



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF DARNHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON THE 12TH JULY 2017.

Present: Mr R Strachan
Mrs J Bailey
Mrs S Tomlinson **Headteacher**
Mr A Woods
Mrs E Robinson
Mrs J Hughes
Ms J Stringer

In attendance: Mrs A Broome **Clerk to the Governors**
Ms K L Evans **School Staff**

PART ONE

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: that

Apologies were received and accepted by Governors for Mrs Robertson, Ms Williams and Mrs Holden

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Governors were asked to declare any conflicts of interest about the business to be discussed at this meeting or any changes in their circumstances.

RESOLVED: that

There were no declarations of interest declared.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that

The part one minutes of the meeting held on the 15th June 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The Action Tracker Part One has been updated as necessary.

5. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Overview/Update

Data

Governors were given a copy of the school results at the meeting, although the SATs results had been sent by email to Governors on the 4th July.

EYFS GLD School 2017 - 72% School 2016 - 72% no change
The national and LA figures for 2017 are not available yet although National in 2016 was 69% and LA was 71%.

Phonics screening

Year One 76% in 2017 67% in 2016 so an increase of 9% this year.



HT reminded Governors about their good decision making regarding phonics booster lessons which has been in place since January 2017. This will be continuing from September so it is hoped that next year this can make even more impact than this year.

KS1 results

Reading	70% at or above expected standard
Writing	63% “ “ “ “
Maths	70% “ “ “ “

It was acknowledged that the school has performed slightly worse in Reading this year compared to last year, difference of 3%. However, the Writing and Maths results are up by 5% and 8% respectively.

HT noted that this cohort has 43% SEND so progress is good. It was also noted that the school was moderated this year so the results are rigorous.

KS2 results

<u>School</u>		<u>National</u>
Reading	79% at or above expected standard	71%
Writing	62% “ “ “ “	76%
Maths	76% “ “ “ “	75%
SPAG	79% “ “ “ “	77%
Combined RWM	59% “ “ “ “	61%

The school is higher than national in Reading, Maths and SPAG and close to national in Combined RWM.

The gap between school and national was 10% in 2016, this has narrowed to 2% in 2017 in combined RWM.

In writing, the gap between school and national was 23% in 2016 but has narrowed to 14% in 2017.

HT is very pleased with the progress in all areas, but is hopeful with the full year of changes next year should be better again.

Governors gave thanks to all the Staff for the hard work completed.

Email from the LA

Governors were given an email from Edsential regarding the moderation cycle this year. The EQP Advisory Teacher for Assessment advised that moderators believe that moderation practise at this school is exemplary and are now using this as a model at other schools.

Governors gave thanks to the HT and the Staff for this great recognition.



Report from Ann Gill

Governors were given a paper copy of the pre-Ofsted catch up visit report which took place on the 19th June.

HT is pleased to report that the wealth of knowledge at this school is immense, with particular praise for the Resource Provision unit. The SIP was very impressed with the SATs results and the school overall.

HT also reported that she had received a wellbeing check and the SIP reported no issues or concerns.

GQ; the last section of the report, regarding improving provision for the groups of pupils who are making less than expected progress, how will this information be reported? HT advised that this will be added to the SES.

Attendance

HT reported that attendance is down by 0.4%.

GQ; will this decrease when fines are active again? HT is hopeful but doesn't know for sure.

ACTION;

Attendance information will be included in SES.

The order of the agenda was altered slightly so that a presentation about PE and Sports Funding could take place.

Ms Evans gave Governors much paper work regarding the PE and Sports premium funding for both key stages as well as the Sports Action Planning Tool and the current PE policy.

She advised that the school have received just under £9k in sports premium funding with the aim to be to improve and maximize the quality of PE and Sports at Darnhall. This has also included promoting a healthy lifestyle, working with specialist teachers and increasing confidence.

There has been increased participation in competitive sports, extracurricular for Gifted and Talented children and yearly PE objectives for KS1 & KS2. This has included assessment tracking and a School Action Plan with support from the WEP.

GQ; what will be the next steps? Ms Evans advised that it is being planned that swimming lessons will start in KS1 and to employ sports coaches for after school clubs. It is hoped that the school can continue to promote local clubs in Winsford, with assessment being completed via target tracker.

The overall dream for Darnhall is to acquire a mini bus, whether this could be purchased or leased.

Governors believe this would be a fab idea but are not sure how the school could afford this as well as the maintenance and insurance costs.

A Governor believes some sponsorship would be useful as well as some research regarding the on-costs.

Other Governors highlighted that there would need to be attention given to who would be able to drive the bus and could it be a possibility to share a minibus with another school?



ACTION;

Mr Woods offered to ask the lease manager where he works how it would work for the school.

GQ; how has this linked with health and wellbeing at the school? Ms Evans believes it has been a good approach and in particular for girls in Years 5/ 6 as it has meant that they are getting a positive experience about sport before they enter high school.

GQ; from a parent's perspective, how are we communicating this to them? Mrs Evans advised that much information is included on social media.

GQ; could there be other channels linked to wellbeing? Mrs Evans believes that the information that has been given to Governors tonight could be added to the school website as very useful information.

ACTION;

Ms Evans will endeavour to promote the PE and Sports programme at the school to parents and will report back again in due course. HT noted that Ms Evans was going to step down as the Sports Coordinator from next year and take on Maths, however as she is making such good progress HT believes she should continue in the role and promote a whole school approach.

