

Wellsprings Primary School

Meeting of the Full Governing Body held virtually via Zoom on

Thursday 28th January 2021 at 6pm

Present: Mark Lunn(ML) – Headteacher, Katrina Marshall(KM), Shirley Chapman(SC), Gabby Andrews(GA), Nicki Hatton(NH), Nicola Sweeting(NS), Luke Middleton(LM), Michelle Hall(MH)

Kim Lester(Clerk)

1.	Apologies	Actions
	John Sharp(JS) Called to work emergency, Chris Hall (Work commitment) Both accepted.	

2.	Business Interests updated	
	Governors asked to declare any new business interests. No updates to register from last year.	

3.	Minutes of Last meeting 7 th October 2020	
	Alteration to the Role allocations of Safeguarding Lead and SEND Governor as not allowed to be a staff Governor. Safeguarding Governor – Gabby Andrews SEND Governor – Shirley Chapman Minutes otherwise signed as a true record of the meeting.	

4.	Matters Arising	
	Governor Newsletter – ML and SC to add a paragraph Safeguarding Annual return – ML Completed Data Asset update with Google Classrooms – KL Completed	ML/SC

5.	Covid-19 arrangements	
	Remote Learning – Since October we have been using Google Classrooms across KS1 and KS2 to provide online learning to pupils. A weekly timetable is provided, anyone who cannot access online teaching for any reason is being supplied with a hard copy. Tapestry is used in the Early years to allow parents to communicate with school. Each year group also has a dedicated email to communicate with Teachers. We use a variety of software resources to enhance the online learning including White Rose Maths, Rising Stars, Numicon, Espresso and Oak Academy. Live sessions are also timetabled during the week with either assemblies or key phase lessons. Some schools have	

	<p>released some teachers to work solely from home with online learning, we have chosen not to go down this route. Our teachers are timetabled throughout the week and cover teaching within school and online learning.</p> <p>Governors asked what proportion of pupil's we had attending. Approximately 35% of the school population which equates to about 25% each day.</p> <p>Are all vulnerable pupil s attending school? A proportion of vulnerable pupils attend 2-3 days a week, those that have chosen not to attend school are contacted on a weekly basis, home visits are undertaken by the PFSA, sometimes when she delivers FSM hampers and at other times to carry out a welfare check.</p> <p>We have received 50 laptops from the government schemes and these have been allocated to vulnerable and identified learners. Other equipment has also been provided such as keyboards and mouse's to access via gaming stations.</p> <p>General staff worries about the pupils are the length of time away from school, keeping motivation going and engagement. We also communicate with all parents via Parentmail, Facebook, Instagram and the school website. The communication team has also started to set up a Youtube site and has also created a video prospectus that can be used for new starters.</p> <p>In school provision – We currently have 1 Nursery and 1 reception class, 1 year 1 and 1 year 2 class, 2 year 3/4 classes and 2 year 5/6 classes.</p> <p>We currently provide UIFSM and FSM meals for those children who attend school and require them.</p> <p>We provide our FSM community with Hampers weekly and a voucher(funded by the Government) for £15 weekly.</p> <p>New arrangements – On 22nd January the Government decided to introduce home testing kits for all staff to be completed twice weekly. Although not compulsory staff are asked to carry these out and report results both to the NHS and the school. All have been negative so far.</p>	
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6.	Data Overview	
	<p>Our data suggests that children are currently behind by roughly just over a term in both Reading and Maths and in some year groups writing is nearer two terms behind.</p> <p>Those children who are attending school or are engaged consistently seem to have made better progress than those identified for poor engagement and attendance.</p> <p>A new language programme for Early years – Nuffield Early Years Intervention (NELI) has shown the following results:</p>	

