Ruardean C of E Primary School

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 24th March 2021.

Present: Simon Manning (SM) (Head) Mark Lake (ML) (Vice-Chair) Tony Hughes (TH))

Ceri Benwell (CB) (Chair) Emma Smith (ES) Kev Agnew (KA)
Rev Clare Edwards (CE) Mark Wadsworth (MW) Louise Bailey (LB)

Also Present: Kealey Broddle, (KB) (Clerk), Tig Campbell-Moore (Co-opted Gov Applicant), Vicky

Barnes (Co-opted Gov Applicant),

Apologies: Jess Barzillia (JB),

Item No:			Action
	The Chair ope	ened the meeting at 7.00pm.	
	Barnes who h	d introductions were made to Tig Campbell-Moore and Vicky had been invited to attend as observers following receipt of ions for the Co-opted Governor vacancies.	
42.20/21	Apologies Accepted		
43.20/21	Declarations There were no	of Interest of declarations of interest for this meeting.	
44.20/21	Minutes and a	actions of last meeting/matters arising	
	Item No:	Action	
	28.20/21	Preparing for Ofsted: Triangulation Exercises: SEN/Safeguarding To take completed exercises forward to staff meetings for colleagues to have input. Ongoing	
	34.20/21	Remote Provision and Support Information regarding Seesaw for Schools to be shared with Governors: Completed	
	34.20/21	Remote Provision and Support To devise and send out a Seesaw questionnaire for parents and share results with staff and Governors: Completed	
	34.20/21	Remote Provision and Support To share findings of SEN remote provision and engagement review. In progress	
	34.20/21	Remote Provision and Support Remote Provision to be reviewed as part of a Governor monitoring visit in February: Completed	
	39.20/21	Governor Vacancies To follow up potential applications with interested parties and re-advertise vacancies Completed	

41.20/21	Any Other Business
	To complete commentary and attainment data on SFVS return: Completed

Minutes agreed and signed (virtually) by the Chair.

45.20/21

Headteacher's Report

The report was circulated to all governors for comments, questions, and challenge prior to the meeting. Pupil Numbers, Attendance, Covid update – Lockdown 3 and Attainment and Standards reported had been reviewed and discussed in detail at the last Performance and Standards committee.

A full copy of the report can be found at the end of the minutes. (Click here).

It has been identified that following the recent lockdown there is an increase in wellbeing and welfare needs of students. Several students have found the transition back to school challenging.

Q: How has and is this being addressed?

A:Referrals have been made to Young Minds Matters (YMM)/Mental Health Support Teams and Tic+ counselling services during the lockdown and this continues where needed now that the school is fully open. Several parents have been referred to and are taking part in parenting courses, such as Triple P and families have and continue to be signposted to online and virtual support, courses, and training.

ELSA support is being provided in schools and where more specialist provision is needed referrals to external services are made such as, YMM, GFAPs- Space to Shine, TALC, health services, Toucan Play Therapy, FODDC Social Prescribing Team and Early Help/Families First Support. Team Around a Child (TAC) and Families (TAF) meetings have also taken place as to ensure multi-agency approaches and support is provided. Where concerns are heightened advice has been sought from MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) and the Community Social Worker and where needed referrals have been made to children's social care.

During Lockdown, a programme of whole school wellbeing events/bingo and activities was organised over a 3-week period. This continues in school and in the first few weeks back there was an increased focus on children's wellbeing.

A whole school Wellbeing Day was held on 18th March – this included physical activities with a sports coach and creative and free play sessions for all students. going forward, teachers will be starting regular class lunches in KS2 and the PTFA are developing an outdoor reflection space/quiet area using funds from FODDC community grant. It is hoped that Yoga and Mindfulness sessions from an external provider can be take place in the Summer Term for KS2 students as was completed in the Autumn Term in KS1.

The school is in the process (led by Mrs Ceri Smith) of completing the self-assessment review to apply for <u>Healthy Schools Accreditation</u> through GHLL. On completion of the Review, the school will need to focus on a minimum of two targeted interventions within the school or college. At least one priority should focus on:

- improving mental health (including emotional health and well-being)
- vulnerable children

Successful completion of these two aspects will result in Healthy Schools accreditation.

