

Shebbear Community School
Agreed Minutes from the Additional Part One Governing Body **Zoom Meeting**
Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

PROCEDURAL

Present:

Mr N Alford (Head Teacher),
Co-Opted Governors: Mr A Goode, Mr J Quance, Mrs G Cooper, Mrs C Coward (Chair), Mrs N Derwin
Parent Governors: Mrs A Bernstone, Mrs L Marshall
LA Governor: Mrs P Kirby
Staff Governor: Miss R Curtis
Clerk to Governing Body: Mrs S Hawker (clerk).
The meeting was quorate and all governors attended via Zoom.

1/03/20 Apologies:

Mrs T Brock (parent governor) sent her apologies for this meeting; governors agreed to accept and sanction these.

Mr J Richards (parent governor) was absent.

2/03/20 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests:

No new declarations were made by existing governors.

The Chairman explained that this additional meeting had been called to discuss arrangements for the children's return to school on Monday 8th March 2021.

MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

3/03/20 Head Teacher's Report (documents available before the meeting on GovernorHub):

Mr Alford's report included a Covid-19 update and safeguarding.

In contrast to the very little notice of school closure we were given at the beginning of January, we have had plenty of time (two weeks) to prepare for the children's return to school. He believes that we have done a good job during lockdown.

He has updated the document for the re-opening of the school, which is very similar to when we returned fully last September, and also the Devon County Council risk assessment which was received this afternoon. He believes that it is important to keep our guard up, and confirmed that all staff within the school community are voluntarily undertaking twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests which are reported both to school and the DfE. The key thing for the recovery plan is safety and to get the children back into the usual school routines. Coats and bags will continue to remain in classrooms in order to keep the corridors as clean and easy to move along as possible.

The teaching staff held a meeting this afternoon, discussing how to best ensure the children catch up on schooling as quickly as possible. He does not believe that they are a 'lost generation'. Our roadmap is as follows:

- March 8th until Easter - reintegration back into school life, establishing routines, assessing the gaps, well-being;
- Summer term - catching up, fully re-establishing expectations, delivering a full curriculum, be ready for September (as close to age appropriate as possible), planning for September and school development, catch up funding - interventions, well-being;
- Longer term (next school year) - school development, fully re-establish the curriculum (adjust as necessary), new class arrangements, Ofsted and statutory assessment preparation, challenge ourselves to fill the gaps by summer 2022, catch up funding - interventions, well-being.

Signed:

Dated:

He confirmed that our remote strategy had been put into place and was also on the website, as required.

Q: How are you going to cope with maintaining the children's stamina to help them to keep going all day? GC

Mr Alford responded that this was a really good question, and admitted that this would be a challenge and that staff would have to make some allowances for the transition from home learning to a full day at school learning. We will also need to be mindful of the differing levels of support that individual children have had, in some cases they may have become reliant on adult help and have lost some of their independence skills.

Q: I have heard lots of positive comments about the home learning being easier to cope with this time around (a big well done to you and all of the staff for this) - what has the attendance and pupil engagement been like with home learning?

Mr Alford replied that it had dropped off a little bit this week, but generally there has been a really high attendance from the children and lots of engagement across the school community. We can probably identify two or three families who have engaged less, and he has allowed a couple of the more vulnerable children into school to encourage them to engage with their learning which has had a positive effect. There has been approximately 90% attendance in each of the three classes. He thanked Mr Quance for his help and support in obtaining the Parish Council grant towards the Chromebooks - 20 have been lent out during this lockdown to help the children's learning. Mr Quance responded that he was glad that they have been put to use so quickly.

Safeguarding: He advised that the Safeguarding Appendix that had been agreed at the last meeting was already out of date, and presented the new one to governors for their approval. All governors were happy with this and Mrs Coward proposed that it be adopted, seconded by Mrs Bernstone and agreed by all.

04/03/2020 Correspondence:

We have received the renewal quote for the staff absence insurance for next year and if we can renew this before the 14th March then we will receive £150 discount. The clerk had put the renewal quote on Governor Hub, together with a couple of other quotes received (not all have exactly the same criteria as they have been sent based on previous years requirements i.e. waiting days).

- Teacher Absence £1485 - £150 = £1335 (3 day excess/£175 daily benefit)
- SAS Mutual £1214.37 (Excess higher/daily benefit lower) Not clear if Covid covered.
- AIS £889.45 (Excess higher/daily benefit lower) Not clear if Covid covered.

After some discussion, Mr Goode proposed that we continue with our existing insurer which whilst not necessarily the cheapest quote on the market provides us with a good comprehensive insurance, including being fully covered for Covid related absence, plus historically have always been very easy to approach and pay the claims quickly. Seconded by Mr Quance and agreed by all present.

ACTION: CLERK TO RETURN IN TIME TO RECEIVE THE £150 DISCOUNT.

GOVERNANCE

15. Dates and Times of Next Meetings:

Full Governing Body: Weds. 28th April 2021 at 7.00 pm

Resources: Monday 29th March 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Pay & Performance: Monday 29th March 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

It was agreed to move the Resources meeting to the 29th March from the 8th March as we only received our budget in school on the 2nd March. Full Governing Body will be on Wednesday 28th April. It is too early to predict if these will be virtual meetings or held at school.

There being no further business to discuss the chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:

Signed:

Dated: