's apologies that she wasn't able to be present at the meeting. Given the importance of the issue, and the amount of thought that Lyn had clearly put into the SIP, the Committee agreed that SEND provision should stand as a separate session for the Committee.

The Committee noted the huge progress in numbers attending the nursery, and discussed next steps on bringing together nursery and reception provision and creating a coherent early years setting (with caterpillars and butterflies).

Next steps

The Committee discussed next steps, and confirmed that they agreed with the actions set out above.

Shelley reiterated that school comms should be through the newsletter where possible, rather than through parent whatsapp groups. This allows the school to make sure the key messages are being landed with parents, and encourages parents to read the newsletter rather than relying on whatsapp.

DRAFT