	<p>Out of the 37 Reception children assessed: 10 were above average (27%) 27 were average or above (73%) 9 were below average (5 of these are SEND pupils, of which 3 have an EHCP) only 1 of the 9 has attended school regularly since the summer. National Attendance for the Autumn term was 82.9%. Wellsprings school was 96.1% which is a really pleasing result.</p>	
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7.	Finance	
	<p>Finance update as at Month 9 – The month 9 report had been created by the LA Senior Officer. At the time of completion it showed a committed balance of £34K (some of this can be re allocated) and an uncommitted balance of £68k. Since the report the uncommitted balance has had to be reduced by £22k as the LA has taken back an element of the extra allocated support due to one of our teachers having left in August 20. (This funding was given to support the school during the summer term when the redundancy programme was suspended) The 2 balances have increased since the month 6 report. But the LA still advise that we will need to consider redundancies.</p> <p>We will need to convene a Finance subcommittee meeting within the next few weeks, preferably when we have received the budget indicative figures through to be able to make decisions about the redundancy process. Once we have this we will be able to start looking at the teaching structure for September. With the current Covid situation, this is working in our favour as we are not buying in any extra supply.</p> <p>Pupil numbers are remaining consistent since Christmas, although these are lower than previous years which will affect our funding. The Redundancy gateway report will need to be initiated by 23.2.21 as 40 days are required. (58 days will take us to May half term, giving staff time to look for alternative jobs before the Summer)</p> <p>Governors asked whether any further pushes to convert to Academy had been received?</p> <p>Huish Academy are consistently looking to take on further Primary schools and in fairness seem to have been quite a good Academy group. ML is still unsure of the benefits of having the budget top sliced and becoming less autonomous, but also agreed that non academy schools could become quite isolated as Cluster school groups e.g. TLP were becoming more scarce.</p>	

8.	Policies	
	Video Conferencing – SC	SC

	Maths – LM Arts – SC Humanities - MH	LM SC MH
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9.	SEND Annual report	
	<p>The SENCO had provided the Governor Lead with her annual report.</p> <p>As of March 2020 15% of pupils were identified as having SEN, with 20% of these having an EHCP.</p> <p>The impact of Covid-19 has meant that it was expected that some elements of SEN plans could not be met. With the majority of pupils learning from home, SEND pupils were supported in different ways. 3 of the 6 with an EHCP attended school part time. Those not attending received a weekly call.</p> <p>During the initial 2 weeks' packs of work were provided, moving onto online learning as systems were put in place. School places were offered to all pupils with an EHCP. Year 6 transition was supported through online Zoom meetings with the secondary schools. Due to the budget restraints the SENCO assistant and ELSA's had been redeployed back into the classrooms, this has put extra pressure on the SENCO to be able to carry out assessments and referrals as quickly as previously. Again due to staff pressures it is inevitable that there will be fewer specific interventions. We will continue to support the ELSA's and their expertise will be used as available. Forest school provision will continue as this has shown to be very beneficial. Support from Educational Psychologists will continue to be delivered.</p> <p>The Learning support team are now part of the Virtual School and along with most outside agencies are training and upskilling staff rather than working directly with individual children.</p>	

10.	Training	
	New training options had recently been uploaded, Governors were advised to look and ask KL to book anything that appealed quickly as places were filling fast even though all training is delivered online.	All/KL

10.	Meeting dates	
	SEP visit 9.2.21 (Somerset Education Partner) FGB 24.3.21 19.5.21 7.7.21	

AOB		
	<p>The Chair wished to pass on the boards continued support to ML for doing a fantastic job under the continuing pressures imposed. Governors stressed that they were there in the background if they could help in any way.</p> <p>The Chair asked how the new cleaning contract was going? This has been very successful, a good team has been provided, the monthly audits have been favourable and overall the school is very happy with the decision.</p> <p>Governors asked whether any changes would need to be implemented after the February half term and potential return of all students. ML and the SLT will be discussing this next week and looking at the possible solutions.</p>	

Meeting finished at 19.15

	Action points	By Whom and when
4	Matters Arising Governor Newsletter	MH/SC
8.	Policies Video Conferencing – SC Maths – LM Arts – SC Humanities - MH	SC LM SC MH
10.	Training	All