If successful the next step would be to apply for the Mental Health Champions Award which has been created to acknowledge the high-quality provision that some schools make to support the mental health and wellbeing of their school community. This award would give the school the opportunity to showcase good practice and to help the school identify areas in their provision that would benefit from further development.

Part of the accreditation process requirements is that the school should have a a nominated school governor responsible for Emotional Health and Well-Being (EHWB).

LB was nominated for the role as link EHWB Governor due to her operational knowledge as a trained ELSA in school and strategic position on the board. **Agreed.**

SEND: MW has completed an audit of SEND with external support from Vanessa Grimshaw (School Improvement Partner), this resulted in reviewing the register and identifying several children on it who do not meet the definition of SEN (children who do not make progress with interventions) This resulted in them being removed from the register, reducing the overall percentage of children with SEND.

SEND 26% of the school (previously 34%)

46.20/21 Project Group Feedback/RAP/SEF Review

The Project Group has continued to meet throughout the lockdown to review and update the Rapid Action plan (RAP). The next meeting is planned for 31/03/2020. All Governors are welcome to attend, as it provides a good opportunity to be involved and have input and insight into the continuous development and improvement of the school. SM will send out meeting invites to all.

SEF: SM has been working with Ken Buxton on updating the School Self-Evaluation Form (SEF). Ken is an independent advisor recommended by the LA, he is a former Ofsted Inspector who can provide guidance and support from an inspectors' point of view. Ken is due to visit the school w/c 30/03/21 to carrying out observations and reviews.

A copy of the SEF was circulated to all Governors via SharePoint.

During weekly staff meetings there is a focused discussion around an area of the SEF to ensure all staff have an opportunity to refresh themselves on the school improvement journey so far and to have input on the next steps for continuous improvement.

Action:

All Governors to read and familiarise themselves with the SEF.

ALL

Q: Have you had any feedback from Ken Buxton on the SEF to date?

A: Clarification and input have been received. Further information may be added following Kens' visit.

46.21/20 Committee Minutes & Feedback

Resources

Budget Planning/School Account: The initial draft budget for 21/22 was reviewed, numbers on roll and pupil premium fell from the previous year and are

due to be lower again in the next year. The pandemic has slowed the process for admissions to the C&I centre, at this time there will be only 2 students in the Centre from September. (The centre has capacity for 10). These factors have resulted in the school budget being significantly reduced and it is forecast to be lower in the next few years – a separate confidential meeting was held to discuss the possible implications of this and what options are available to avoid a deficit budget. Further extraordinary meetings will be held following SM meeting with HR on 25/03/21.

Planned Expenditure: - Phone system: New Cloud based system will be installed after Easter as the current system close to being obsolete and not fit for purpose— Absence Insurance was debated and due to premium costs being prohibitive, it was agreed to set aside the funds for supply costs and keep under review.

SFVS: Fully completed and reviewed to be put forward to FGB for approval - **Discussed further under agenda item 48.20/21**

Pupil Premium – Numbers and funding reduced. Allocation of the funding has changed. Pupil premium funding for the financial year starting on 1 April 2021 will therefore be based on the October 2020 census instead of the January census as would have previously been the case. Between October and January 5 students became eligible for FSM pupil premium – Therefore the school will receive less funding in the 21/22 budget: 5 x £1345 = -£6725. SM has updated the PP report available to view on the school website.

Sports Premium: The budget has not yet been confirmed for 21/22, it has been assumed it will stay the same for next year. The 20/21 report to be finalised, completed and on the school website by 31/07/21.

The 20/21 Sports Premium report to be finalised, completed and on the school website by 31/07/21.

Covid Catch Up Premium: The <u>catch-up plan report</u> has been added to the website - SM will update with details of impact once reviewed. To be a standing agenda item for discussion and review at Resources committee going forward.

Premises: New doors and door entry system being fitted in KS2 – ideally over Easter break. Awaiting cladding repairs to C&I centre – funded via GCC. Vegetable and sensory garden established and continues to be developed.

Contract Monitoring: The GCC cleaning contract is coming to an end after six years – The school has the option to opt out and seek or employ their own cleaning services - Quotes have been obtained from local companies: Bec Cleaning and Drop the Mop. The committee supported the ethos of employing a local business and local people to provide the service.

