

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of a Meeting of the

Teaching & Learning Committee

Held at the Academy on Wednesday 13th May @ 6pm

Governors Present -

Mrs Joanna Young Academy Principal
 Miss Samantha Brennand Academy Vice Principal
 Mrs Kitty Bishop
 Mrs Su Hawkes
 Mrs Linda Horne
 Mrs Diane Ridings

Apologies -

Mrs Andrea Millar Chair of Committee
 Mrs Sarah Wiinterbottom

In Attendance -

Mrs Amanda Arnold Executive Officer
 Mr John Hibbert Clerk to the Governors

Item		Action
1.	<p>Apologies & Items of Any Other Business</p> <p>a. Apologies received from A Millar and S Winterbottom were accepted by the committee. In the absence of the Committee Chair, the meeting was chaired by Mrs Diane Ridings.</p> <p>b. The following items of any other business were tabled for inclusion –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Young Carers – iPads – ‘Artis’ 	
2.	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <p>Point 3 - Feedback from A Millar on whether an extraordinary meeting has yet been planned with Literacy Action Planning as a focus.</p> <p>Feedback from S Winterbottom and A Millar regarding any work with other governors. Deferred due to absence of AM & SW</p> <p>Point 6 - Has a register been put in place for staff to record work for School to</p>	<p>AM / SW</p>

	<p>School – AA to feedback Deferred to Full Governors</p> <p>Did SB and HM attend the meeting regarding Multi Academy Trusts? No. It was decided that the Academy would not attend</p> <p>Point 7a - JY has written to parents regarding the new level system to be introduced in school. Mrs Young reported that there had been no issues raised by parents following this</p> <p>Point 7c - Reported later in the minutes – Sports Update Holiday Club update – JY confirmed that this had been arranged to commence in the May half term, and will then take place two days a week in the Summer holidays.</p> <p>Point 8c - Confirmation that JY and AA will work together to provide a diary of learning walks for governors when they are scheduled – No new dates have yet been scheduled, but they will be distributed as soon as they are set</p> <p>Point 10 - Update on moderation of Self Assessment. JY reported that she plans to hold a ‘mini ofsted’ in the Autumn Term as part of the moderation of Self Assessment.</p> <p>Point 12 - Agenda item Point 5c</p> <p>Point 14 - Agenda Item 12</p>	<p>AA</p> <p>AA / JY</p> <p>JY</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Sports Grant – Impact of the Investment</p> <p>A full report was presented to governors by SB. It illustrates the positive impact the grant continues to have across the whole school. Highlighted within the report were the successes of the teams representing the school and a summary of the activities taking place this term. It was noted that the Sports Presentation evening on 6th July will start at 6.30pm, not at 6.00pm as per the report. In addition, SB reported that, subject to funding, extra gymnastic training will be introduced. Following a governor question, SB said that the introduction of fencing will remain under consideration, again dependant on funding. It was noted that the employment of the Sports Instructor was a major factor in the schools achievements. Governors complimented SB on her report and the excellent impact to the benefit of all the children.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>School to School Support</p> <p>No further updates at this time</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Data to Consider</p> <p>a. Foundation Stage</p> <p>KB reported that they are happy that the majority of children are well on track. She discussed the new ‘Tapestry’ system, where parents and school share progress and experience that the children are making, is working really well, and confirmed that they are now working with ‘Funzone’, after school club, so that they can use it to help with assessment of those children that are attending.</p>	

	<p>b. KS1 & KS2</p> <p>JY discussed that it is difficult to analyse progress in core subjects in years other than year 2 and 6 due to the changes in the curriculum and removal of levels. The progress is evident in books but the percentage of children working above ARE (age related expectations) has dipped as children are taught the new curriculum. This is particularly noticeable in Maths. She discussed that Maths is to be the main focus over the next academic year, to include Insets and further investment for additional resources. JY discussed that aside from this she is happy with the overall progress of all year groups in all areas.</p> <p>c. Pupil Premium</p> <p>A report prepared by V Robertson had been distributed to governors. JY discussed that there will be an update on the additional support of a Life Coach that has started to give support to vulnerable PP children. The report also highlights the continued funding for all Pupil Premium children's extra curricular activities, including swimming and all trips.</p> <p>It was discussed that D Ridings, S Hawkes and J Newman have all been in to meet with VR and have seen that all interventions are clearly logged and all complimented the high standard of record keeping. A governor thanked the leadership team for enabling the SENCo to have the required dedicated time.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Curriculum</p> <p>Bentley</p> <p>JY reported that the Director for the Institute of Mechanical Engineering has been in touch and is keen to purchase a racing car for the children to design and make the bodywork, and the race around the country! She confirmed that she is gathering all of the facts to help make a decision on whether this is a project for Leighton Academy to be involved in, which includes a visit to a race day in Stafford that she will be attending with J Hall (Technology Teacher), and investigating what costs and commitments would be required. An update will be given at the next meeting.</p> <p>Germany Trip</p> <p>JY discussed the proposal of a trip to Germany for the Year 5 children, with the proposed new residential visit schedule to be –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 3 – Berwoodsley – Celtic Round House Year 4 – Edgmond Hall Year 5 – Germany Trip to Cologne Year 6 – Robinwood Activity Centre <p>SB confirmed that a pre visit Risk assessment visit has been planned for June 4th. That there would be a ratio of 1-8. The cost of the trip would be £189 per pupil. A governor asked about the issue of Passports, SB confirmed a collective Passport would be purchased. Edgmond Hall and Robinwood had already been approved. Governors approved the additional residential visits, subject to Risk Assessments. To be ratified at Full Governors.</p> <p>Maths Focus</p> <p>JY confirmed that the Academy were working on improving the depth of understanding in Maths and again that there will be additional investment in resources, to include an Inset day. She confirmed that they would not be investing</p>	<p>JY</p>