HT advised that the School is looking to reproduce an idea that Middlewich High School is involved with for Gifted and Talented children with it being tailored to primary education to include sport, music etc.

ACTION;

HT will give Governors more information about this in September/October.

Ms Evans left the meeting at 7.30pm.

6. SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED; that
There was nothing to report under this item.

7. CURRICULUM

This was the PE/Sports Funding presentation.

8. BEHAVIOUR

There was nothing to report under this item.

9. HEALTH & SAFETY

There was nothing to report under this item.

10. FINANCE

This was discussed under Part Two as it was regarding Staffing.

11. PREMISES

There was nothing to report under this item.



12. GOVERNANCE

RESOLVED: that

There remain vacancies for one Co-opted Governor and one LA Governor.

ACTION;

Chair asked that this is considered again at the autumn term meetings.

Chair advised Governors that he has now received responses for the '20 questions to Governors' and he gave thanks for all the views expressed.

Chair challenged that question no.13 asks Governors, 'how do you report to parents?'

ACTION;

Chair believes that Governors should do this better as it is very important, this is an area of improvement that needs to be addressed.

Chair challenged that another area of improvement is engagement of Governors in the work at the schools and believes there are many opportunities to do this and this should be better planned.

Governors responsibilities in the following areas need to be addressed;

Deputy Safeguarding Governor and SEND Governor

Mrs Robinson volunteered to take on the role of Community Engagement Governor

Chair believes it is imperative that a Governor Involvement Day is organised in October/November 2017.

GQ; does this need to include final data information?

GQ; does this need to be discussed at the same time as the other areas as defined above?

GQ; could two shorter sessions be planned?

ACTION;

A Governor Involvement Morning will be held on Saturday 4th November between 8.30am and 12.30pm.

Governor roles and responsibilities will be discussed at the October FGB Meeting.

Mrs Robinson advised that she is looking to organise some dance programmes for schools under the remit of working within the local community.

HT and Governors believe this is a great idea and think it would be useful for this to be discussed at a Staffing Meeting on a Wednesday.

Mrs Robinson also advised that GGO in conjunction with Weaver Vale Housing are organising a 'summer frenzy' of activities over the summer holidays free of charge to children in Winsford.

ACTION;

Mrs Robinson will send all the information to Ms Evans so that this can be promoted to parents via Facebook and the school website.



There was also discussion amongst Governors whether the local Tenancy Service Officer, Rob Burrows could be asked to become an Associate Member on the Governing Body.

ACTION;

Mrs Robinson will make enquiries with him whether this would be a role he would be interested in.

13. TOPICAL

There was nothing to report under this item.

14. PERIODICAL

There was nothing to report under this item.

15. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Confirmed dates for meetings in 2017/18 which are all Thursdays at 6.30pm:

Autumn term - 21/9/17, 26/10/17 and 23/11/17

Spring term – 18/1/18, 15/2/18 and 22/3/18

Summer term – 10/5/18, 14/6/18 and 12/7/18


 ----- Chair
 21/09/2017
 ----- Dated

ACTION MATRIX

Work Stream	Action No.	Date opened	Action Manager	Action	Action Update	Target Date	Status
Health & Safety overview for Staff	1	15/10/15	HT & Vice Chair Bursar	To arrange for the Vice Chair to come into school to give Staff an overview on health and safety	Mr Woods will supply HT with some suitable dates by email and then this can be finalised. It has proved difficult to arrange a suitable date/time for both the school and Mr Woods, therefore HT suggested that John Siddorn from CWAC could be asked to come to the school to complete this task. The Bursar will contact CWAC to arrange the above this term if possible.	Autumn term	Open
Governance	2	13.7.16	Chair	There remain vacancies for 1 x Co-opted Governor and 1x LA Governor	Chair challenged that Governors need to think strategically about the Governing Body going forward and consider succession planning as he has now been on the Governing body for 20 years and been the Chair for 10 years.	Autumn term	Ongoing



					Chair also asked Governors for their thoughts on the Governing Body being known as a Governing Board. A decision will be made in the autumn.		
Strategic building review	3	11.5.17	HT & Chair/ Vice Chair	To continue discussion about the single site planning.	Two CWAC officers visited both school sites and could see the many challenges this presents. It was confirmed that there will not be any criteria for building work unless the PAN is reduced from 65 as this is much too high. It was a positive meeting, however there is not a quick fix. The strategic building review will be updated as necessary. Chair will make plans to engage with the local councillor and invite him into school.	Autumn term	Open
Phonics event for Parents	4	11.5.17		To plan an event for parents so they can gain more knowledge about phonics.		Autumn term	Open
Health & Safety	5	11.5.17		To ensure ongoing issues regarding H & S are addressed.	The Vice Chair is visiting school on the 8 th June for the Finance meeting and during this time he will look at the possibility of fitting self-closing devices on each corridor door which then activates a loud noise. This would cost £95 per door so a total of approximately £500. The bursar advised that the school are currently trialling some of the above fittings and have ordered another six as well.	Autumn term	Ongoing
Governor Involvement Day	6	12.7.17		Governors will meet to discuss how they can be more actively involved in school life.		Autumn term	
Governor roles and Responsibilities	7	12.7.17		Governor roles and responsibilities will be reviewed at the October FGB Meeting		October FGB	
Associate Member	8	12.7.17		Mrs Robinson to report back whether Mr Burrows is interested in becoming an Associate Member on the Governing Body.		Autumn term	

