



3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021 were approved virtually as an accurate record.

4. Declaration of Any Other Urgent Business

None.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in respect of the Agenda.

6. Matters Arising and Action Plan

1. 7 4 (4 (4)) SD to ensure that all governors undertake Safeguarding Training. - *TA was yet to complete this and would do so shortly. NG had provided MK and MC with the NGA Learning Link details and the module list and they would need to complete these.* ONGOING
2. 7 (8) CS to inform governors of dates of forthcoming virtual Harmony Workshop/s. - TA, RB and LG had attended and noted that it was an interesting and useful session. COMPLETED
3. (9.1) CS to provide anonymised report on how Lines of Enquiry followed the LDP - this would now be completed in the Autumn Term. ONGOING
4. (10.2) Governors to review and complete relevant NGA training modules - ONGOING
5. (10.3) Governors to contact their staff link before conducting monitoring report - most governors had been in touch with their link staff and others would follow after half term. ONGOING
6. (10.4) NG to register MK as NGA member and send training link details. COMPLETED
7. (10.4) NG to liaise with KW ref Governor Induction- NG had contacted Vicky Smyth, Clerk to the Trust Board about this and awaited a response. ONGOING
8. (10.4) NG to follow up appointment of MC as Co-opted Governor with TB - MC's co-option had been ratified at the last Trust Board meeting. COMPLETED

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Trust Board Issues

Receive Policies - none.

9. Draft Budget 2021/22

DC reported that she and other MAT Business Managers had now formed a group to ensure correlation of work and information sharing. They had met to discuss the budget and DC noted that separate pots of funding were now amalgamated. She noted that the assumptions behind the budget included a 1.5% inflation pay rise for 2021/22 for NJC 2019 support staff, as well as SEND inflation increase. The teacher's pay range as well as Upper Pay Scale and TLRs had been updated. She explained that Pupil Premium and Free School Meals income was not due until June 2021 and would be amended at that point. The budget plan had assumed that other funding for the Base and EHCP would remain and that

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maternity cover for two teachers would be included. Three new TAs were included in the Support Staff Budget and maternity cover would need to be adjusted when the periods of leave began. The MAT levy was projected to remain at 5%. **Q/C Governors asked about the MAT levy and whether it would increase based on staffing costs if GAG income increased salaries.** DC felt that this would not be an issue. **Q/C Governors asked if the pay rate was consistent across the MAT.** CS said that the Pay Policy had been aligned with Thomas Hardye School for some time, so this was not an issue. **Q/C Governors asked about maternity cover for TAs and DC confirmed that this would affect 2 full time TAs.**

DC presented the Budget Setting 2021-22 document, covering the highlights in terms of income and expenditure, and noted the key performance indicators. **Q/C Governors noted the staff costs for supply, asking if this year was particularly high or whether it was an accurate expectation going forward.** DC felt that the figure given was broadly correct, and gave examples. **Q/C Governors asked about the EHCP income line, asking why it dropped significantly in 2 years.** DC explained that this depended on pupil numbers as they currently stand and therefore as children leave numbers go down, so it was hard to predict until the new foundation children were in school and new EHCPs were confirmed. **Q/C Governors asked about sick pay insurance and whether the school was saving for this eventuality.** DC said that a line had been set up to offset this cost and she did not see an issue with this. **Q/C Governors asked about the carry forward and whether there was a risk of claw back, and DC said that she would check and let governors know.** **Q/C Governors noted the staff training budget as quite low and asked whether it was worth investing more in this.** CS noted that a lot of CPD was done in house or in partnership with other schools and through virtual meetings. She considered it to be a realistic projection and felt that it did not reflect a lack of investment in staff CPD, more of a reduction in cost of CPD available. **Q/C Governors noted Pupil Premium numbers.** DC said that the budget planned on 81 in total which was a reduction on the norm of around 100. This was based on census figures which were lower in October 2020 when the census was taken as not all new families have applied at this point. **Q/C Governors asked if the pandemic had increased Pupil Premium numbers.** CS said that this was not significant. DC added that Nina Grimmett had been busy identifying the siblings of existing Pupil Premium children joining in September 2021. CS said that RB had met with CS and DC to look at the budget and CS praised DC's work in relation to this, which she had completed in a very short space of time. RB supported this.

Governors recommended the draft budget to the Trust Board.

(At 6.42pm DC left the meeting).

10. Headteacher's Report

10.1 Headteacher's Written Report

CS referred to her report, noting the following:

Q/C Governors noted the issues CS had highlighted in the CCN Base, and asked to be informed if governors needed to escalate any issues. CS said that further challenges had arisen and tribunals were now taking place in terms of parents appealing LA decisions. She added that some children could not flourish in the setting and needed alternative provision. Two tribunals had ruled in favour of the parents and the children had been assigned places in special schools. A further scenario had also arisen which

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may force the school to go above the PAN for the base. Governors mentioned the new special school in Shaftesbury.

