

KINGSTEIGNTON SCHOOL : United Schools Trust

TRUSTEE MEETING via MS Teams

Monday 4 April 2022 @ 1700h

	Trustees present: DB (Co-Chair) LC KW SW In attendance:	JC (Co-Chair) PF MW	
	RC, Business Manager (for first items)		
	Apologies:	CP	
	Clerk:	SJ	
01/04	Welcome and introductions		
	The Co-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was confirmed as being quorate		
02/04	Declarations of Business and Pecuniary Interests, Code of Conduct and Register of Business Interests The standing declarations remained.		
03/04	Minutes of previous meeting held on 14 th February 2022		
	The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as an accurate record. These will be signed by a Co-Chair following the meeting.		
	Summary report following Board of Trustees meeting on 14th February 2022		
	This was confirmed as accurate. Action: To be signed and made available on the school website.		
04/04	Matters arising from previous minutes		
	 a) Update re parent trustee vacancy Work is ongoing to encourage a parent from September's intake will put themse beforehand. b) Humpty Dumpty Childcare Contract 	to put themselves forward; it is hoped that a parent elves forward if the vacancy is not filled	

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TACollings

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		RC confirmed that a tenancy-at-will is in place and monthly income is now being received.
		Solicitors have identified a Covenant that is in place regarding the change of use. The
	-	agreement to resolve this will cost approximately £1,000 and HDC has agreed to pay half.
	C)	Premises – update regarding the school field
		PF explained that they had been offered £20,000 to repair the school field. She declined
	٦)	this offer as it was not enough and is awaiting a further response.
	a)	Allegations of abuse against staff policy
		KW explained that the Devon model safeguarding policy has been updated since it was
		approved by the Board of Trustees in September 2021. The update was made within
		Paragraph 26, which relates to allegations of abuse against staff. Trustees approved
	-	these changes.
	e)	Canopies for the school playground
		Work starts next Monday 11 th April to fit the canopies and they should be operational from
	5	the start of the summer term.
	1)	Community garden; PF to confirm whether there is an organisation that can make a contribution
		PF has received no contributions towards the community garden. The overall cost is likely
		to be between £4,000 and £5,000 and they have already received £1,000 from
		Kingsteignton Town Council. Trustees were happy for the school to start work on this
		project, agreeing that it is important to start this in the near future in order to have the
		opportunity to germinate and grow food. SW offered the use of the greenhouses at
		Abbrook Farm for the initial seed germination as needed. Trustees agreed that this will
		provide a wonderful project for the children, which aligns to the dementia friendly status of
		the school.
	g)	Update regarding local tutor/academic mentor
		PF confirmed that Kingsteignton School will be allocated an academic mentor. She is
		aware that they have someone in mind and hope to have this confirmed in the near future.
	h)	Confirmation that Vice Chair has been added to GIAS website
		PF will log Jane Collings as the Vice Chair within the GIAS website. DB has an interview
		scheduled on Thursday 7 th April to confirm his role as Chair of the Board of Trustees.
05/04	Fir	nance/budget monitoring
	RC	confirmed that there continues to be a healthy surplus, noting that this is in part to
		erves retained from the opening money. There have been staff changes and overtime that
		s led to variations within the budget; these payments have been covered with no issues.
		e is now working on the 3-year budget forecast.
		reflected that staff changes have often been essential to react to staff shortages due to
		vid, noting that staff have gone above and beyond what is expected of them on a regular
		sis. The meeting agreed that a note should be sent to all staff thanking them for their hard
		rk and dedication throughout the term, which has enabled the pupils to thrive. Action: JC
	to	draft on behalf of the Board.
06/04	Pri	ncipal's report
	Th	is was shared ahead of the meeting and Trustees raised discussion regarding the
		owing:
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Trustees asked about changes to pupil numbers. PF confirmed that four children have joined Year 2, and one child has joined Year 4. Both classes are now full.

Covid

Trustees asked about the current Covid rates in school and closures caused by these? PF explained that the situation had improved and there was currently one member of staff and seven children off with Covid.

Trustees reflected on the difficult time that Covid has brought and asked about the wellbeing of staff and pupils, and what support is being provided? PF replied that she is aware that everyone is tired and looking forward to the Easter break; she is therefore touching base with staff and thanking them for all that they have done and continue to do to ensure that they know that their efforts in going that extra mile is appreciated. Staff have been exceptional; they have not been able to source any supply teachers, and so the higher level teaching assistants have stood in whenever and wherever they have been asked to, which has left other teachers without a teaching assistant – the whole staff team have been flexible and supportive throughout.

Trustees asked about the wellbeing of the children also. The children are tired and have had a difficult time with changes to their usual routine. PF reflected that one good thing has been consistency of familiar staff, for example children already know the higher level teaching assistants, and PF has been doing some teaching.

