

Board of Governors Meeting Summary: Tuesday 18th May 2021

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Procedural Items

Membership of the Board of Governors

We still have a vacancy for one co-opted Governor, preferably with financial experience.

Strategic Direction

National Agenda

This continues to focus on Academies and Multi-Academy Trusts but this is not currently our preferred model and Maintained Schools continue to outperform MAT's locally. Within the Plymouth area we are part of a collaborative and supportive Church Schools group and are continuing to strengthen these links with great local CE Schools. We are confident this will facilitate shared ideas and learning as well as provide further opportunities for staff and pupils to visit other schools with a similar ethos.

Accountability

Review School Development Plan (Strategic)

The School Development Plan, written in 2020, relating to the strategic vision over the next 3 years, has been reviewed. Despite the unprecedented challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, the school continues to make good progress against the goals. Following recent staff training on Ofsted requirements, additional objectives will be added to reflect the increased emphasis on English, specifically reading and phonics. It is recognised that the current phonics teaching within school is very successful but there will be a requirement to follow an accredited programme. There are various options, which will be considered by key staff and the selected scheme will be implemented from 2021-22.

Within the current curriculum, there is already a strong emphasis on reading. Across all Key Stages, there are lots of teaching and learning strategies to support and encourage children to read, enjoy books and develop their vocabulary.

Monitor Budget

Going forward, there will be priority given to Monitoring the Budget, as this has been much more challenging to implement over the past year. The Finance Group, which now consists of 4 Governors, will meet at least six times a year and is due to report back to the Board of Governors at the next meeting.

Report on Benchmarking Exercise

This was completed in relation to 2019-20 and our spending favours comparably with other similar schools. Our spending was lowest on our premises and highest on our staff, reflecting the experience we have in our teaching staff across the school. School income is a direct reflection of pupil numbers and although this has improved significantly for the next academic year we are still below our PAN (Planned Application Numbers) of 50. The School now has an official Facebook page and

there are other strategies to consider which may help to increase our numbers from 2022.

SFVS Return

The Schools Financial Values Standard (SFVS) Return has been completed. This is a mandatory requirement to help schools and local authorities meet standards for good financial health and resource management.

Audit Feedback

All but two areas were GREEN, which is a great achievement. The minor action points are already being addressed.

People

Review proposed staffing structure

The staffing structure for 2021-22 was reviewed and there will be some changes made within all Key Stages. This includes two new teachers taking up posts in September and changes for the KS2 leads, which will strengthen their roles and provide new opportunities and experience. There will also be a focus on managing the transition for children as they move up the school.

Compliance

Review arrangements for reporting to parents

All teachers will offer parents the opportunity for a 1-1 face-to-face parents evening and End of Year reports will be sent home as usual.

Sex and Relationships Education policy

The new SRE policy is in the process of public consultation, having recently been sent out to all stakeholders, including parents and governors. Any comments will be reviewed and the policy due to be finalised at the next Board of Governors meeting.

Next Meeting: 29th June 2021 at 1830