

NEWTON POPPLEFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD **TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

held at Newton Poppleford Primary School Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 6.30pm Via Google Meet

Present: Chris Trengove
Stuart Vaughan

Marian Gadian

Nicola Dowsing

In attendance: Natalie Mann (Clerk)

Quorum: *Quorate*

Ref	Agenda Item	Action to be taken
1	Apologies for absence – JR apologies were sanctioned by governors.	
2	Notice – Received	
3	Declaration of business interests relating to the agenda – None	
4	Minutes of last meeting on 19th January 2021 – The minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the previous meeting and signed by chair; CT. CT will send signed minutes into school.	
5	Matters arising from the meeting on 19th January 2021 – NM to chase BM by phone with relation to equality. Online policy appendix completed by all governors. NM circulated Governors email of thanks to the staff and was well received with positive feedback. ND sent information from Chris Holland about natural musicians' course, SV to follow up.	NM SV
6	Review and recommend SDP – to include Early Years Leadership – SDP has been shared with governors prior to meeting. <i>ND asked OFSTED highlighted writing as focus within the curriculum, is it that focused writing is the planned area to be scrutinised?</i> No all writing will be scrutinised following OFSTED recommendations. <i>ND asked does the book scrutiny worry staff?</i> All staff understand the scrutiny of books and this is done in a supportive collaborative approach and is completed with the staff. <i>ND asked if the golden mile could be considered as an extension to play time to offer the children choice in taking part?</i> There is a push from the DfE on children being more active, and the expectation is we do something like this to encourage children. At present we are trialing the golden mile along with other options and how we can build this into our timetable. SLT will be looking for feedback from children and staff to how this can work. SV will take ND suggestion forward to Staff and SLT. <i>CT asked how is engagement with parents at parents' evenings to discuss their children's progress?</i> We do have a small percentage of parents that do not attend these. Before COVID we had a 90% turn out for most classes. We have been discussing what form these will take place moving forward, and that for some parents' virtual formats may work better. We will consider a parent consultation to get the parents views moving forward. The next parents' meetings will take place virtual and this will take place after Easter now. At the end of the year, we have a report that goes to parents to focus on the core subjects and a general comment on their progress and achievements. <i>CT asked does this need to be featured into the SDP?</i> Yes, SV agreed to add. <i>ND asked what currently takes place for English that has led to the idea of exploring English hour for whole school?</i> SV advised this is an idea we are exploring including options of how this can work across the whole	

	<p>school, and how this may effect the current class lessons. Staff will continue to discuss before a decision is made. <i>CT asked if there is any improvement goals or development for safeguarding?</i> SV advised that safeguarding training is built into the budget and SDP annually and is a regular focus ongoing, this includes one-minute updates, level 2 and 3 training updates.</p> <p>New focus on behaviour from September and JM is working on gathering ideas and views from staff and children on how we can move forward and imbed these.</p> <p>Governors congratulated the staff and SLT on the existing work they do around behaviour and directly for those more challenging children within the school. <i>CT asked could it be considered that behaviour systems may work across the secondary and primary schools?</i> Governors agreed this is an interesting idea, and SV will take to the next learning community meeting.</p> <p><i>CT asked is there a lead across the school looking into the idea of a foundation stage unit as mentioned in the SDP?</i> SV leads overall, and has previous experience of a foundation unit, the first part of the plan will be to look at these settings in current schools and how this may be applied to Newton Poppleford. MG suggested considering the acoustics of the enviroment when thinking about an option of having a foundation unit. MG offered advice if required. <i>ND asked is a foundation unit more of a nursery class or still preschool?</i> Still a preschool and reception class allowing the two to work closely together. A foundation unit allows for children to be able to work more at their abilities. Timescale for developing this is September 2022 to allow for plenty of preparation and research. <i>CT asked can accelerated reader be transferred between secondary schools?</i> SV will check if this has been considered.</p>	
7	<p>Community and Parents Links –</p> <p>SV reported that he is hopeful some of the well-received events will be able to take place this year and these have been moved to July in the hope that restrictions will be lifted, and parents will be able to come and support. Sports day, Year 5/6 play and sports well week. Wow weeks had started prior to COVID and hope we will be able to continue this again soon. <i>MG asked as SF&S governor what role should she take in this area?</i> The main part of the role links with the SEND role that MG already holds. Once MG has been able to meet with Debbie Tollerfield, MG will be able to identify how her role fits within the SF&S area.</p>	
8	<p>Governors training update and feedback –</p> <p>CT has complete course on chairing meetings and reported back to committee. Training reflected on the positive and negatives of remote meetings, governors agreed a discussion should take place once we are able to meet face to face and decide what would suit be the board best moving forward.</p>	
9	<p>Policies for Review:</p> <p>Intimate Care – MG reviewed, reported a lot of work has gone into the policy when it was written.</p> <p>SEND – MG reviewed; Babcock team confirmed SEND is the correct terminology.</p> <p>AGREED: CT Proposed, ND seconded and all governors agreed the above policies to be recommended to FGB for ratification.</p> <p><i>CT asked how do you feel about re-opening?</i> SV reported there is excitement, and the school is beginning to feel more normal. All children are attending except for 2. We have had many new children starting and more to join next week. Teachers have allowed time for the children to settle in and catch up. CT shared a thank you email to staff for circulation.</p> <p><i>MG asked about the extension to the end of term/school day and would it be beneficially</i></p>	

	<p><i>for governors to write a letter expressing their views to MP?</i> Unsure if there is any certainty around what the government plan to do, and the hope would be that there would be a consultation that would take place before decisions are made. To be discussed further at FGB.</p> <p><i>MG asked is staff moral good?</i> Yes, as much as it can be, and all staff are supporting one another.</p> <p><i>MG asked how is the lateral flow testing going?</i> Staff that have agreed are testing themselves twice a week. There are no children being tested in primary school.</p>	
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The meeting closed at 7:30pm