Policies Reviewed and Agreed:

- a. Emergency Response Procedures
- b. School Business Continuity Plan
- c. Health & Safety including Fire Safety Policy
- d. Acceptable Use

Current personnel related issues

Staff wellbeing and workload management remains a priority. Signposting and promotion to relevant support and CPD is ongoing through meetings, communications, and colleague noticeboards. SM has an established "open door" policy which colleagues are encouraged to access. This is regularly

communicated at team meetings. It was agreed to send out to all staff a follow-up to the letter of support and thanks sent earlier in the year along with fruit boxes or selection of confectionary from the FGB.

Performance and Standards

Policies Reviewed and Agreed:

- a. Attendance Policy
- b. Single Equality Policy
- c. Special Educational Needs (SEND) To be fully agreed at FGB
- d. Early Years
- e. RSHE: New statutory requirements for RSHE are required to be in place by the summer term: (Click here: to read the DfE guidance).

Curriculum

Baseline assessments are being completed – This will assess students' readiness to learn and identify gaps. Adjustments will then be made and where certain areas have not been covered due to lockdowns, these will be revisited. The LA has advised that the school should teach the curriculum to the meet the needs of children.

Report from Subject Leader: Physical Education

Mrs Nicola Rylatt (NR) joined the meeting as PE subject lead to share and discuss her report with members.

Monitoring Visits

KA,CB and ES shared reports and findings from recent visits.

Headteacher's report including Attendance and Attainment and Standards. Reviewed all attendance data – 98% attendance since school re-opened on 8th March.

- From 8th March children have been assessed on maths, writing and reading. This information will help inform planning and teaching.
- Covid catch up grant will continue to be used to support children's learning in light of gaps in their learning.

Teaching and Learning including CPD/training

Staff meetings have been focused on planning the curriculum for the return of all children.

Systems have been put in place to ensure the rapid return to high quality teaching and learning as set out in 'The Ruardean Way' staff handbook.

A monitoring schedule for the SLT is in place to ensure staff are supported in this.

Parents and Community

Policies Reviewed and Agreed

- a. Dealing with aggressive parents (visitors)
- b. Collective Worship

Communications/Events

The recent parent questionnaire completed during Lockdown 3.0 was highly positive. Results and commentary were circulated to all the full governing body prior to the meeting.

- **Red Nose Day:** The school are once again supporting Comic relief this year. Students were invited to wear a silly hat or crazy hairstyle to school on Friday 19th March for a suggested donation of £1.00.
- PTFA/Friends of Ruardean School: Members are in the process of developing a Quiet Space /Reflection area in the lower school grounds
- Sunflower Growing Competition: The Friends will be running a sunflower growing competition – Letter along with seeds will be sent home with each student.
- **School Community Garden**: KS1 students have <u>planted seeds</u> in the cold frames in the new school community garden. A bumper crop of vegetables is hoped for later in the year.
- Blogs: SM continues to complete weekly <u>blogs</u> Celebrating students good work and recognising positive attitudes to learning

SIAMs/Christian Distinctiveness

- **SIAMS:** Daphne Spitzter will be conducting an interim <u>SIAMS</u> inspection in May 2021.
- Worship and Celebration Services: "Virtual" Class worship is taking place in school.
- **Spiritual and Sensory Garden:** Students assisted SM to plant plants to stimulate senses in the sensory garden area. The spiritual garden promotes a place for calm and stillness which students can regularly access.
- **Church and community links:** Rev Clare and TH are hoping to increase links again with the school once restrictions have lifted.
- **Easter Service**: A virtual service is planned on 1st April 2021. Classes will be invited to share artwork, poems, and songs. Rev Clare will also attend virtually.

Stakeholder Engagement

The school is supporting Ruardean Acorns Nursery Nature Walk and Easter Egg Hunt which is taking place during the holidays.

A good news article is planned to be sent out to local media promoting the installation of the school and community defibrillator which was generously gifted via the PTFA and from donations from parents and a member of staff rom Bo-Peep's nursery.

Foodbank: The school has signed up to be a referring agent for the new referral system to the Forest Foodbank this has been promoted to the school community and is a regular item on the school newsletter

47.20/21

Policies:

SEND: Agreed

48.20/21

SFVS.

Reviewed and Agreed:

Actions identified in SFVS:

- Existing F&R governors to undertake refresher training for financial management - end of summer term 2021,
- Increase the membership of F&R committee ideally additional co-opted Governors with financial background - end 2021
- To discuss and review SFVS dashboard results at next committee meeting and share findings with FGB – March 21

Action: E-Signed copy of SFVS to be sent to the Strategic Finance Team

KB/CB

49.20/21 **Sa**

Safeguarding

- **a. S175** Audit Audit completed by SM and submitted with Chair approval by the deadline.
- **b.** Annual Safeguarding Declarations/Disclosures: Governors were reminded to complete an annual disclosure declaration form. The date of completion needs to be included on Single Central Record.

50.20/21 **Governor Training/Development**

a. Data Protection –The school Data Protection Officer (DPO) has recommended all staff and Governors complete annual data protection training as this can assist to prevent data breaches and legal proceedings. Online DP training is available through the schools DPO service. All will be set up with access to the training system to complete after Easter.

Action: To record completion of DP training in Governors Training log

KB

b. Skills Audit – A Governors Skills Audit has not been completed since 2019. It will assist to identify strengths and areas for development – It was agreed to complete after the May FGB meeting for review in the July meeting.

Action: To draft the skills audit into MS Forms format

CB/KB

Money for whole school governor training has been given by the LA - Monitoring and Finance training are priorities – The Skills Audit will assist to identify further training needs.

The LA has offered to complete a governance review again. The last review was completed in February 2019 - The review would provide good evidence to show improvements and distance travelled.

Q: What do Governors feel about having another review at this time?
A: In the new academic year would be preferred, as potentially more changes to the board due to terms of office ending which could mean new governors.

A copy of the last review was made available to all governors on SharePoint.

51.20/21 **Governor Monitoring/Visits**

The board reviewed the monitoring timetable which is on target.

Recent visits and reports were discussed in detail at the Performance and Standards committee. Reports are available for all to view on the Governors SharePoint site.

Areas monitored:

	 Publication and use of progression documents/intent statements KCSiE and Safeguarding procedures, Effective use of time in lessons/TA deployment to increase pupil progress Attendance 	
	Action: Timetabled Governors to contact SM to book monitoring visit/ meetings for April and May	ALL
52.20/21	Governor Vacancies The two observers/applicants left the meeting.	
	a. Co-opted Governor Appointments. It was unanimously agreed to appoint both applicants.	
	Link/Mentor Governors Agreed: KA – Tig Campbell-Moore TH - Vicky Barnes	
	Action: Link Governors to contact new governors to offer support and guidance	KA/TH
	Action: Paperwork, forms, governor email addresses, DBS checks and induction packs to be sent out to newly appointed governors	KB
	b. Succession planning for future vacancies	
	ML - Term of office expires on 21/05/21 – He is agreeable to staying in post until the end of the academic year. Agreed.	
	Future vacancies: LB - Parent - Term of Office Expires - 18/09/21 (Election will need to be held).	
	LB - Co-opted -Term of Office Expires - 24/09/21 TH - Foundation - Term of Office Expires – 31/10/21	
	The LA have offered to put forward a suitable candidate for a governor post. CB will discuss further with the School Improvement Partner's at the next Project Group meeting and feedback at the next FGB.	
53.20/21	Preparing for Ofsted: Triangulation Exercises: Wellbeing & Pupil Premium It was agreed that separate meetings would be help going forward to complete the exercises as to give them appropriate time and consideration.	
	Action: To send out a date for first Triangulation Exercises meeting to all.	KB
54.20/21	Correspondence Nothing to report	
55.20/21	Any Other Business Sincere condolences were expressed for Carol Beard (former long standing Governor and Acorns Nursery Manager) who sadly passed away in February due to Covid-19.	
	Summary of Action Points: Item No: Action By By Who When	

