



SIDESTRAND HALL SCHOOL

Minutes of Full Governing Body Meeting held on Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 4.00pm via Teams and face to face

Participating: Angela Wrighton, Viv Harrington, Roger Billings, Rachel Middleton, Shelley Taylor (Acting Head), Paul Hinson, Marie Greer (Associate Governor). Also present Sarah Adams [for agenda item 2).

Governors' questions and comments are in bold and italics.

1. Welcome

2. Short verbal presentation by Sarah Adams about her recent work.

Sarah Adams had been invited to give a short verbal presentation about her work regarding transition and careers from Year 9 up to 6th form. There is a new Careers Strategy in schools with benchmarks that schools have to work towards, e.g. providing experiences of colleges and employers, working with parents. She has also gradually been trying to work with younger pupils. Before the shutdown due to Covid, she completed a Careers Leader course dealing with policy and strategy. Many plans will need to wait until there is more normality. No transition visits to or from colleges are currently possible. She had to adapt to working with young people via Google Classroom and one to one phone calls. They had not been able to hold a Careers event this year. The next step is to work with employers, along with Fiona Hall. She would welcome any ideas of employers who may be happy to give a presentation.

The Chair thanked her for her Careers Policy plus the Benchmarking document shared by Fiona Hall.

How many of our pupils go to college / work? Approximately half go to College and half to 6th form followed by College. A few may go on to specialist providers.

Do we then lose touch with them? They are supposed to be tracked for three years but that can sometimes be difficult in the third year.

A Governor thanked her for supporting her child through the process and providing feedback to them as parents which they had found very helpful.

Are people coming in to talk about careers before they go on to college? Is that to help make a course choice rather than to recruit staff? It gives some pupils some idea about the world of work, e.g. someone from the National Trust usually comes to

discuss all the different options of jobs within the National Trust. School sets a lot of store by punctuality and attendance which are also important for work.

Governors were very impressed and some would like to attend the next Careers Event when it was possible.

3. Consideration of apologies for absence

Received and accepted from Paddy Bennett, Peter Godfrey, Fiona Hall and Jo Callender. Liam Davis had resigned as Staff Governor.

4. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of 14 October 2020

These were agreed to be accurate and would be signed by the Chair, once an amendment had been added to the effect that the minutes of 4 December 2019 and 8 July 2020 had been agreed.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of 8 July and 14 October 2020

None.

6. Acting Headteacher's Report including Safeguarding Report

The Safeguarding Report from Mark Fincham had been included in the Headteacher's Report which was on Governor Hub.

Questions were invited. There were none.

Governors felt it was very thorough and interesting. Governors were pleased to know what was going on and were very grateful that staff had taken the time to contribute to it. Governors asked that staff be thanked.

7. Consideration of Catch up Premium Plan and Catch up Covid summary information document

School has received money from the Government in place of the Year 7 Catch Up funding. It had been decided that it would be best spent on enhancing pupil premium funding; they had employed an additional TA to cover staff absence, bought additional resources as resources could not be shared, purchased a national test, provided transition, extra reading materials, learning platforms that children can access at home, more Chrome books, webcams in the classroom to allow greater social interaction between groups of children. The document is on Governor Hub.

Is all the intervention done in-house? There are a few privately funded tutors but generally all intervention is done by school staff.

Do you think that it will be possible to make up the gap? The pupils have been baselined and no significant concerns have been noted.

8. Consideration of Pupil Premium analysis report document

This will be uploaded into the meeting folder when it is completed.

9. Ratify attendance targets and Budget Revision 2

These documents had been on Governor Hub and approved in Committee. Wendy had sent through a revised version of Revision Budget 2 following a meeting with County. ***Revision 2 of the budget and attendance targets were ratified by the Governing Body.***

10. Review and ratify Residential Statement of Purpose

This was on Governor Hub. It is an annually updated document for the website. ***The Residential Statement of Purpose was ratified by the Governing Body.***

11. Confirm decision regarding CIS energy proposal

Fiona Hall had asked a number of questions by email; the questions and the Business Manager's answers are in the folder for this meeting entitled 'Appendix to the minutes'. She was principally concerned that three tenders for the project had not been requested.

The Chair of the Finance Premises and Personnel Committee explained the proposed arrangement. The company had offered to complete and put forward the application for grants which was due in on 23 November. At the Committee meeting Governors had agreed that the grant should be applied for. If the grant is not agreed, it is unlikely we would proceed as we would have to pay for this ourselves and we have not got the funds; however, in that case three tenders would be needed. Governors had not committed themselves to any costs, unless work needed to be done at the weekends.

Governors agreed that they should await news of the success of the application.

12. Review and ratify Careers Policy and NQT Policy

The Careers Policy had been reviewed on Governor Hub. It was ratified by the Governing Body.

The NQT Policy was provided after the meeting; it was uploaded to Governor Hub with a request for approval and ratification by signing online. It was ratified by the Governing Body.

13. Ratify policies

The following had already been approved in Committees and were on Governor Hub:

- Finance incl Charging & Remissions and Governor Allowances (FP&P)
- Pay Policy (FP&P)
- LAC (PDBW)
- Safer workforce (PDBW)
- SEN (SI&S)
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions (PDBW)
- Data Protection including Management & Retention of Records (SI&S)

- Curriculum (SI&S)
- Admissions (SI&S)
- Governor Visits Guidance (SI&S)

These were ratified by the Governing Body.

14. Review business of:

Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee (draft minutes available on Governor Hub; questions and comments were invited but none received)
School Improvement & Standards Committee (draft minutes available on Governor Hub; questions and comments invited but none received)
Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare Committee (draft minutes available on Governor Hub; questions and comments invited but none received).

The Chair suggested that any questions be raised with her to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

15. Feedback from Governor training

Marie Greer had done the Governor Induction training and would do SEND and Safeguarding training in January.

Rachel Middleton had done Safeguarding training.

Angela Wrighton had done Fraud Awareness training.

She urged Governors to do online finance training and ensure it was included on Governor Hub.

16. Any other business

The Chair asked the Acting Head to pass on the Governors' appreciation to all the staff for their hard work. She thanked Governors for signing approvals of documents online.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.