Trustees asked about the closure of Year 1 and the reaction to this. PF explained that the Year 1 teacher, teaching assistant and nine children within this class all had Covid. This resulted in it not being safe to keep this class open; furthermore this was the most depleted class. PF explained to parents the need to close this year group and reflected that all parents understood and were supportive of this decision. Trustees asked if remote learning was made available to the Year 1 class during the closure? PF confirmed that it was.

Moderation

Trustees asked for feedback following the moderation meetings that were recently held by the Big Schools Hub to discuss writing. PF confirmed that they have shared the prior attainment sheets, and largely they were in line with expectations. Year 6 data will be shared this week.

Teacher vacancy

Trustees asked about the vacancy for another KS2 teacher. Penny Fitch confirmed that she will be placing the advert next week.

Introduction of Arbor

Trustees asked about the use of Arbor for parents, and about the support being provided to parents without any internet who will therefore be unable to use Arbor. PF confirmed that parents are invited to speak to the office if they need help with bookings.

SENDCo

Trustees reflected that a SENDCo action plan is being developed for the school and asked if there is a timeframe for this? PF confirmed that there is.

Year 6 data

Trustees asked about the Year 6 data following their recent assessment week. PF explained that they had recently sat the previous year's SATs paper and results were good. Trustees

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	asked when the Year 6 results will be formally released? The meeting confirmed that they are released in July, usually two weeks before the end of term.
	Trustees asked how the results above compare with the starting points of this group? PF confirmed that they largely mirror their starting points.
	SIP Trustees reflected from the Babcock review the need for Trustees to monitor SIP objectives more closely. PF explained that she and KW have reviewed progress towards targets, which have been RAG rated. A further Babcock review has been booked for 4 th May 2022, which will concentrate on deep dive subjects. These have been identified as art and design, design technology and maths. Trustees asked how these subject areas were identified? Penny Fitch explained that they wanted a broad base of subjects and have identified areas where they believe they can make the biggest difference.
07/04	Trustee visits
	SW's visit re Curriculum PF is planning to release the newly qualified teachers to enable them to observe the experienced teachers, which she is certain will make a difference; however it has not been possible to release staff over the recent weeks due to Covid and a sickness bug that has also been circulating.
	Safeguarding visit KW provided a verbal update following her recent safeguarding meeting with CP, noting that she has not yet had the opportunity to write up her report. They reviewed the Section 175 audit action plan and end of term data.
	She noted that as per a previously agreed action, she has undertaken training around the adolescent safety framework, and will deliver this training to staff following the Easter break. She acknowledged that this is targeted more towards secondary school children; however reflected that staff should have an awareness. Additionally she will be undertaking two lots of training over the Easter holiday:
	 Harmful sexual behaviours, which is run by the NSPCC and essential Brook's nationally recognised traffic light tool is used for identifying when sexual behaviour is harmful, against when it is age appropriate. She explained that this is a paid resource and training is essential in order to access this resource. It is a multi-agency response tool and so worth having. She will complete this during the Easter holiday
	By the start of the summer term she will have completed the above training and will then deliver training on this to all staff in school. She reiterated the importance of all staff understanding and being aware of harmful sexual behaviours.
08/04	Complaints, accidents and exclusions this term
	There has been one exclusion this term, which was for one day and the child is now back at school.

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	There has also been one accident whereby two children bumped heads, which resulted in		
	egg-size swellings on both heads. Both children were collected from school to be checked,		
	and both were fine.		
	The meeting moved to Part 2 for the next discussion.		
09/04	4 Agreement of term dates for 2023-24		
	Trustees raised discussion regarding term dates, noting that Kingsteignton School's term dates currently align with St Michael's. This was initially essential as there were children at Kingsteignton School with siblings at St Michael's. PF confirmed that from next year there will be no children with siblings at St Michael's. This led to discussion as to whether aligning with St Michael's should continue, or whether it is in everyone's best interest to align with Teign School, who have a one week October half-term, instead of two-weeks. The meeting considered that this should be discussed in the future and a decision made that aligns to the majority opinion; they will retain the current pattern of term dates in 2023, and discuss again for 2024.		
11/04	Business brought forward by the chair		
	DB raised discussion regarding the increase to the average school's working hours that was highlighted within the White Paper, which needs to increase to 32.5 hrs per week from September 2023 at the latest. He reflected that Kingsteignton School is currently short of this by 15-minutes each day. The meeting considered that there is not much time to complete this before September 2022; therefore this will be sorted and introduced in September 2023. Action: This to become a priority for next year.		
12/04	Policies to be approved by the Board		
	The following policies had been shared with Trustees prior to the meeting:		
	Charging and Remissions Policy		
	Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy		
	Staff Disciplinary Policy and Procedure		
	Policy for the Management of Outdoor Education		
	Visits and Off-Site Activities Outdoor Education Policy		
	With the changes noted above, the policies were approved by Trustees.		
13/04	Dates and times of future meetings		
	 Monday 23 May 2022 5pm – 7.30pm 		
	Monday 11 July 2022 2pm and meeting with Members at 4.30pm		
	The meeting concluded at 1845h		

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