



Education & Standards Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 8.00am

Present: Mr Carl Glasgow (Executive Head Teacher) (EHT)
Mr Matt Sadler (Co-opted Head of Junior) (MS)) (HoJ)
Mrs Samantha Kenny (Co-opted Head of Infants) (SK) (HoI)
Ms Holly Birkett (Co-opted) (HB)
Mrs N Arkinstall (Co-opted) (NA) Chair
Ms T Whittier (Associate Governor) (TW)

In Attendance: Ms Cordell O'Neill (Clerk) (CO)
Mrs K Welch (Associate Governor) (KW)

Apologies: Ms Ema Jackson (Staff) (EJ)
Ms Laura Shergold (Parent Governor) (LS)
~~Ms Tara Morton (Associate) (TM)~~
Mr Jeremy Merckel (Co-opted) (JM)

Item:	Agenda Items:	Action by:
1.	Welcome and Apologies The Chair welcomed all governors and thanked them all for their attendance. Apologies were received and accepted. <i>The Clerk highlighted the meeting was not quorate, policies would be deferred to the next FGB meeting on 3rd May 2023.</i>	Clerk
2.	Declarations of Interest The Chair asked members if there were any declarations of interest to be declared either pecuniary or non-pecuniary. There were no declarations declared.	
3.	Urgent Additional Items Safeguarding Report to Govs – in recognition of Safeguarding Governor new to role would be discussed as AOB.	
4.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and matters arising of 30th November 2022 Governors discussed the minutes, it was: AGREED: as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair at the meeting. The signed copy was handed to the EHT. Matters Arising	
Item No.	Action	update
6	<u>Review working with nurseries to offer feedback.</u> A governor questioned, the increase to pupil nursery numbers and asked how	Completed

Chair's signature: N Arkinstall

Date: 10.11.23

	the extra 10 pupils had gone. The Hol, replied on the positivity of the extra 10 children in the nursery, it had been challenging, however, the slow intake, had provided the school with an opportunity to address the challenges, before the larger intake in September. The school was now experienced with wrap around provision and prepared for September.	
15	Make the necessary change to the policy as highlighted AVA/ABA	Completed
18	HB to source the safeguarding governor training	Completed

5. **Chairs business, actions, and correspondence**
The Chair of E & S highlighted, there was nothing further to report.

6. **Head of School updates**
Infants Update
The Hol reported on the following salient points from the Infants update that was circulated to all governors: -
There were currently 269 children on roll in the main school, 42(plus 10 full time) in the Nursery and 8 in BIB.
- Attendance for the Spring term 202 was 96.01% (Autumn was 95.3%) based on 280 children, excluding Nursery.
 - There were no exclusions and no recorded incidents of racial harassment.
 - There were currently 128 children in mainstream plus 8 BIB children on the Vulnerable Children-list.
 - Increase of SEN was identified since summer term.
 - Increase of children across the board from Nursery, with Mental Health issues, increased support was put in place.
 - Post LAC and the LAC was challenging, the LAC lead, attended a network meeting, where it was established, Boldmere had an increased numbers of LAC compared to other schools in the community, which had been challenging.
- Governors asked if there was an increase in foster carers in the community.** The Hol agreed that had become apparent, together with other reasons. The EHT reported on the increased administration process that sat behind the increase in LAC pupils. The administration side reduced the time the Leads had in supporting and working directly with the children. **Funding only came through EHCP, following a governor's question, around funding.**
- Year groups held Inspire afternoons during Book week- all were well attended, and parents gave positive feedback. Parents became "secret readers" in school and the Book Fair raised over £1000 for new purchases.
 - Currently both Y1 & Y2 year leads were on maternity leave.
 - Y1 x2 and Y2 teachers returning from maternity, start their KIT days during summer 1.
 - Lunchtime play leader vacancies, following resignations x2 in school, and x1 in Nursery due to 30-hour offer. Interviews were taking place on 25.4.23.
 - 'Pilates' classes were taking place for staff.
- A governor had visited the school recently and made an observation on the books and different authors of the books, with a lack of different Ethnic Minority, the governor**

Chair's signature: N. Adley

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asked how the school was reflecting the change in demographic of the school population.

A lengthy discussion took place with SLT and governors on the challenges of the purchases of books, other schools purchased a wide range of books, SLT agreed to seek support to improve their diverse range of books.

A governor asked about monitoring and how it was decided.

The HoJ confirmed there were certain decisions and areas that were set in stone, new members of staff may need to be upskilled and an external advisor may attend and highlight observations, it was a working document. The HoJ, commented they would also review the SEF and that would evolve and make it a working document. The School Improvement plan last year had a priority of writing and that was monitored throughout the year and be deleted from the monitoring the following year. The EHT added, it was also a roadmap for staff, and a flexible document, following changes throughout the term.

A governor asked if the school were coping with the increased behaviours and were they feeling supported. The HoJ reported how challenging and frustrating it could be and SLT would support incidents where they could. There was a sensory room used at Boldmere, however resources were not always there to support the increased demands.

