



29/04/2021

Minutes

Local Governing Board; St Stephens Community Academy Thursday 29th April 2021 at 10am remotely via Zoom

1. Join Meeting

All participants had audio and video.

2. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Ann Nicholson, Peter Jones, Sue Tierney, Joan Heaton, Robyn Iveson-Mills, Maura Furber (Head)

Apologies: Kathy Walsh, Lesley Volz

In Attendance: Toni Martin (Governance Officer)

3. Appoint New Parent Governor

New Parent governor Robyn Iveson-Mills joined the meeting. All governors agreed to appoint her as a board appointed parent governor. RIM has already completed Safeguarding for governors and Prevent on-line training. She will complete induction course in June/July. DBS is complete. MF and RIM will meet on 14th May for a tour of the school and an overview of school matters.

4. Declarations of Interest Relevant to this Agenda

None declared.

5. Confirm Minutes of LGB last meeting 18th March 2021 and Matters Arising

All actions listed below are for action prior to the main summer meeting so serve as a reminder and no need to discuss at this meeting. Governors agreed the minutes and a copy will be provided for the Chair to sign when normality resumes.

- **Discuss draft improvement plan for 2021-2022 at the summer meeting (MF)**
- **Pre-school update at summer meeting (MF)**
- **Monitoring for summer term prior to next meeting:**
 - **AN & ST – SCR and hand over safeguarding, meet with Trust Child Protection Officer – 24th June**
 - **JH – talk with MF about recovery schedule, data and PPG during second half of term (AN in attendance as part of Chair handover) – 16th June, 10am**
 - **LV – curriculum monitoring focussed on maths**
 - **LV – SEND monitoring/familiarisation**
 - **ST – assess PE funding impact with MF – 24th June**

6. Current Situation Update

MF noted the recovery schedule and how it has developed over various lockdowns. It has been trickier for the children to return to school this time around in terms of their independence and learning stamina. Welfare of parents has also been a concern due to financial matters and

feeling unable to home school children. MF noted how the additional funding was used to help with recovery. There are no formal external assessments this year but teacher assessments are going to be used, including some assessment papers, to see where the children are at in order to prepare for start of school in September. MF explained how various provision is being conducted, in particular with regard to phonics, reading, writing and maths. A data forecast will be produced and made available to governors. Social and emotional development of the children has also been a big focus during this time to ensure the children are communicating effectively and being independent. The mental health of the children is a priority, using trauma informed school. She noted some additional provision that has been gained to help with children's mental health and well-being, and it is having a tremendous positive effect. MF also covered how some of the provision is being put into place, moderation, EYFS provision and Academy Improvement Officers reports.

MF noted that it has not been possible to complete the capabilities curriculum due to lockdowns. Hopefully from September, a full year can be implemented. **A governor inquired as to MF's welfare?** MF confirmed that all the team are working well together and that she is well supported on a daily basis. MF explained that due to the needs of the families it can be very tiring emotionally whilst continuing with the everyday running of the school. The working day is longer as the parents and children's needs take precedence over emails and paperwork when at school. This will hopefully ease in time, and MF does have a strong pastoral support. The school day is still impacted with different issues e.g, lunch timings, hand washing routines alongside the logistics of movement around the building alongside running the recovery curriculum. All the staff are happy with their work-life balance but things do seem to take longer currently, so this does make an impact on the teaching time. Everyone is ready for the weekend when it arrives.

7. Any Other Business

JH has completed Chair's training.

A governor enquired about the family hub/children's centre and whether it is closing as social media would suggest? MF confirmed that the family hub is not closing and the reason for the social media posts is unknown.

MF noted the lottery bid was successful (£10K) and noted the plans for spending this money, mostly outdoor facilities. Other funding has also been received and will be used for Year 6 garden area, breakfast provision and other exciting opportunities.

8. DONM

Date of next meeting is Thursday 1st July 2021 at 5pm at St Stephen's or on zoom – to be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 10.50am

TJH Martin
ADMAT Governance Officer

Distribution List:

A. Nicholson – Co-opted Governor (Chair)	L. Volz – Parent Governor
--	---------------------------

P. Jones – Co-opted Governor (Vice) K. Walsh – Staff Governor S. Tierney – Co-opted Governor J. Heaton – Co-opted Governor	R. Iveson Mills – Parent Governor M. Furber – Head Teacher W. Hermon – Executive Head/CEO G. Barriball – Chair of the Board
---	--