46.20/21	All Governors to read and familiarise themselves with the SEF.	ALL	Next meeting
48.20/21	E-Signed copy of SFVS to be sent to strategic finance team	КВ	31/03/21
50.20/21	To record completion of DP training in Governors Training log	КВ	Next meeting
50.20/21	To draft the skills audit into MS Forms format	CB/KB	Next meeting
51.20/21	Timetabled Governors to contact SM to book monitoring visit/ meetings for April and May	All	Next meeting
52.20/21	Link Governors to contact new governors to offer support and guidance	KA/TH	Next meeting
52.20/21	Paperwork, forms, governor email addresses, DBS checks and induction packs to be sent out to newly appointed governors	КВ	01/04/21
53.20/21	To send out a date for first Triangulation Exercises meeting to all	KB	19/04/21

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

CHAIRPERSON.....Ceri Benwell

DATE19/05/21

Meeting Dates for the Academic Year (Via Teams until further notice) Wednesday:

- 19^h May 2021
- 14th July 2021

•

Governing Body Meetings at 7.00pm

Resources Committee Meetings prior to main meeting at 4.30pm

P&S/P&S Committee meetings on the Thursday before the main meeting at 4.30pm	

Headteacher's Report March 2021

Pupil Numbers

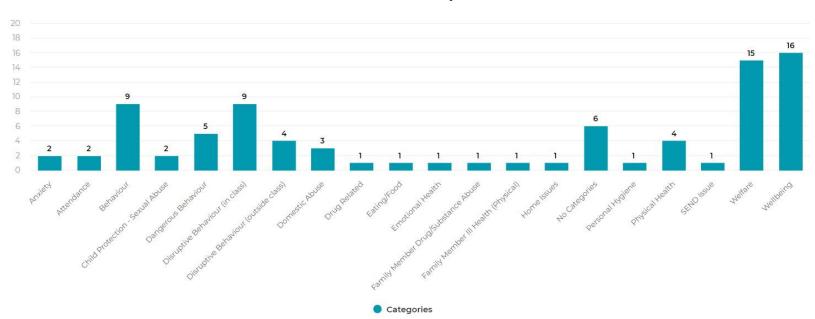
- •The whole school numbers are: 96 (previously 100)
- Firs have 5 children (previously 6)
- Disadvantaged/Pupil Premium 38% of the school (previously 34%)
- SEND 26% of the school (previously 34%)

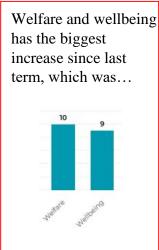
Pupils on roll										
	Class Structure									
Willows	Beeches	Larches	Elms	Oaks	Firs					
14 – YR	12-Y1	12 – Y3 6	7 – Y4	16 – Y6	2- Y3					
	13-Y2	– Y4	11 – Y5		3- Y6					

Safeguarding

• All staff completed safeguarding training from GSCE on Monday 4th January

Number of concerns for academic year 2020/21 so far





Attendance

• This term school attendance was only available from Monday 8th March, therefore the data below cannot be updated at the moment.

Group Analysis by Vulnerability									
	Year to date								
Grouping Group Attendance Unauthorise									
Whole School	Whole School	92.21%	0.51%						
Descrit Descrives		90.639/	2.12%						
Pupil Premium	Eligible for PP	89.63%							
SEND Status	SEND Status	88.8%	0.61%						

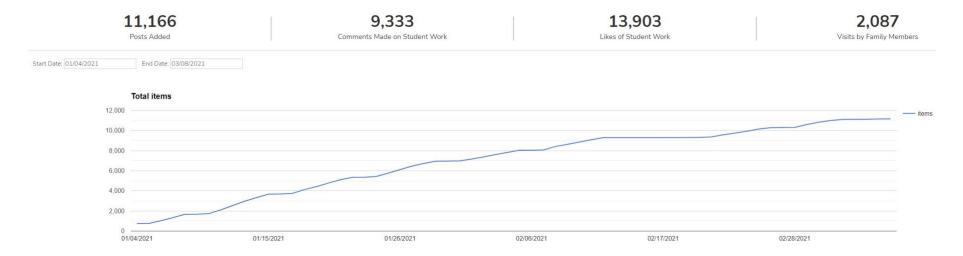
Term 1 – Autumn 1				Term 2 – Autumn 2			
Grouping	Group	Attendance	Unauthorised	Grouping	Group	Attendance	Unauthorised
Whole School	Whole School	89.38%	0.6%	Whole School	Whole School	93.29%	0.57%
D. I'l D. III	Eligible for PP	87.06%	3.34%	Pupil Premium	Eligible for PP	86.49%	1.69%
Pupil Premium	Not Eligible for PP	89.76%	0.31%		Not Eligible for PP	94.55%	0.44%
	My Plan+	92.47%	1.16%	SEND Status	My Plan+	88.37%	1.43%
CENID Chatara	My Plan	91.16%	0.42%		My Plan	91.1%	0.55%
SEND Status	No Special Educational Need	92.65%	0.17%		No Special Educational Need	92.32%	0.71%
	Education, Health and Care Plan	85.68%	0%		Education, Health and Care Plan	96.71%	0.29%

