



MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE PRIMARY MEETING

Tuesday 16 March 2021, 6pm
Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Kelly Jackson, Rachael Coyne, Stuart Williams, Sally Kirkby (Vice Chair), Barney Thorne and Adam Lowe

In attendance

Suzi Green (Clerk)

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sally Kirkby welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Sam Hearth, Mel Pitkeathly and Mark Tinkler.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Adam Lowe declared an interest due to his role at the Local Authority and also as safeguarding officer at Oakham Parish Church.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2021 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Vice Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

5. CLERK'S UPDATE

The clerk shared the results of the recent governors' election. The two candidates who received the most votes would become parent governors and the clerk explained that the third one could be appointed by the governing body if it were deemed that they had a useful skill set. This was discussed by the governors and it was unanimously agreed to appoint. The clerk would then contact the candidates to ask them to fill in an application form and complete a DBS check as per guidance for safer recruitment. The new governors would then undertake an induction programme which involved NSPCC safeguarding training.

6. EYFS GARDEN

Mrs Jackson explained that this was a major project for the school, the garden that had been in place when the building was the PreSchool had been stripped out as it wasn't really suitable and was also showing signs of wear. Three companies had visited the site and quoted for the work, the one chosen had been presented to the Resources Committee to be approved as it was a significant sum of money. A representative of the company had visited the site and provided a risk assessment. The work would commence on Monday 29 March which would mean there were only 4 days that the contractors would be working with the children present before the Easter break. Mrs Jackson added that this was an exciting project

for the school and this would hopefully make the school an even more attractive proposition for prospective parents.

The Creative Editor was coming into school before the work commenced in order to film the area with the drone, she would then film again following the completion as before and after pictures.

Mrs Jackson explained that, should COVID rules allow, the school hoped to have stay and play sessions for new reception pupils for September 2022. Mrs Jackson shared the images of the design for the garden.

7. COVID-19 UPDATE

Mrs Jackson explained that as of Monday 8 March, all children had returned to school. The first day back was used for re-establishing routines and friendships. Moreover, World Book Day had been pushed back a week to enable all the children to take part. All of the pupils had returned, except one who was self-isolating and on the whole the return had gone well. Staff had been looking at gaps analysis in order to ascertain what had been taught, this was taking place through low key checkpoints.

Mrs Jackson said that she would write to parents that week in order to explain that reports would be delayed until after the Easter break. This would enable staff to assess any gaps in learning which would ensure that the reports are more meaningful for parents.

Question – Has there been any indication of how home schooling had gone?

Mrs Jackson said that the staff had been setting the same work, but obviously some children had been supported more than others. She added that the work submitted had been tracked and that any children the staff had been concerned about had been invited in to school.

Question – How was behaviour amongst the children since they had returned?

Mrs Jackson responded that there hadn't been any major issues, just a few had struggled with the structure and routines. The first two days had focused on reinforcing these expectations. Mrs Coyne then added that it could also be seen from the other side, in that everyone returning was a change for the pupils who had been attending school throughout, it had been a bit of a shock to the system. She had done a learning walk this week and everyone had seemed more settled, but staff were monitoring any issues and supporting the children where necessary.

Mrs Jackson explained about COVID-19 testing of staff, they were able to do this at home now and report the results to her, this was happening twice a week.

The Government has also provided access to home testing for parents and pupils and details of the local collection points had been sent via Groupcall.

The next item was staff workload and Mrs Jackson said that she and Mrs Coyne were keen to reflect the amount of work that staff had now that all the children were back in school. The deep analysis of gaps in learning needed has meant that the extra PPA time for teachers has been extended for this term.

Question – Are the Sports Coach and HLTA continuing with their extra hours?

Mrs Jackson confirmed that they would and stated that it makes a real difference to class teacher workload.

8. SCORECARDS

Behaviour and Attitudes including Attendance

Mrs Coyne explained that the attendance figure was just below the aspirational school target, but remained above the national figure. The figures for attendance within the key worker provision were also shared for terms 3 and 4. These showed that the numbers had increased in term 4. Mrs Coyne had compared the attendance figures from the DfE with the ones for Catmose Primary, and nationally these had been between 21-28%, whereas Catmose Primary's had been between 45-50%. This had been a good thing in the long term as it meant more of the pupils had been able to attend, especially those considered vulnerable and the children of those doing key worker roles.

With regards to the safeguarding and behaviour data, this was still tracked on CPOMS, Mrs Coyne explained that she wanted to highlight the home/parenting issues figures as she was aware that these looked high. However, this was due to the recording of every contact and there were some families who hadn't engaged at all during lockdown, so this reflected all the messages sent and the contact made which helped to build up the bigger picture. However, the number of reports which had been taken further were fewer than 10.

The Emotional Literacy Support Assistant was offering further support as required, as was the Learning Mentor.

Mrs Coyne spoke about the continuation of the wider offer, they had tried to carry on this important work even during terms 3 and 4. There had been a Super Learning Day for Children's Mental Health Week, Forest School sessions and Rutland Music Hub had provided some online sessions.

Question – Has the school got plans for subsequent terms?

Mrs Coyne explained that World Book Day had been the Super Learning Day for this term and ones were planned for the following terms. She said that the school had big plans for the rest of the year if trips and mixing are allowed, however they had back up plans if this wasn't the case. She had been looking at virtual trips, for example a virtual helicopter trip to New York, as it was necessary to think differently about what the school was able to offer.

9. A.O.B

The Vice Chair said well done to all the staff, the children all seemed happy to be back. Mr Williams said that he had written to each member of staff to thank them for their hard work and added that when he had been in school the previous Friday afternoon, he had been struck by the lovely atmosphere.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 25 May 2021 at 5.00pm