

**BUCKTON VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MINUTES OF THE COVID-19 OVERSIGHT COMMTTEE**

**HELD VIRTUALLY ON 6 JULY 2021**

PRESENT: Mrs Sarah Blake Staff (Staff representative)

Mr Matthew Hartley Parent (Health and Safety link)

Ms Taf Sharif Authority

Mr Nick Whitbread Parent

Mrs Deborah Brown Head Teacher

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Jackie Brook Co-opted

Mrs Rachel Lees Clerk to the Governing Board

Due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, the meeting had been arranged virtually via Zoom.

**1 Welcome**

The Chair and welcomed governors to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr Wayne Williams and Mr Arron Leech, Co-opted governors and Mrs Jenny Ross, Parent governor.

RESOLVED: To consent to the absence of the above governors

**2 Minutes of the Covid-19 Oversight Panel meeting – 21 June 2021**

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2021

**3 Headteacher’s Update on current situation**

The Headteacher informed governors that there were currently three closed bubbles: Y2 and Y5 which had a positive case, and Y4 which had a lateral flow positive case which had now come back negative, so the children would return on 7 July. The PCR test for the latter was postal which resulted in a delay for children returning to school. Mrs Blake queried whether parents should be informed that they should not use a postal PCR, but should take children for a face to face test. Had the parent followed instructions, the bubble would not have needed to isolate. The Chair felt that the Governing Board could provide an advisory note, but it was down to parental choice. Bubble closures had led to a return to on-line learning.

RESOLVED: That the Governing Board advise parents to take children for face to face PCR tests

Staff were trying very hard to preserve the Y6 educational visit to Robinwood on 10/11 July. One of the positive cases affected all the children who attended Bright Futures morning or after school club, so lots of bubbles were affected with isolating children across school. The Heasdteacher did not want it to affect any of the children going to Robinwood, so staff had postponed the visit to a climbing wall for the Y6 Jazz award children to 12 July. Quad Kids was still scheduled for this week.

Sports day had been postponed, partly because the field was very wet due to bad weather but primarily because three bubbles were closed.

In relation to attendance, Mrs Brook reported that, on 5 July, 110 out of 280- children were absent, with only 10 other absences non-Covid related. The Headteacher commented that sickness had impacted staff with bubble closures both at Buckton Vale and other schools over the past three to four weeks. She was concerned that this had affected the ability of the staffing team to meet to prepare planning for September. One INSET day had been booked in September with the usual safeguarding/health and safety focus and preparation of classrooms, but there was insufficient time for curriculum preparation. The Headteacher would speak to the Chair with some suggestions.

Mrs Blake noted that the Y6 sports results would be sent to Mossley Hollins High School (MHHS). Last year, Y6 had a session on the field and something similar would take place this year, although parents would not be able to join in.

The Headteacher had held a Zoom meeting on 5 July to share information and answer questions from the new Reception families. A Q&A letter would be shared with those parents who were unable to attend by the end of the week.

Mrs Blake noted that Y6 had half an hour with new classes on the field last week as they could not go to their secondary schools. The transition meetings with new teachers had gone very well. Teachers shared a story and children asked the teacher questions. The Headteacher commented that there were a few parents who were anxious about which class their child was allocated to, but teachers were working very hard to support the parents and had taken a lot of time to prepare classes. No parents had contacted the Chair. Mrs Blake commented that MHSS had cancelled the additional transition day for SEND children. The Headteacher was pleased that Copley Academy had made direct contact with Buckton Vale’s parents at her request, as school needed to build a relationship with Copley Academy. She commented that, in future, school could have more of a balance of children going to MHHS and Copley Academy.

**4 Review of Risk Assessments**

See above in relation to Robinwood, sports day and transition arrangements.

RESOLVED: To approve the risk assessment and lateral flow risk assessment

**5 Parental Queries**

The Headteacher had responded to parental queries regarding closure of a bubble following a lateral flow test, so Mrs Blake had spoken to the parent to explain that if a lateral flow test was positive then a PCR was recommended. The Headteacher also had a few enquires about dates within the 10 day isolation: she had checked with Public Health England (PHE) who confirmed that they tracked the date from when the child was last in school, as opposed to when the child’s test result came in.

**6 National and Local Guidance**

The Headteacher would wait for national guidance on 19 July. The Chair had listened to the government briefing, which was not very clear. He anticipated that there would be a different way of testing and tracing close contacts for schools. Mrs Brook wanted PHE to send updated information about sickness to parents.

**7 To agree the date of the next Covid-19 Oversight Panel meeting**

The Chair suggested that an update be included on the agenda for the Governing Board meeting on 13 July 2021.

RESOLVED: Tuesday 13 July 2021 at 5:00 via Zoom

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| *Meeting details* |  |
| *Time started* | *1635* |
| *Time finished* |  |

**ACTIONS ARISING FOLLOWING THE COVID-19 OVERSIGHT PANEL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON**

**6 JULY 2021**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Min** | **Resp** | **Action** | **Audience** |
| 7 | Governors | COP meeting | GB – 13/7/2021 |