



## MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE PRIMARY MEETING

TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022, 5pm  
SCIENCE LAB

### Present

Kelly Jackson (KJ), Rachael Coyne (RC), Sam Hearth (SH) (Chair), Marianne Winn, Mark Tinkler, Jane Ritchie-Smith, Mel Pitkeathly and Barney Thorne.

### In attendance

Suzi Green (Clerk)

#### 1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sam Hearth welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Sally Kirkby and Stuart Williams.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

#### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2022 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the chair.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

#### 5. CLERK'S UPDATE

The date of Thursday 26 May 2022 at 3.00pm was suggested for the rescheduled SEN scrutiny panel and the clerk asked if anyone was available. Adam Lowe has resigned as a governor with immediate effect.

#### 6. COVID-19 UPDATE

Mrs Jackson explained the school was keeping up-to-date with all the necessary requirements. There is no longer a need for testing, however if a child tests positive, then they should stay off school for 3 days, for staff the expectation is 5 days, following guidance. If staff feel unwell beyond 5 days then they should stay off until they feel well. Mrs Jackson added that there was a low stock of tests and the ability to order them through the DfE had been removed.

#### Question – Could you get tests from Public Health England?

Kelly Jackson replied that no, they were ordered through the DfE. The school is continuing with good hygiene practices and keeping the windows open. There are no bubbles, the school was back to normal, however, there are 100 tickets available for the Year 3 & 4 performance, rather than the usual 200. It was about learning to live with COVID.

### Question - How long do you think you will reduce the number of parents attending events?

Mrs Jackson explained that the next event would be the May Dance which would take place outside and there would be no limit on numbers. It would be the first big event post Covid and Mrs Coyne added that they would also see what's happening in school at that point in order to see if the plan needed changing. Mrs Jackson then said that it was difficult to continue restricting numbers at school events when the rest of society was open.

### Question – Is it still a rule that mitigations have to be put into place if the numbers go up?

No and there was not much likelihood that there would be an outbreak as people aren't testing.

### Question – Is it appropriate to remove Covid from the agenda?

Mrs Jackson said that she would like it to remain for Term 6 and then look again after September.

## 7. POLICIES

The following policies were ratified:

- Home School Agreement
- EYFS Mobile Phone
- Early Years Transition

The Home School Agreement was broadly the same as previous years, there was just a date change and a modification in the expectations around communications. A part had been added about being respectful and also responding during work hours which had been spoken about in the previous meeting. It was explained that the agreement needed ratifying for the new intake.

The EYFS Mobile Phone Policy contained a slight amendment due the ongoing use of phones to upload information and pictures on to class dojo. Once uploaded, they were deleted.

### Question - Does Class Dojo have its own policy on deleting items?

Mrs Jackson will check.

With regards to the Early Years transition, Mrs Coyne, Mrs Hemming-Tayler and Mrs Jackson had looked at the transition to Year 1 as well as the initial transition to primary school. This is because the current Year 1 have found it tricky, therefore staff have looked at how they could make this easier. There was some debate over whether this should be a procedure or policy, but making it a policy gives staff more structured guidance.

### Question – What did they find tricky?

Mrs Jackson explained that it was just the move to Year 1, effectively they had only had half a year in Reception and then they came into big school. This was illustrated by the fact that they talk about going over to school, therefore seeing themselves somewhat separate. Mrs Jackson added that that she was getting the current Year 1s to make videos so the current Reception class know more about what they do in that class. Moreover, there was a plan for the Year 1 teacher to do story time with Ash Class, along with four sessions of shuffle-up in term 6. This shuffle-up plan would also be the case for all year groups.

#### Question – Has lockdown made it worse?

Possibly yes, although some children struggle with change anyway. Mrs Coyne explained that the four shuffle-up sessions will give them more routine.

#### Question – How many children were coming into the Reception class in 2022?

Mrs Jackson explained that admissions were full and there is a significant waiting list.

#### Question – Has the school received any appeals?

Mrs Jackson responded that they hadn't.

#### Question – Are other schools in the area in the same position?

Mrs Jackson responded that she was unsure, the school will know in September.

#### Question – Is expanding an option?

Mrs Jackson said that it was not a current option at Catmose Primary and there was no need as yet for Barleythorpe Primary, as other schools in the area had spaces. She added that all the schools in Oakham were good and if parents are looking to move their child, then she advises them to speak to their current school first.

### 8. SCORECARDS

Mrs Coyne began with Behaviour and Attitudes and spoke about the school's attendance which was above the national figure, she added that this was particularly good as COVID absences were now counted in the figures.

