St John the Baptist RC Primary School, Dartmouth

Governors meeting 10th September 2024 at 1.30pm

**Attendee initials Role present/apologies**

Elizabeth Hamilton EH Head teacher Present

Karen Moseley KM Vice Chair Present

Angela Simmonds AS Governor Present

Natalie Jackson NJ Governor Present

Angela Robinson AR Foundation Present

Mike Robinson MR Foundation Present

Nicola Ashton NA Clerk Absent

**Agenda item lead by/action**

**1 Welcome and opening prayer EH**

**2 Apologies and confirmation of quorum**

**Apologies from NA EH**

**3 Confidentiality Reminder EH**

**4 Governance procedure no new business interests or outstanding actions**

**KM we are awaiting some outstanding reports from recent visit and courses**

**5**

**Declarations of interest for this meeting**

**No declarations**

**6 Clerks/Chairs update**

**Governors have asked if minutes can be produced within a week of the meeting so that they can follow up on any actions. They have also asked if agendas can be sent out a week before the meeting. Please can all minutes be undated on Governor Hub for 23-24 and sent to Helen for website. NA**

**Please can all governors ensure that all training and information is up to date on Governor hub.- All Governors**

**Safeguarding – all Governors need to confirm that they have read the KCSIC. Business Interests need to be updated- All Governors.**

Chair elected – NJ

Vice Chair- KM/Foundation/RE

Safeguarding/Attendance – NJ

Send/pp/Curriculum/H& S – AS

H&S/Buildings/ Church links/Foundation MR and AR

Update Chair’s email address to NJ and email LP (CAST) about training for Chair

Date confirmed for Safeguarding visit. NJ/LH

Chair to send out schedule of Accountability NJ

Minutes approved from last meeting.

**5 School leadership/ demographic report**

School is currently at 79 Pupils in September, census is in October ideally this would like school to be at above 80 we had an intake of 10 into Reception. Considering this is a low birth year nationally this is good.

SEND is over twice National and EHCP is higher than National.

Free school meals are below national average.

Areas of school Improvement

Attendance

Persistent absentee is now below national average. With a small school 1-2 pupils can make a big difference to attendance levels. We have 1 pupil who is severely absent (below 50%). There is a multi agency response to this. The school counsellor works with pupils especially pupil premium students where attendance is an issue.

Attendance was 93.7% last year. Devon is at 91.7 %.

When people take lots of holidays this impacts the attendance more. From September anyone who’s attendance drops below a particular level will become statutory to have an attendance action plan, we have been doing this for the past 12 months as the trust require it but now this is being made national to prevent Persistent absenteeism.

Discussion by Governors on impact of term time holidays on attendance. Attendance less than 90% is like 1 year off every 10 years. It has a huge impact.

AS- What is in place for pupils with School avoidance issues?

We have the play therapist/ Trauma Informed approaches and try and understand the barriers to good attendance. We also buy into the Attendance Officer for advice and support.

English

Implementing new curriculum for English which should result in a more consistent approach to teaching Writing/reading/spelling. Lots of training involved this this.

Maths

School will be working with the Math’s Hub on a training project which involves a maths mastery specialist coming into school. Macey is leading with this.

Trauma Informed approaches- LH to do further training linked to supporting Parents with Trauma Informed Approaches.

Liz will continue to access training and deliver this back into school.

**6 RE & Catholic** l**ife**

Confirmation that curriculum is taught and Sex and Relationship Education is taught inline with Plymouth CAST policies.

KM discussed recent training course attended Pilgrims of hope and the RED curriculum.

RED curriculum being introduced and will be rolled out to year 4 red class 2 and class 3 and year 1 red class 1 and this will be rolled out over several years. Staff are attending training webinars linked to this. LH delivering/planning in C2 and C3 and talked through the Year 4 unit on Creation(LH talked through some of the content) linked to the story of Abraham which is very challenging for C2 (Year 3 to access).

New chaplains have taken up the roles and they are very enthusiastic( display board outside staffroom).

7 Curriculum and Standards

Maths and Literacy will be future areas that Governors can hear about as linked to new priorities on SIP. Pathways to English- new English curriculum being implemented from Year 2 to Year 6. Read, write, Inc delivered more in Foundation and Year 1.

8 **Safeguarding**

Summary of Safeguarding concerns received. We have 2 children on child protection plans. We have had no suspensions for 23-24.

What has helped lower the suspension rate?

The Trauma Informed training has really helped. Governors looked around the new sensory room which staff have worked hard to create. Children with high sensory needs use this space and we are hoping that every child will have access to it. During Forest school times for example when the weather is very bad, this space could be used. Challenges will continue as it is becoming more difficult to get Ehcps. This can be tricky where there are very complex needs and adult support is needed.

**9 Health and Safety and Data Protection**

AS to update Health and Safety training. In school issues reported on OSHENS system which is included on Head teacher report termly. LH/HB to attend co-ordinator training in Nov

**10 Pupil numbers discussed. School website needs updating with Governor details.**

NJ, KM,AS, NA to send a paragraph to Helen to update.

**12 Safeguarding Policy**

On website. Governors need to read this.

**13. Any other Business**

Governor meeting for the next academic year- change of date- Tuesday 20th May 2025.

10th September 24 to set up committees

17th December 24

10th Febuary25

1st April 25

26th May 25

15th July 25

Meeting closed at 14.45

Next meeting:- 17/12/24