Q/C Governors asked when After School Clubs would re-start and CS replied that it was not the right time for staff at present given other pressures this half term but it was hoped that these could be reinstated in September. Q/C Governors asked if the PTA could help with this but CS said that this was not an option as the school was still working within Covid-19 restrictions.

Q/C Governors asked about use of the Sensory Room and whether it provided a calm environment. CS said that it was very much a part of the Base provision and was also used for challenging mainstream pupils. It provided a calm space which would be used more for larger groups across the school when Covid-19 restrictions allowed.

Q/C Governors asked about the background to Y2 and Y3 showing the greatest overall gap from ARE and particularly in writing and maths. CS reflected that Y3 had been the most impacted and had not able to come back to school with the previous lockdown easing. In Y2, some children did not return when invited and some did not engage as well in remote learning, so the school was seeing some slippage. **Q/C Governors asked about the percentage drop off for these groups and CS would send out AHT Ellie Goodridge's figures on this with the meeting minutes.**

10.2 CS noted other documents in the HT Report pack for governor's information. These included the outcomes of the recent Health and Safety Audit.

10.3 Safeguarding

MB referred to the report in the pack. There had been 19 school days since the last meeting and 9/10 concerns on average had been recorded daily across 36 categories. Sentry, the new software from My Concern would replace the Single Central Record (SCR) and support safer recruitment processes. It met all statutory requirements and would streamline processes significantly. The ICT leader had received the Safety Champions Update and teaching staff had received input from the virtual school on the considerations around having children in care in school. Comparative figures were noted on vulnerable pupils. Safeguarding activity was noted, with referrals, incidents and comparators. The local PSCO had attended school and had met with MB as well as with junior governors. MB also noted communication with parents and learning from serious case reviews. In terms of the latter, MB had identified some typical risk factors encountered in school which she would drip feed to staff. The next SCR check would take place after training on Sentry and MB would send dates to RB for induction on this.

10.4 MAT / DASP Update

CS noted that a small group of HTs had been looking at the future of DASP, the purpose behind it and what it stood for. CS showed governors a set of proposed approaches which considered the 'rule of three' which CS described. She noted the key questions and the timeline for change and had encouraged other HTs to get involved to take the work forward. She added that Dorchester Middle School and Purbeck would hopefully be joining the MAT shortly. SD noted that she had attended a MAT meeting as a parent.

10.5 RSHE Update

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MB noted that this should have come into effect in September 2020 but had been delayed by the pandemic and would now be in place by the Summer Term of 2021. The school had been an Early Adopter school so had been aware of it earlier. The RSHE Policy needed to be in place by the end of term and MB would consult parents via Google Forms before presenting the policy to governors for adoption at the next LGB. She presented an update document which showed how the requirements linked to the curriculum and Jigsaw units of work.

10.6 Social Prescribing Research Project

Q/C Governors asked how Social Prescribing came about. CS gave the background to this and referred to collaboration about projects around mental health, medicine and education using the Harmony curriculum. CS noted it as an exciting project. which provided £7k funding to set up a research project. No such projects were in place for under 18s in Dorset as yet. CS noted the opportunity to create sustainable change in terms of mental health and wellbeing, as well as the impact on families, which could be transformative. **Q/C Governors asked if it was possible to fast track the learning from the project to introduce across the MAT.** CS replied that she had shared the project outline with MAT CEO Mike Foley and would look to create links in the community. TA noted a match with a project he was working on with a charity he was associated with and the need to create opportunities for children as they moved through education.

11. Governance Issues

11.1 Link Governor Reports - SD thanked LG and MM for completion of reports which had been included in the pack.

11.2 Governor Training Feedback - no training activity to report since the last meeting.

11.3 Succession Planning/Governor Induction - NG reported that there was one remaining Co-opted Governor vacancy remaining.

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

None.

13. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 1 July 2021 6pm

This meeting would take place in school.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Action Plan following the Local Governing Body meeting held on 27 May 2021

Action to be Taken	Minute No.	Governor/Staff Member Involved	Suggested Completion Date
1. Check the protocol around Staff Governor cover.	1	NG	ASAP
2. Ensure that all governors	7 4 (4 (4))	MK/TA/MC	ASAP

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undertake Safeguarding Training.			
3. Provide anonymised report on how Lines of Enquiry followed the LDP.	7 (9.1)	CS	By Autumn Term
4. Governors to review and complete relevant NGA training modules.	7 (10.2)	ALL	ASAP
5. Governors to contact their staff link before conducting monitoring report.	10.3	Relevant governors	ASAP
6. Respond to query on risk of claw back of carry forward.	9	DC	ASAP
7. RHSE Policy Adoption on Agenda for the next LGB	10	MB/NG	By next meeting
8. CS to provide EG's report on % drop off in Y2 and Y3 with the meeting minutes.	10.2	CS/NB	ASAP

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Date