

Thornton-in-Craven Primary School

Meeting of the Full Governing Body held on
Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 6.30pm at the school

MINUTES

Present: Suzie Brown (headteacher) (SB); Neil Roe (NR); Rebecca Lofthouse (RL); Nicola Moorhouse (NM); Donna Ryan (DR); Rachel Davies (RD); Sue Walker (SW); Debbie Joyce (DJ); Rebecca Garrity (RG)

Apologies: None

In attendance:

Jo Brookes (JB) – NYCC Clerk

Governing Body functions:

Ensuring the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined.

Ensuring that the Head Teacher performs her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school.

Ensuring the sound, proper and efficient use of the school's financial resources.

item		Actions
Key Actions from the meeting		
8	Geography and History subject leadership roles to be reassigned	SB
13	DR to undertake a review of the school's mental health policy	DR
14	RL to undertake website compliance monitoring of the school's website	RL
1.	Welcome. NR welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies for absence and to determine whether any absences should be consented to. There were no apologies.	
3.	Declarations of interest in any agenda items. There were none.	
4.	To receive notification of any other urgent business not already on the agenda. There was none.	
5.	To determine whether any part of the proceedings should be treated as confidential and excluded from the minutes to be made available for public inspection. There were none.	
6.	To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2025. The minutes were approved by the governors as a true record to be signed by the Chair.	
7.	To consider matters arising from the minutes of the meeting for which there is no separate agenda item.	

	There were none.	
8.	<p>Headteacher's Report</p> <p>The report had been shared with governors prior to the meeting. Points raised in response to the report were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governors noted how well the school's 'Kindness Day' had been received by members of the local community. • Attendance continues to be good (96.6%) despite an outbreak of chicken pox. • A new management information system is being introduced (Abor). <p>In response to the report governors asked:</p> <p>Q. Are new staff ready to undertake their roles?</p> <p>A. The new staff have been into school to meet the school community and to receive a thorough handover from the outgoing staff. This has also provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to meet the new staff.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to DJ for her work on the appointments' panel.</p> <p>SB confirmed that subject leadership roles for history and geography will be reassigned given the staff changes.</p> <p>Q. There is a high percentage of pupils in Years 2 and 6 (23%) who have SEND. What are the challenges in these year groups in being able to effectively meet the needs of both those with SEND and non-SEND pupils?</p> <p>A. The SEND pupils do not have behavioural needs and so there is no impact on behaviour for learning or disruption in class. SEND pupils access the majority of their learning within the classroom. Staff know all the pupils well and individual learning needs are identified and addressed. Interventions take place as appropriate. Those with SEND in Year 6 are receiving additional support as they prepare for SATS eg. Being given extra time and being allocated a scribe as appropriate. Pupils are supportive of each other whatever their individual learning needs.</p> <p>Q. Pupils had a very successful and valuable trip to London recently. What are the challenges in being able to deliver more opportunities for them to develop their cultural capital and engage with diversity?</p> <p>A. We already provide a wide range of trips across the year. However, the cost of trips, especially the high cost of transport, makes it financially difficult to do more, despite having investigated this thoroughly. Parental contributions are voluntary and this sometimes also makes it difficult to raise adequate funds to cover costs. We do, however, ensure that all children have regular opportunities to engage in extracurricular activities across the school year.</p>	SB
9.	<p>Wellbeing Questionnaire</p> <p>SB reported that this questionnaire had been undertaken with pupils in Years 1-6. All outcomes were in line with, or better than, national figures, apart from self-esteem which was slightly below. It was noted that the outcomes for Pupil Premium Pupils and those with SEND were positive. The data will be used, alongside the GUNY findings to address any areas of concern.</p>	

10.	<p>Growing Up in North Yorkshire (GUNY)</p> <p>SB explained that this questionnaire is carried out bi-annually with Year 5/6 pupils. She shared the findings with governors focusing on both those areas where the findings demonstrate more positive outcomes than the overall NY figures and areas that demonstrated less positive outcomes.</p> <p>SB and DR have worked together to consider the results and draw up an action plan to address any areas of concern to be able to continually improve the wellbeing of pupils at the school. Many of the areas will be addressed in PHSE lessons.</p> <p>Governors discussed how to best address any areas of concern, including how to support parents in being able to support their children and how to build resilience in pupils.</p> <p>Governors thanked DR for her work with the headteacher on this.</p>	
11.	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>The school's LA annual safeguarding visit has been undertaken. Key actions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share the EYFS and Food Standards Agency food preparation advice on how to reduce the risk of choking in children under 5 with all the school staff and the cook. SB reported that this has been completed. • To explore the new allergy school website to support. SB reported that this is in progress. 	
12.	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	
13.	<p>Policies for Review</p> <p>There were no policies to be reviewed.</p> <p>DR will undertake a review of the school's mental health policy.</p>	DR
14.	<p>Governor Monitoring Visit Reports</p> <p>Mental health and EYFS monitoring visits have been arranged for the summer term.</p> <p>RL to undertake a governor monitoring of the school website to check that it complies with requirements.</p>	RL
15.	<p>Progress with the development of the school grounds</p> <p>Funds have been raised to improve outdoor learning opportunities for pupils on the school field. Planning for the work to be carried out is in progress. Governors noted that other grants are available and will be considered in due course. Pupil voice on the proposed development will be sought in the summer term.</p>	
16.	<p>To receive the budget monitoring report</p> <p>Governors considered the monitoring report. It was noted that the budget continues to be healthy, largely due to the great care taken in managing resources and ensuring that funds are spent carefully.</p>	

17.	Headteacher Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) Training Governors agreed to fund the total cost of this training for the headteacher, recognising the work that she is already doing in this area and the impact that it has on pupil progress and the school's budget.	
18.	To deal with any matters agreed for consideration under item 4 above. There were none.	
19.	Date of next FGB meeting: Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 6.30pm	

The meeting closed at 7.43pm

Signed: (Chair)

Date: