



Little Gaddesden
C. of E. Primary School

Little Gaddesden Church of England Primary School

Learning Committee Meeting

6th July 2018

Present: Anne Consedine (Chair), Briony Sutcliffe, Charis Geoghegan, Sarah Brattle, Anne Heard, Laura Gill, Lucy Martindale

Apologies: Phil Heaphy, Rev John Russell, Nick Crispin

1. Minutes of Meeting on 23rd February 2018 and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The EYFS and Collective Worship Policies had been circulated and were approved. These will be put forward for formal approval by the Governing Body at its next meeting on 2nd October 2018.

(Action: AC/BS to ensure policies are on Agenda for next FGB)

2. SIAMS/RE

The school is due to receive a SIAMs inspection in Spring 2019. The last inspection identified two areas for improvement, both involving Governors.

- Enhance the evaluation of collective worship by involving pupils and Governors together and by enabling pupils to take on the ownership of worship, to ensure best quality worship
- Embed a systematic method for Governors to monitor and evaluation RE in order to inform and improve pupil's learning and progress ensuring excellence

All Governors were asked to consider how this could be achieved, building on the existing approach to monitoring e.g. by coming along to Collective Worship during the week which is led by David Russell (one per half term) and John Russell (most Mondays during term time).

Governors discussed whether the end of term Church services constitute acts of collective worship. Whilst the Christmas and Easter services have a clear religious focus, the end of year service is focused on year 6 leavers. Governors felt that the service which is held in Church, led by the vicar, with prayers and a strong sense of spirituality could be considered as an act of collective worship.

Lucy Martindale showed governors Class 4 RE books. Governors asked about children's reactions and responses to learning about their own religion and other religions. LM advised that in general pupils wanted to share in the celebrations of other religions without wanting to change their own religion. In the past a small number of pupils had questioned beliefs and had been encouraged to say more about why they didn't believe in a particular aspect of religion. Governors were impressed by the quality of the work in the RE books.

(Action: AC to attend David Russell's Assembly on 11.7.18 and produce SMSC form. Completed.)

3. Linked Governor Reports

The Committee received reports from Linked Governors on:

EYFS (SB) 12 pupils are registered for next September. Staffing arrangements for Class 1 are still being finalised. Pupils have demonstrated a good level of development across all areas.

Maths - JR had circulated his report which was discussed. It demonstrated that progress and attainment in years 1,3,4 and 5 are strong. SATs results will confirm progress and attainment in years 2 and 6.

Literacy – AC meeting delayed until SATs results are out.

SEND – LG. There are very few pupils on the SEND register. As standards in the school are high, someone who might be struggling here may be considered as average ability in another school. There are no PPG pupils. Nessy (a literacy tool) has been used to good effect, helping those with processing skills/dyslexia. Pupils are coming in before school for 30 minutes everyday. Staff receive reports back on progress. Attendance for SEND pupils is good. No SEND issues are anticipated for EYFS pupils for next year.

4. KPIs

Pupil progress assessments. CG anticipates that as a result of working hard and being well taught, pupils will have done well in SATs, but it is best to wait for the results.

Attendance data. In general attendance is good. No-one is less than 91.6 % and those that whose attendance is lower is with good reason (e.g. foreign trips).

Behaviour. Children are well behaved. CG maintains a folder of conversations with parents/children but there are significantly fewer issues than normal and the environment is generally tranquil. SB praised LM's work in Class 4 where children are taught to be resilient through maths.

5. Safeguarding Audit

LG reported that safeguarding monitoring has to be anonymous. In principle this would mean looking at three case studies to consider the approach and documentation. Currently there is only one potential case study and anonymity could not be preserved as LG would be able to identify the pupil. It was agreed to see if would be possible to review the case studies of another school and vice-versa. CG advised that notes of concerns are now kept within safeguarding records. LP to review safeguarding records each term to assure the quality of records.

(Action – CG/LG/LP)

6. Policy Review

Drugs Policy – AC advised that the DfE guidelines were last updated in 2013. CG to update the contact on Page 5. This will be put forward for formal approval by the Governing Body at its next meeting on 2nd October 2018.

(Action – CG/AC)

Equality Objectives – BS had updated the annual statement of compliance, using data and information from HIP reports, ASP and the Headteacher’s report throughout the year. This was approved and needs to be added to the website.

(Action – BS)

7. SMSC scrutiny

AC summarised the Governor visit reports received since the last Learning Committee

- Take One Picture
- Vision Assembly
- Maths Assembly
- Royal Wedding
- Sports Day (LG to complete)

These showed good evidence of pupils’ SMSC development (including British Values) and progress towards the vision (curious individuals, independent learners, creative thinkers). Governors were asked to consider how the process could be more interactive e.g. using the feedback questions at the end of the form.

- Classroom Observation. AH fed back that she had made an unannounced and unplanned visit, to see the school at its daily work. The presentation in the class was excellent. Children were all engaged in learning. There was a good positive atmosphere in the class where everyone seemed part of a happy family. There was strong evidence of creative thinking and confident children.
- British Values. BS said that she had reviewed the visit forms following a piece of consultancy work aimed at increasing knowledge of democracy and democratic participation. A summary is attached.

Opportunities for further visits:

- Take One Picture Exhibition - Tuesday 17th July 2018
- End of term service - Wednesday 25th July 2018

8. Any Other Business

LG circulated a draft leaflet concerning children getting to school safety and asked for comments by w/c 16.7.18

(Action – All)

Next meeting date tbc

GOVERNOR VISITS/ OBSERVATIONS ON BRITISH VALUES 2017-2018

Vision Assembly 2018 - One class explained about the Golden Rules and how they apply equally to everyone.

Take One Picture 2018 – The group focused on making a “bird” curtain of origami birds and “Ombre” birds feathers, which consisted of pupils of mixed age groups had used voting to select their activities. The school received an e-mail, congratulating pupils on their behaviour on the train. This demonstrates they are taking responsibility for their behaviour and showing respect for other people. Classes 2,3 and 4 visited the National Gallery, which is an example of a significant institution within civil society.

Church Wedding 2018 – pupils were introduced to some elements of the “separation of powers”. The Head of State is also the Head of the Church of England.

Hindu Temple 2018 - further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling pupils to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures

The school places great emphasis on pupil participation and engagement with school activities. e.g. sport, drama, cultural and creative activities. Participation in activity can be seen as a prelude to participation in civil and civic society, and in the long-term, in democracy. The sense of inclusion that participation gives them is important in ensuring that the pupils are confident, that they feel they matter, have a voice and do not become marginalised. They are confident and comfortable in the institutions of civil, civic and democratic society (museums, galleries, churches, temples, theatres, Houses of Parliament).