



Minutes of the Local Governing Body meeting of the Wessex MAT held via Google Meet on Thursday 11 June 2020 at 6pm

Present	Elected Parent	Sophie Duke SD CHAIR
	Elected Parent	Vicky Needham VN
	Co-opted	Joanne Wibley JW
	Headteacher	Catherine Smith CS
	Co-opted	Ruth Bettenson RB
	Co-opted	Margaret Moss MM
	Staff	Tom Bracey TB

Absent: Marian Zvara MZ and Sandra Scott SS.

In attendance: Natalie Green NG (Clerk)

Q/C - Question/challenge

1. Welcome

SD welcomed all present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Tom Amery TA and Lesley Goldsack LG.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2020 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising & Action Plan

1. CS to provide report on impact of sickness and absence - ONGOING
2. TA to make enquiries with Duchy ref development and demographics in Poundbury and google schools to see how Damers appeared. ONGOING
3. SD to mail governors with dates of 'Great Works' celebrations ONGOING
4. CS to provide report on uptake at Clubs ONGOING
5. CS to provide report on Guided Reading ONGOING
6. RN to provide short session on 'Steps' ONGOING

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Q/C Governors asked about transition arrangements. CS said that she was planning this at present and had liaised with DASP on a partnership approach to transition, which would reflect a County wide approach and this had been communicated to parents. Schools had little further capacity at this point and CS described the issues this would present for Damers. CS added that she had spoken to Leeson House about offering children a condensed version in their bubble in the grounds of Leeson House, which would take the form of a whole day and evening visit. She also outlined other valedictory activities for Y4s. In terms of class transition for the next school year, she planned to bring children into current classes when a full return to school was viable and then begin the transition work from there.

Q/C Governors asked about a member of staff on a fixed term contract. CS said that this contract was now permanent due to permanent changes in other teachers' circumstances. She then covered staffing arrangements for next term.

Q/C Governors asked about arrangements for reports. CS said that a simplified and condensed version of reports would be provided. She commented on the mixed picture of learning happening at home and how rapid the level of progress for children was for those back in school.

Q/C Governors asked about the resources needed to catch up. CS said that staff needed to have a break and she was aware of a challenging year ahead, but would await news from the government on a summer catch up programme.

Q/C Governors asked whether HT Unions were making representations to the government about the lack of feasibility for a summer catch up programme. CS said that HTs were working together and were keen to see consultation from the government going forward.

Q/C Governors asked whether CS felt that school has settled since the Reception and Y1 return. CS felt that it had gone very well and the children's reactions had been really positive. However, families were changing their mind on an ongoing basis about returning their children and the creation of further bubbles had been a challenge, coupled with the level of rapid change, criteria and deadlines. CS talked to governors about her personal challenges in terms of problem solving, giving an example of recent government changes over the food voucher scheme. Governors queried if she had to do this sort of work and CS added that Nina Grimmett was familiar with the system and was providing good support.

Q/C Governors asked if they could assist in any way. CS said there was a need to be aware of the context and the big picture. She went on to describe the work involved in safeguarding reporting at present. VN added a parent view that CS had built a strong community and parents noticed the phenomenal effort.

Q/C Governors asked if the school expected to see an increase in more children returning. CS said that she expected that this would happen and parents had to let school know by the previous Wednesday

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if their children were joining the following Monday. A new bubble would start next week and an additional teacher would be taken on to cover, which would involve an increase in spending. **Q/C**
Governors asked about moving staff from other year groups and how this impacted on supporting children still at home. CS said that each teacher was based in their own room and had some of their own children with them. Only one teacher was working with a different class.

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding update had been included in the pack and there were no further comments.

Child Protection Policy Addendum

All present confirmed that they had read this and were in agreement.

***LDP link: L and M objectives** – To further develop and strengthen the role of governance in securing improvements in teaching, learning and outcomes for children*

-Ensure that all Governor actions are tightly linked to the evaluation and monitoring of the LDP, the development of the new curriculum and the embedding of the new assessment system

8. Trust Board Issues

CS highlighted that the budget setting was an area which needed to be discussed with the MAT due to the current coronavirus context and the impact of this on the budget setting process and timescales.

9. Governance Issues

- Dates of Meetings for 2020/21- a proposed set of LGB dates which met key deadlines as set by WMAT had been included in the meeting pack. These were agreed.
- Chair and Vice Chair Elections for 2020/21 - NG gave notice that elections would be required at the first meeting of 2020/21 and governors were invited to consider standing.
- Succession Planning - NG noted that there were vacancies on the board and proposed registering these with the Inspiring Governance matching service and liaising with the Clerk to the Trust Board to see if they could provide assistance in placing a Co-opted Governor. This was agreed and NG would investigate and report back in due course.
- Next meeting - CS confirmed that she would be able to attend. SD said that she hoped by that time that there would be more government guidance - CS agreed and hoped she would be able to provide more detail on the summer / September. SD spoke on behalf of the governors present to affirm that the governors would stand by any decision CS made in relation to summer / September decision making.

***LDP Link L and M objectives** – To further develop and strengthen the role of governance in securing improvements in teaching, learning and outcomes for children*

-Establish a clearly defined role for all governors in securing accountability across the school

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10. Any other Urgent Business as declared at start of meeting

Head Teacher Performance Management was discussed. Governors agreed that this would be rolled forward to next term, noting the WMAT deadline for approval.

11. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 9 July 2020 6pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Action Plan following the Full Governing Body meeting held on 11 June 2020

Action to be Taken	Minute No.	Governor/Staff Member Involved	Suggested Completion Date
1. Provide report on impact of sickness and absence	4	CS	In due course
2. Make enquiries with Duchy ref development and demographics in Poundbury and google schools to see how Damers appeared.	4 (7)	TA	ASAP
3. Email governors with dates of 'Great Works' celebrations	7	SD	ASAP
4. Provide report on uptake at Clubs	7	CS	In due course
5. Provide report on Guided Reading	7	CS	In due course
6. Provide short session on 'Steps'	7	RN	ASAP
7. Assign Link Governors to SLGs	7	SD	ASAP
8. Follow up governor vacancy enquiries	9	NG	ASAP
9. Finalise HTPM process	10	SD/MM	By October 2020

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Date