A governor highlighted, SSP funding, and it was highlighted how Boldmere had managed to receive SSP funding for some individuals, however there was an escalation process, and it was very challenging. Conversations with parents relating to behaviours were taking place and parents were supportive.

Juniors Update

The HoJ presented the following salient points from the HoJ report.

- Improvement from recent monitoring of the employment of TA's, Quality of learning, which was a step in the right direction and highlighted from the School Improvement Advisor visit.
- Pupil progress meetings – Spring term – Tuesday 25th April. Recent change to PPMs to ensure these now have a year group rather than a class focus therefore giving wider accountability and focus.
- Year six SATs – week begins Monday 8th May 2023. Test timetable to take place Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May 2023.
- Year 4 Multiplication check – 3-week period commencing 5th June 2023.
- The school was selected to road test - Year six – NFER SATs test 'trial' – Monday April 24th, 2023 (Technical pre-test of key stage 2 mathematics assessment materials). ***Governors commented on their own children's experiences from the test's and how positive, the experience was.***
- Analysis had been carried out, regards to stage 3 behaviours, an increase to stage 3, due to a tightening of processes was discussed in detail. 1 suspension was reported with the parents' support.

Chair's signature: N. Amey

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- Staffing changes, were 3 resignations of teachers, all leaving Easter, the late resignation, presented challenges for recruitment. Successfully appointed all 3 teachers and discussed in detail.
- The Staff absence was tabled and discussed in brief, it was also shared in staff meetings, to highlight the covering and challenges and implications in school.
- A TA long term absence was contributing to the challenges.
- Positive moral, Ofsted causes potential concern, with the sense of impending wait for Ofsted.
- Teachers strike action, the school staff feel well supported during the strikes.
- Further increase in vulnerable children at the school.
- Attendance was a priority in school, The EHT highlighted, 128 infants 84 juniors vulnerable, which resulted in 30% of the school population vulnerable, which brought demands, the school were placing long term solutions to support.
- 95.3% attendance across the school and the benchmark was 97%, seemed to be dipping slightly. National figures were discussed in more detail and the school was above the national figures.

Governors asked if the school were receiving more holiday requests. The HoJ agreed the school were receiving more holiday requests, the school was monitoring the situation.

- Numbers on roll were reported, there were vacancies in year 3, 3 vacancies in year 5, with mobility in year 5.
- Appropriate funding was discussed, relating to the Census taken.

A governor asked about capturing the ethnicity data in the Infants, another governor highlighted the importance of capturing the advantaged and disadvantaged children. The HoJ agreed that most of the data was there, apart from the capturing of ethnicity in the Infants. **A governor highlighted how quality was important.** It was agreed to update the ethnicity breakdown.

There were no further questions.

7. **School Improvement Plan Monitoring Cycle**

The EHT highlighted on the School Improvement Plan Monitoring Cycle that had been circulated to all governors.

The HoJ reported on the following salient points:

- Most areas were addressed, apart from the yellow rag rated areas, these were ongoing.
- Maths and greater depth were also ongoing and there was still the summer term to complete these targets.
- Fast Track attendance policy was yet to be completed due to the attendance of the Fast track training; however, the school was still adhering to the rules.
- Infant Monitoring Cycle - Within the summer term the school would be collaborating everything together for moderation, the monitoring and moderation with other schools was taking place.
- SATS in year 2, teacher assessments would be able to override with evidence to back up.

Chair's signature: N. A. Allen

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finishing teaching curriculum for year two would be completed in the summer term. • EFYS – forum was discussed with six schools, who would meet to moderate and discuss the curriculum to make progress against the performance targets. • The EHT discussed the moderation with other schools, and how positive that was. • The HoJ confirmed, year two may not be carrying out the formal testing, the test would still be used, however the baseline tests reflectively determine the progress they would make from reception to year 6. • The HoJ confirmed the summer trips and the high costs, which may have an impact, the transport was a high cost. • Performance management takes places with teachers in the summer term and the discussion of CPD opportunities, which feeds into the monitoring cycle. <p>The HoJ reported on the following salient points from the Junior school Improvement Monitoring cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school improvement plan for the Juniors highlighted an increase in yellow however it was a two-year plan and positive steps were met. • The walk throughs which would influence the monitoring. • It was confirmed as a platform by KW, to enable schools to pull together the CPD, to create their own CPD programme across the 3 years and triangulate all the evidence and learning walks to collaborate. • This would be an ongoing process for the next two years with the staff input. • Peer review with colleagues from local schools would work together to review the processes. A report would be shared following this work. <p>There were no further questions.</p>	
8.	<p>BIB update</p> <p>The EHT reported on the following salient points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BIB had received a resource base review, which was circulated to all governors, which was carried out remotely following information provided by the BIB Manager. • The Manager of the BIB and the EHT worked together to produce an action plan. The external advisor was attending Tuesday 2nd May, to produce a mini self-Evaluation. Which would all feed back into the targets on the school improvement plan. • Birmingham SEND was challenging - 151 LA providers across the country, Birmingham was 123rd out of 151 trying to demonstrate progress, not meeting the expected levels was highlighted. Birmingham was the only authority that SEND was intervention strategy based on the DfE directly. 3 main focuses were attendance, academic performance, and fixed term suspensions. • Full numbers at the BIB were reported, an extra two children were currently in discussion. • All staffing were in place at the BIB. • There was a supply staff member in place in the BIB, covering an interim period. 	