SEN Support	0%	0%	SEN Support	0%	0%
SEND Status Other	88.44%	0.82%	SEND Status Other	94.8%	0.49%

	Term 3 - Spring 1				Term 4 – Spring 2			
Grouping	Group	Attendance	Unauthorised	Grouping	Group	Attendance	Unauthorised	
Whole School	Whole School			Whole School	Whole School			
B :: B ::	Eligible for PP			Pupil Premium	Eligible for PP			
Pupil Premium	Not Eligible for PP				Not Eligible for PP			
	My Plan+				My Plan+			
	My Plan		vailable due to		My Plan			
CEND CLAL	No Special Educational Need	national lockdown.		CENID C	No Special Educational Need			
SEND Status	Education, Health and Care Plan			SEND Status	Education, Health and Care Plan			
	SEN Support				SEN Support			
	SEND Status Other				SEND Status Other			

Covid update – Lockdown 3

- •36 children attended school regularly during the recent lockdown.
- •Remote education was supported throughout using Seesaw. The engagement of children was monitored closely, where children were not engaged families were contacted directly to provide support as needed.
- Parent feedback questionnaire was sent to all parents, please see attached results.
- All children returned to school on 8th March.
- Seesaw usage



Teaching and Learning

- Staff meetings have been focused on planning the curriculum for the return of all children.
- We have also put systems in place to ensure the rapid return to high quality teaching and learning as set out in 'The Ruardean Way' staff handbook. Monitoring schedule for the SLT is in place to ensure staff are supported in this.

Staffing

- •Unfortunately, Mrs Rezbi Duffield has left due to personal reasons.
- •We will be looking at advertising the teaching post after Easter.

Attainment and Standards

- •From 8th March children will be assessed on maths, writing and reading. This information will help inform planning and teaching.
- •Covid catch up grant will continue to be used to support children's learning in light of gaps in their learning. For example, small teacher lead groups in KS2 and additional teacher time in KS1 on phonics and reading resulted in the following; September 50% below ARE, 50% at/above ARE. December 34% below ARE, 65% at/above ARE.
- •The government have confirmed that there will be no SATS or EYFS Profile this year. Teacher assessments will continue.
- •The Project Group is still meeting on regular basis to ensure that the school is still making good progress with school improvement, even under the challenges of Covid.

- •School self-evaluation form (SEF) has been recently updated. During weekly staff meetings there is a focused discussion around an area of the SEF to ensure all staff have an opportunity to input and also to refresh the school improvement journey we have been on and continue.
- •SEF review is on the agenda for the FGB. The SEF is available on the Governor OneDrive 'papers-documents for next meeting'

Premises

- •Three new entrance doors and one fire door will be installed in the KS2 classrooms before the end of March.
- •GCC have confirmed that all of the outer cladding on the C&I Centre will be replaced before the end of the summer, at no cost to the school.
- •The quiet area/vegetable garden on the top site is now ready for children to start growing vegetables this spring <u>click here to see photos</u> The PTFA have started to develop the quite forest area in KS2. Paths, benches and willow hedges will be installed over the coming weeks.

Health and Safety

- •The Covid Risk Assessment has been updated ready for the return of all children.
- •Staff continue to use LFD home tests twice weekly. This also includes any long term supply staff and catering team.

Christian Distinctiveness

- •The children continue to have daily worship in school, our value this term is Creativity.
- Whole school worship on a Friday continues to be held online.
- •Spiritual and sensory garden planted up click here to see photos.
- Children will complete Easter activities which will link to the church as much as we possibly can.
- Parent questionnaire (November 2020) 94% say their child feels safe at school
- o 85% think that the Christian ethos of the school and the values help their child's personal development