The safeguarding and behaviour tracking is a cumulative figure. In term 4 there has been an increase with regards to referrals to external agencies.

#### Question -The figure seemed to have doubled, does this relate to specific children?

It was explained that there was a need to gather evidence, then the school was able to put in referrals. Therefore, it wasn't an increase in the number of children, but a more accurate reflection of all outside agency contact.

#### Question – With additional bureaucracy are you sufficiently staffed in terms of a SENCo?

Mrs Jackson said that yes, she has her dedicated time and is given extra if needed. Mrs Coyne explained that some of the incidents leading to contact with external agencies are hypothetical calls to the social services duty desk. Also, staff are using CPOMS more to log this contact, plus the ELSA was now logging on. It was pointed out that this shows how proactive the staff are.

#### Question – What does the safeguarding section mean?

Mrs Coyne explained it could be that a child had mentioned Fortnite, or they persistently didn't have their PE kit. As it is cumulative this doesn't illustrate a significant jump. It was noted that perhaps the data can look confusing and it may be better to show the incidents total by term. **KJ to action.**

Mrs Coyne advised that the house point data and the activity passport is a success with the pupils.

### Question – Do the pupils love it?

Mrs Jackson replied that they do, but the school was also looking to amend it slightly. At the moment the children had a booklet per year, however, next year the plan was to have a class list in the form of a large poster where the activities could be ticked off once completed. Then they would also have a booklet which will last throughout their time at school. Ostensibly, it would capture the same things, but less work for teachers.

### Question – Could it be online?

Mrs Jackson said that they could look at it, but added that a large poster is a good visual tool for the children.

### Question – How about the children who don't get support at home to complete the activities?

Mrs Jackson responded that the teachers and TAs will help where they can and support the children to achieve during the school day, ensuring all children have a chance to participate and achieve.

### Question - Are there many?

Mrs Jackson explained there are a few per class and the teachers were aware.

Sporting events, clubs, trips and workshops are now getting back to normal.

With regards to the teaching and learning data this hadn't changed much. Observations had been completed for those staff who had not received an observation on the school review day. They have been looking at the workload for teachers and providing a release day which gave teachers dedicated time to work on the subject on which they are leading. As mentioned in the previous meeting, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Coyne had picked up two subject areas each to lead on and this had been well received by the staff.

### Question – For those that are good, do you explain how to get outstanding?

Yes, when observing, the observer used a form which showed three areas that were good and three where improvements could be made. These were discussed during the feedback and support was offered with regards to the next steps.

### Question – Have you considered cross-school mentoring?

Mrs Coyne said not yet, but this could be the next step because of the Rutland Learning Trust. She also explained that they had to close the Rutland Teaching Alliance and many courses were now online. However, there were more links with Catmose College now, e.g. the Assistant Team Leader of Maths came to see the Year 6 teachers and in a reciprocal arrangement, she will go to Year 7 to see how maths is taught there.

Mrs Coyne spoke about the outcomes and began with the GLD in Early Years. The figure is below the national one, but it was pointed out those figures were from 2019 when the tests were last completed. In the Year 1 phonics screening there were a few targeted pupils which should bring the pass rate up to in line with the National 2019. The current Year 2s had completed their phonics screening at the start of Year 2 and of those that needed to retake during the summer term, they were on track for a pass rate, in line with National 2019.

The KS1 figures illustrated the current predictions. The Juniper data had been gathered from thousands of schools to give idea of a national picture. Year 2 have not had a whole school year yet, therefore they had missed chunks of school. The school was also very careful not to inflate the greater depth data.

Mrs Coyne explained that the KS2 combined data showed reading, writing and maths and this was shown alongside the Juniper data. The boundaries are not yet known.

Governors pointed out that concessions have been made for the GCSEs. Mrs Jackson said that this was not the case for SATs, however, access to the funding for national tutoring is being used.

**Question – The Year 6s last year did sit SATs, albeit in school, do you have those grades to compare?**

Mrs Jackson explained that the Year 6 grades were measured against the children's KS1 grades. She finished by saying that the academic effect of the lockdowns and school closures had more impact in the younger year groups. The older year groups had more resilience and the sound education base to enable them to cope better.

**9. A.O.B.**

**Question – Would the Catmose College policy on mobile phones be replicated at the Primary?**

Mrs Jackson explained that the pupils are not allowed their phones during the day anyway, if they bring them in, they have to hand them over to the teacher. Moreover, they were not allowed to take them on trips and residentials, so the policy wouldn't be required as our current practice matches the College's new approach.

The meeting closed at 6.15pm

**Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 7 July 2022 at 5.00pm