Chair's signature: N. A. Kelly

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member of staff would be returning from Maternity leave and was currently carrying out her KIT days. • The recommendation report had been circulated and governors had reviewed. <p>Governors highlighted it was helpful to be informed the report was carried out remotely. Governors highlighted the impact of the new Manager from the BIB and how feedback from parents was a positive one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The administration time of a SENCO lead was discussed and reported as increasing. • Very good communication and relationships was apparent with the parents, the school were also challenging parents over their attendance in the BIB, since the increase. <p>A governor asked what adjustments were been made to support.</p> <p>The HoJ, reported adaptations to timetable would take place, the unauthorised attendance was the challenge.</p> <p>It was suggested to receive a report from the BIB. The EHT suggested the SEND governor would arrange a visit, which would form a report from the BIB.</p>	
9.	<p>Receive report from school improvement Partner/External Advisor (Josie Lees) & BEP Consortium partner, Cath Keast.</p> <p>Both HoJ and HoI spent time with the external advisor (Josie Lees) and Cath Keast, which included a tour of the school and support included the potential challenge from Ofsted. A feedback meeting, prioritise of what the school may need to work on, to triangulate it all together with the school improvement plan and the SEF. The external advisor was also working with subject leaders to support.</p> <p>The reported highlighted the term 'Boldmere Blue' and a governor questioned the meaning.</p> <p>KW replied the 'Boldmere blue' was areas in the curriculum that Boldmere carried out that were not necessarily statutory for all schools. For example, the Birmingham Canals, it was called an extension to the curriculum.</p> <p>A governor commented on the external validation and highlighted the positivity of the validation.</p> <p>A governor asked about data headlines, would Ofsted not recognise that and highlighted the small amount of Greater Depth.</p> <p>The HoJ, reported how Data was not a priority to Ofsted. They were more interested in the methodology used.</p> <p><i>The HoI left the meeting at 9.30a.m.</i></p>	
10.	<p>Staff Mental Health</p> <p>There was nothing further to include than had already discussed above.</p>	
11.	<p>Review and Approve Policies</p> <p>It was agreed to defer the policies to FGB on 3rd May 2023.</p> <p>A governor highlighted the Relationship Policy and the Puberty pictures and asked if the</p>	

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	<p>school would use the images used at the Parent representation meeting with the generic parts. The SLT agreed to check the images and update.</p> <p>The EHT highlighted the FOR request, which was followed by a phone call to confirm the reasons for the request, they established, it was a quality issue for the number of days children were off school. The information was required to compare against schools in the community with how many days children were off due to covid and strike days.</p> <p>The safeguarding Link governor would report back following the visit at FGB on 3rd May 2023. The clerk to share the Governors visit form with Holly Birkett.</p>									
12.	<p>Governor training and visits</p> <p>Governors were asked to check if they had undertaken induction training and relevant training to their roles.</p>	Governors								
13.	<p>LA Circulars or Items for Information</p> <p>The Clerk would continue to share LA items and Governors welcomed the LA Information.</p>									
14.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>It was confirmed by the EHT, how year 6 were invited into school during the strike days to keep to a structure. The HoJ, confirmed the teachers in year 6 were encouraged by the SLT to make their own decision relating to Strike days and to ensure they were not undermined in any way on their decisions on strike days. The teaches felt supported by the conversation.</p>									
15.	<table><tr><td>Date and time of Next Meeting</td><td>Summer Term</td></tr><tr><td>Full Governing Board</td><td>13.07.2023 4.00pm</td></tr><tr><td>Finance, Facilities and Premises, H&S Committee</td><td>20.06.2023 8.00am</td></tr><tr><td>Education & Standards Committee</td><td>05.07.2023 8.00am</td></tr></table>	Date and time of Next Meeting	Summer Term	Full Governing Board	13.07.2023 4.00pm	Finance, Facilities and Premises, H&S Committee	20.06.2023 8.00am	Education & Standards Committee	05.07.2023 8.00am	
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Item No.	Action	By Whom
6	SLT to resources new books to reflect ethnicity Authors and a range of books.	SLT ✓
6	Capture ethnicity data within Infants	Hol ✓
8	SEND governor to arrange a visit with the BIB	NA ✓
9	Defer all Policies to FGB 3.5.23	Clerk ✓

With there being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.45.a.m. and thanked governors for their attendance and challenging questions.

Chair's signature: N. Akbar

Date: 10.11.23.