

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

Minutes for the Keep in Touch meeting of Oldway Local Standards Board on Wednesday 20th May 2020 Meeting held online at 3.00 p.m

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

In attendance: Faye Steele (Clerk)

Welcome

The Governors wanted to thank all the staff that have been working so very hard to keep the school a safe and happy place for the children that have been attending school since lockdown.

Head of School update on in-school provision during lockdown

- SM presented the video of the school, introducing new systems and procedures.
- SM gave an update on provision during lockdown. Full time provision concentrated on children of keyworkers and vulnerable children, this was available during the Easter holidays and also the upcoming half term. Kitchen has now been closed. Wrap around care available free of charge to parents/carers.
- SM gave a staff update and reported reintegration visits for staff.
- SM acknowledged the updated Safeguarding policy and Child Protection policy.
- SM reported very few behavioural incidents.
- KHines asked how the children are? SM – very positive, enjoying this ‘new school’ and adapting very well to the new procedures in place around school.
- MB asked about playtimes and the use of outside space? SM – due to the wonderful weather, lots of the day has been spent outside in the peace garden, field and playgrounds. Play equipment has not been used.
- TB asked about the wellbeing of the teachers and being emotionally drained? SM explained that staff that have been coming into school have enjoyed the routine and interaction with adults and children. SM said it was important to recognise the emotional of constantly have to rethink how everything is done and thinking of new ways to achieve the same things but in a safe way.

Home Learning

- TB acknowledged there will not be any curriculum plans for the summer term.
- 1 x piece of Maths, 1 piece of English and optional additional tasks are available for all children via the website (access via each year group page).
- SM explained the reasoning behind the style of home learning. Research obtained from children engaged in long-term remote learning due to medical reasons, shows that feedback and correspondence is the key. Not all children have access to technology, or in many cases will have to share access with other family members. Focus has been on consolidating knowledge and skills and adding in some challenges to stretch knowledge and skills. RD has found the home learning great! KHines gave positive feedback that many parents recognise the hard work that has gone into the quick organisation of the home learning available.

- SM explained that teachers recognise some children will be focusing on play and managing anxiety and there will be a wide gap in terms of the experience during lockdown.
- SM ensures that all contact with families are recorded on CPOMS.
- SM reported that 5-10 families have not engaged at all in home learning. All other families have engaged (to a varying degree based on a variety of reasons).
- RD questioned contact with parents, and particularly vulnerable children? SM explained that plans have been in place throughout for vulnerable families who the team knew would be more likely to need support. KM calls these families each week and is mindful of anxieties and the impact of mental health during lockdown, as well as weekly contact from the class teacher. Approximately 15 families have received meal packs. There have been a few reports received regarding police involvement and a few requests for information from Children's Services – but a marked reduction to usual referrals, suggesting hidden issues.

Feedback from SEND & Safeguarding Governors – KH, KHines

- 27 children with a EHCP. These children have individual planning of needed and access to SEN pages on the website.
- Weekly contact by class teachers, SENCO and also 1:1 teaching assistants.
- CPOMS is being used to keep records. SM sees all of these too.
- Attendance Officer is also available.
- Transitional visits for Year 6 leavers have been virtual.
- 1 EHCP is in process and this process has continued
- Annual review meetings have continued and are virtual.
- PPE is available for staff if intimate care is required.
- Lots of training has been available to staff online e.g, Safeguarding and ACES (adverse childhood experiences).
- 2 x members of staff and 1 x family have been directly affected by the impact of COVID-19.
- There is general concern about a second wave.
- Food vouchers have been very well received.
- Overall reassured that everything is in hand

Feedback from Pupil Premium Governor – MB

- DJ providing monthly updates.
- DJ has set up engagement analysis and a RAG (red, amber, green) system.
- Daily work is provided. 35 x chrome books have been provided for families in need. 15 x family receives weekly hard copies of home learning.
- Some families have daily contact. By the end of Easter week contact had been made with every family; up until then 3 x families were not engaging in any contact with the school.
- RD started a discussion on PPG (pupil premium grant) funding and allocation to each child during absence from school. MB explained this funding will be used to replace the Chromebooks that have been given to families. SM explained the work on prioritising the support needed for children when they return and how PPG is being used to support current learning of those children.

Head of School outline of plans for Wider Opening

- SM outlined the systems, procedures and signage in place ready for 1st June reopening to eligible year groups.
- Some staff are shielding.
- Leadership Team have been an incredible support to HoS and for their determination to the very best.
- Professional development has been focused on trauma, grief and loss to support wider opening.
- Curriculum planning has taken place across all 3 schools in the Trust.
- SM explained timings of the announcement of schools reopening and the guidance received. SM explained the DfE guidance and where and why schools in Torbay, collectively, were suggesting a different approach, as a result of risk assessments and consultations with parents and staff. SM explained the difficulty in understanding the reasoning behind the guidance to open the school to the youngest year groups first. Discussion followed on social distancing measures and young children.

- SM reported that responses from the parent consultation were balanced and measured.
- Children will be allocated 'bubble groups', with staggered start and finish times. Learning will follow the home learning model, it would be unfair for children at school to receive access to more education than children not eligible to attend school but there will be an advantage of being in school with staff. However, staff cannot also double their workload by teaching in school all day and also supporting those at home. RD asked if parents can change their minds (if in eligible year groups). SM confirmed they could, stressing the importance of open communication at all times.
- Outside space – will create zones for bubble groups to use.
- SM shared possible (but not confirmed) numbers: Nursery - 10 children, Reception – 25 children . Year 1 – 18 children. Year 6 – 35 children.
- Discussion followed re the possibility of summer holiday provision which SM expects the school will be asked to provide, but will depend on staff availability.

The meeting finished with SM thanking the Governors for the support and positivity during a very difficult time.

Signed T Byles

Date 6th July 2020