	<p>in 'Maths makes Sense' as it was a general opinion of all staff that this was not suited to the requirements of the Academy due to the lack of differentiation.</p> <p>Spelling Focus</p> <p>JY reported and praised the Year 3 and 4 teachers as they have identified a decline in the standard of spellings and have found and are now trialling a new programme and teaching method. Further information to be reported in the Autumn term.</p> <p>Design and Technology</p> <p>JY reported that the subject is flourishing in school, largely due to the introduction of the Technology teacher, J Hall, and reported on a number of activities due to take place in the coming term, including year 6 enterprise, Food Revelation Day, Gardening Club and much more.</p>	JY
7.	<p>Academy Progress</p> <p>a. Progress Reviews – this was discussed in part 5b</p> <p>b. CPD Update</p> <p>JY congratulated S Brennand and K Bishop on their completion of their NPQSL (National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership). She also confirmed that a further two members of staff are awaiting for their confirmation on completing the NPQML (National Professional Qualification for Middle Leadership). Governors praised the efforts of these attainments.</p> <p>c. Governor involvement – reported in point 5c</p> <p>d. Update on Entry Numbers</p> <p>It was confirmed that there are 90 places for the coming Reception intake. JY confirmed that all places had been accepted, with 3 appeals and 10 children on the waiting list. JY plans to meet with Cheshire East Admissions to discuss the concern for year numbers moving forward.</p> <p>e. Parent Questionnaire Analysis</p> <p>A detailed report was furnished to the governors following the analysis of the questionnaires. SB confirmed that the main issues to arise were –</p> <p><u>Playground Behaviour</u> Year 1– She confirmed the Academy were already aware of this and that a number of actions are in place to reduce this, including – new playground markings, Midday Assistant Play Training and Martial Arts lessons for identified children to help with self-discipline.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> – It was discussed that this is continually monitored and always debated. This will continue to be monitored but the use of the school website and social media seems to be improving this.</p> <p><u>School Meals</u> – This is already at governor level and is currently in the process of being changed/improved</p> <p>Governors discussed how pleasing it was that the academy was already dealing with all of the negative points that had arisen from the questionnaire and thanked S Brennand for her clear and concise report.</p>	
8.	<p>Directors Report</p> <p>The report has been reviewed in advance of the meeting and there were no issues</p>	

	for this committee to note or action.	
9.	<p>Policies for Review</p> <p>A copy of the 'Acceptable Use Policy' was not available at the meeting and was moved to be approved at Full Governors.</p> <p>JY presented the new proposed 'Young Carers Policy'. She confirmed the importance was due to the increased number of Young Carers. The policy illustrates ways to identify the young carers and means to support them. A governor asked about young carers having access to residential visits. JY confirmed this is also something the policy is to support. The policy was approved.</p>	
10.	<p>Self-Evaluation and School Development Plan Update</p> <p>JY discussed that the plan was to commence a new School Development Plan from September 2015 although this was not due to take place until 2016. She confirmed, as agreed at Full Governors, the motto 'Making learning real and Unforgettable'</p> <p>It was discussed that a new on line self-evaluation and school development plan database had been purchased which was more professional and clear. More information, to include training information, to follow at Full Governors</p>	JY
11.	<p>SEN Provision</p> <p>A report was provided to governors and included a Reception language Screening report from J Steenkamp, Speech Therapist, which shows the impact of the support. JY complimented J Steenkamp on the data provided and the positive outcomes of her work</p>	
12.	<p>Parent Forum</p> <p>Minutes from the previous meeting were shared with the committee. The low number of attendees were discussed and the academy is disappointed. It was agreed that the meetings would continue to take place in the mornings as this was when most had attended. Date for the next meeting to be confirmed with A Millar.</p>	AM
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>School Council Report</p> <p>A report was provided by L Sayer on the current and planned topics which included: Charity Fundraising, Playground Equipment, Leighton's Got Talent and development of the outdoor area</p> <p>iPads</p> <p>It was reported that there has been an increase in attendance for the year groups where iPads are used, Years 4 and 6. JY discussed that whilst further CPD is required, to include the use of the 'green screen' equipment the academy has invested in, funding was requested to introduce the iPads to the rest of KS2. Governors agreed, subject to budgetary implications. To be discussed at Finance and Resources committee for endorsement.</p> <p>'Artis'</p> <p>JY explained that 'Artis' is a company which sends artists into school with the focus on drama and speaking and listening skills. She explained that they would be working in school 2 days a week, which would include an after school club one day.</p> <p>The cost for the next school year is £21k and has been approved by the Chair of</p>	JY

	<p>Governors under 'Chairs Power to Act'. This would only be for one year as a model of CPD and a performance co-ordinator role was being developed to work alongside them.</p> <p>The programme is due to commence in September and will be monitored and updated to this committee.</p>	<p>JY</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p>Date for Next Meeting Thursday 8th October @6pm</p>	

Signed - _____ Date - _____

Print Name - _____