

‘Inspiring the individuals of today, for a better society tomorrow’

**Minutes for the Keep in Touch meeting of Oldway Local Standards Board on
Monday 6th July 2020
Meeting held online at 1.00 p.m**

Present: Tanith Byles (Chair), Sam Meyer (HoS), Maria Bailey (VC), Lisa Swinson, Kayleigh Hines, Kerry Hallums

In attendance: Faye Steele (Clerk)

Apologies: Amanda Coote, Rupert Davies

Welcome

The Governors wanted to extend their thanks to all of the staff and SM for working so very hard to keep the school a safe and happy place for the children.

Head of School update:

In School provision

- SM reported an average attendance of 220 pupils per day, out of the total 680 pupils. The school rota has opened up to offer some school days to years 2,3,4, and 5. Attendance will increase to approx. 450 pupils in attendance over the last few weeks (but not all in school at the same time)
- End of year reports have been completed and emailed for all pupils. Teachers have made ‘meet the teacher’ videos to be emailed next week.
- SM updated Governors on transitional planning. Reception pupils have been offered mini visits during Thursday/Friday of the last week of term.
- Year 6 Leavers will be able to view their Leavers’ Ceremony online at 6pm on Wednesday 8th July.
- FSM vouchers will continue throughout the summer holidays, 6 weeks of vouchers per child, will be available to collect at the start of the summer holidays. In September vouchers will not continue because the school kitchen will be open and operating.
- SM reported an increase in children under Social Services involvement. 12 pupils have a social worker and all of these children are attending in school.
- New staff have been into school to engage in planning for September and induction.

Home Learning

- SM prepared a home learning survey to get feedback from parents on what has been successful and enjoyable and what hasn’t worked so well and why. The response was mixed but measured. This has informed some planning for remote learning for the future. There is some work to do on a Remote Learning Policy.
- SM explained the balance of remote learning with effective teaching. The key is feedback to the pupils SM updated Governors on the children that have not engaged in learning from home and strategies to engage these families.
- SM reported there has been some dip in engagement in the home learning completed lately. There are a number of reasons for this and teachers are working hard to re-engage pupils. It has been a long term and families are getting tired.
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Plans for September

- SM reported that all pupils will be back full time from September 2020.
- School curriculum and expectations will continue as normal on the children's return but with recognition and a measured response to those who have found this time difficult. Focus will be on building learning stamina with speaking, listening and discussion. Oracy will be very important as will reading.
- Teachers will all be responsive to their pupils' needs and build teaching back up, how they teach will be just as important as what is taught.
- Classrooms are to be rearranged so that all chairs and tables are in rows facing the front of class.
- SM has considered the most efficient ways of keeping to the guidance and will be purchasing more wall-mounted hand sanitisers to reduce impact on learning time with new daily routines.
- Pupils can eat in the classrooms from September along with the increase in cleaning schedules during the school day. SM has redeployed 4 meal time assistants (who are also cleaners) to clean around the school during the lunch hour. There isn't extra funding for this but it has been a priority.
- Breakfast and After School Club places will be offered to as many children as is safe to do so. Discussion followed on how this will be offered to parents/carers, with an acknowledgement that some parents/ carers will be upset and have to find alternative childcare due to reduced numbers. Discussion followed on the fairest way to offer the places to parents/carers. The reduction in places offered is due to safety reasons. If 1 child tests positive the impact will be the whole group in quarantine for a period of 14 days.
- SM reported the 2 non-pupil days in September will have a remote teaching focus and briefing.
- Discussion followed on the use of the lump sum to assist with a tutor service for 'catch-up' but details have not yet been received in school. SM expressed a preference for staff who know the children well being best-placed to offer support and intervention.
- Autumn term professional development will be Teaching and Learning, mental health, and IT & remote learning skills.
- There will not be an Ofsted Inspection during the autumn term but there may be a visit related to pupil well-being and the curriculum.
- SATS will return next academic year. Previous data used will be from last year (2019). SM reminded Governors that 2019 data was strong from Oldway.
- SM explained how teachers will be adapting to the new ways of working and have done so already. KHines asked about football clubs? SM explained how pupils will have to stick to year group bubbles and not cross bubbles.
- Playground games will continue, after school clubs per year group will be available. Unfortunately singing is not allowed within the guidance.
- SM explained how teachers will have a clear understanding of where (academically) they want their pupils to be and they will use their targeted teachings skills to get each pupil to where they need to be. Mental health will be a top consideration for all teachers.
- SM has requested that there are no lettings for the first half term, due to the extensive cleaning implications, responsibilities and risk assessment needed.
- Is it unclear if the pool will be in use, the guidance will inform that decision.
- SM updated Governors on the proposed staffing changes for next year, with a slightly bigger SLT. This will be discussed in greater detail tomorrow with SLT.

Feedback from SEND & Safeguarding Governors – KHallums, KHines

KHallums

- KH has been in contact with Kate Mullen, trying to offer a balance of questions and offer support.
- Every family has been contacted with the exception of 1 family, assurance that the processes have been followed.
- Reduction of 75% referrals to Social Services. Expectation is that in September the number of level 3/4 Children in Need cases will rise.
- New 'Keeping Children safe in Education' guidance will be in place in September.

KHines

- KHines has been in contact with Dee Passenger (SENCO).
- 26 children with a EHCP (Education Health and Care Plan).
- KHines discussed the plans for transition of Nursery, Reception and Year 6 children. Virtual visits and some small group visits to school. Virtual home visits for all children. All transition info for Year 6 pupils have been sent out.
- All staff are back in, including 1 to 1, except for those that are shielding.
- All 26 EHCP reviews have been conducted virtually.
- SM commented that overall the feedback has been that SEN teams have struggled with compliance from other schools. It has not been the case for Oldway, feedback received was that Oldway has been compliant, lawful and fair at all times.
- TB feedback from the THRIVE room visit. This room is primarily available to children with emotional needs, attachment needs and unmet needs. Some of these children have physical needs and have continued to receive a cuddly nurturing approach to repair their pathways.
- Pupils that have some needs around social communication have responded very well to the clear space and boundaries that have been set. The rooms have been split by attachment and autism-friendly provision in each room.

Feedback from Pupil Premium Governor – MBailey

- MB has been in contact with Debbie Jackson to discuss the vulnerable pupils and pupils in receipt of PPG (Pupil Premium Grant). Experience of some pupils disengaging with learning in the home environment has been reported and social worker involvement has been available.
- 91 of the 156 PPG have attended school. Teachers have been regularly contacting the pupils not attending school.
- Discussion followed on plans to support the disadvantaged pupils from September 2020. SM explained the technology divide and the implications sharing digital access at home for many families, including those not in receipt of PPG.

Summary

TB attended a webinar recently and has started to plan for September. TB asked all Governors to think about performance over the last year and reviewing the Board.

Clerk has circulated Skills Audit, please can all Governors complete so Clerk can prepare a Training Plan for September 2020.

The meeting finished with SM thanking the Governors for their support. Acknowledging how the board have shaped themselves into a working model of strong Governance. Governors have been an active part of the school asking great questions and getting to know the school very well. The Governance is looking very strong going into September 2020.

Signed T Byles

Date 14th October 2020