



FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING

24 January 2024 at 6.00 pm
Term 2

Governors	Type	Present
Mick Poole	Chair/LA Governor	Present
Kate Higham	Headteacher	Present
Gail Baker	Staff Governor	Present
Sachin Kotalwar	Parent Governor	Present
Nicki Read	Parent Governor	Present
Emily Russell	Co-opted Governor	Present
Sofia Khwaja	Co-opted Governor	Apologies accepted
Tracey Casey	Co-opted Governor	Present
Bryony Hallows	Co-opted Governor	Apologies accepted

Apologies – See above

Declaration of Interests – None

Previous Minutes – 15.11.23

Minutes were deemed a true reflection of the meeting and all actions have been completed to the satisfaction of Governors – approved.

Policies

SEN Policy

VPN Access & Usage

Crowdys Hill Educational Farm Health & Safety

All policies were approved

Headteacher's Report for Term 2

Behaviour:

GQ: what is defiant behaviour? It could be anything from refusing to work or swearing, to refusing to come into school from the playground. It is quite subjective, but we like it to be

recording because it builds a picture of that child over the years and records behaviour progression. Very often the reported instances are 1 child behaving like that multiple times a day. Also, some teachers record more than others – but it does build a picture.

Thrive:

GQ: Has Thrive started? It did start, however it has stopped again now – for various reasons it was not working the way it should be working, mainly due to staff shortages so we couldn't train all staff. However, it will start again in the future.

GQ: Is there anything Governor's can do to help. Not at this stage, but we decide to roll out again we will let Governors know.

There were no further comments or queries on the report.

Staffing

2 Teachers down. Adverts are out but no suitable candidates yet. We will use our in-house supply staff until Easter.

This is a national problem, not just a problem for Swindon schools, or Crowdys in particular.

GQ: Would remote learning work? No it won't, especially for our pupils who need specialist teaching.

TAs – We filled the 10 spaces we had, however, we are short again – there is an advert out and we are interviewing 5 candidates next week.

Finance

Nicki reported on the finance meeting that was held prior to this meeting.

Governors should be mindful that the financial landscape is changing and that we will have to be more careful in the future.

Health & Safety

There were no issues to report.

PE Development Plan

Kate forwarded :



Action Plan Report
Following input from:

Senior Team Case Studies

The senior team were asked to carry out case studies on pupils who started in our primary/year 7 and who are now in Year 11/Sixth Form. It was a lovely exercise to do, and what came out of it was we are doing a very good job.

Governor Monitoring

Tracey gave her report on Safeguarding at the Sixth Form site – there were no queries.

GQ: What are the expectations of Governors? Kate will re-design the Governor Monitoring form and send out to governors. This will outline what the expectations are and also some sample questions etc.

Workplace Survey – New Staffroom

The new staffroom is up and running and staff are very pleased with it.

Academy

Kate and Mick have been approached by Brunel MAT who would like an initial meeting to discover if we would be interested in joining them.

There was vigorous discussion around this proposal, which resulted in Governors recommending that Kate email back informing them that we are not interested at this time.

There was further discussion regarding Crowdys approach to academisation in general. [It was agreed that whilst governors were aware that Crowdys have to join an academy in the future, further research needs to be done to determine which one.](#) Nicki volunteered to carry out the initial research.

It was agreed that the next meeting would start half an hour early when Nicki will bring the results of her research for Governors to discuss and further actions will be agreed at that meeting.

AOB

Mick announced that he will be stepping down as Chair and leaving the Governing Body at the end of this school year.

Meeting ended 8:00 pm
Next Meeting: 06.03.2024 @ 5:30