



Directors' Note for Portfolio Groups

Portfolio title: Pilton Bluecoat LG

Date of meeting: 5th October 2018, 2pm.

Attended by: Ian Thomas, Bridgitte Quinn (until 3.10), Nigel Dilkes, Thomas Lawrence-Hall, Louise Burbidge, Verity Lunn (clerk), Gill Tewkesbury (2.25 – 2.39)

Brief overview of discussion

Welcome and Apologies

IT welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Mary Lu Hick, Philippa Cartmell, Michelle Potter and Zoe Charlton.

Business of Meeting/Any Other Business from Previous Minutes

Sustrans – IT gave an overview of progress so far. The school had now qualified for some additional funding for bike/scooter storage – currently working on agreeing plans for this. Last year Sustrans had organised a 'Tour de Tarka' – this year would be organising 'cycle to Lapland'. This was continuing to work on improving the environmental impact of children's transport to school.

Residentials – ND felt the number of children attending was dropping, and asked if this was correct. IT felt the reason for this with the Y6 residential was that the arrangements for children who did not go were a more comparative option than previously, as staff did not want those who didn't go to feel left out. Were working on promoting the residentials well in advance this year, so parents were aware of what was coming up and could gradually save up for them if needed – payments could be in instalments on Parentpay to help with this. Governors discussed the current residentials offered – Y3 to Lee Abbey, Y4 to Roadford, Y5 to London and Y6 to Heatree. Staff would continue to monitor numbers.

Register of Business Interests

No interests declared.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

MLH not present to sign – to be represented next meeting.

Governor Changes

Confirmed the appointment of Louisa Burbidge and Michelle Potter. IT informed governors that MLH had mentioned starting to consider a replacement for the role of chair.

Chair's Report/Actions

MLH had informed IT that she had contacted Sal Edwards to arrange a shadowing visit, and had signed up for the Safeguarding Governors webinar.

Confirm Meetings

IT informed governors that the validated data was published the first week of November – governors agreed it would be good to meet after that. Meeting set for Friday 23rd November at 2.00pm.

Autumn Term Curriculum Report

GT joined the meeting at 2.25pm.

Governors discussed when the best time to hold the ethos meeting was – same time as LGB meeting or on a separate occasion. SIAMS hub meeting was being held on the 18th.

GT gave an overview of the RE curriculum – using the Understanding Christianity resource throughout the school. Governors asked if the RE curriculum was co-ordinated with the infants school at all – GT stated that as the infants school was not a church school this was not such a priority for them.

GT informed governors of the planned ‘multi faith day’ giving children the opportunity to meet people from a variety of religious backgrounds. Other TEAM schools were also invited to attend. IT described the ethos ambassadors – one child from each class.

MAT and School Specific Action Plan

A fourth priority had been created in the action plans this year to also encompass Christian distinctiveness. ND reported that he had visited Y4 for ‘quiz a vicar’. He felt there had been very thoughtful questions. GT added that when visiting the Cathedral/Mosque the school had received comments on how the children thought about faith. GT felt the Understanding Christianity program had helped children to focus and think thoughtfully about the subject.

Governors thanked GT for her updates. GT left the meeting 2.39pm.

IT talked about the mantle of the expert approach being used this term – using drama based approach to immersive learning. At Pilton, children had been focussing on local soldiers in WW1.

IT reported that the school had started to work with the British Council again on connecting classes, working on UN goals. Pilton had been put in touch with school in Uganda called Green Valley Hills – close to the farm children from the secondary school visit. Currently working on putting an application together to see if this can be set up – focus on production and consumption.

The school now had the Google education platform, which includes Google classroom.

‘Learning in depth’ had been happening in Y5/Y6 – children had their own individual projects, and spent an hour a week on them. Children were really engaged by this, as they picked whatever they were particularly interested in. It was a good demonstration for building learning power.

Safeguarding Report

IT gave an overview of how concerns were raised and how chronologies were recorded. IT explained CPOMs to governors – a secure online system which keeps all records in one place, and also does not rely on eg keeping cupboards locked for security. Currently in the process of setting this up.

H&S Including Summer Improvements

Briony Parsons and Simon Wallis had completed a walk around that morning. IT reported on work that had happened over the summer.

Governor Activity Summary

IT distributed the MAT SIP and school specific SIP and talked through to governors. VL to distribute to those not present.
Disadvantaged and pupil premium group – IT explained what had been set up for these children. There was a timetable so children were also aware of what they were doing.
Teaching and learning – also focusses on high achieving pupils. IT was currently doing performance management for teachers.
Developing leadership – school data over last three years had been showing a decline. Changes had been made to the staffing structure to work on this aspect – IT explained.
Had been looking at how to support teachers with a layer of accountability.
Developing Christian vision – IT explained how they were using advocacy with this aspect – giving children an opportunity to get involved on a local/national/global scale.

IT reported on the visit from the Deputy Director of Education from Exeter Diocese.

GB Monitoring Plan for This Term

BQ left 3.10pm.

Governors discussed monitoring roles and agreed:

LB – English.
BQ – Science
MLH – Maths
ND – RE/Ethos
TLH – Y3/Transition
ZC – Safeguarding

IT to confirm dates of monitoring visits.

Compliance Review of School Website

Michelle Sampson been asked to look at this – report to be received at November meeting.

Governor Training

IT to arrange 45 minute drop in session for how to read the Analyse School Performance document. IT to send out possible dates.

Any Other Urgent Business

None

Date of Next Meeting

23rd November 2018

IT closed the meeting with a prayer. Meeting ended 3.21pm.