

Bridgemere CE Primary School Governing Body Virtual Extraordinary Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 23rd September @ 6pm

Part One

Present

E Ford (Chair) B Dolman (EHT) C Middleton (HOS) S Knott, S Willington, E Fradley J Forshaw, S Foyle, R Lewis

Apologies

J Morgan

Return to school update

The HOS explained that there has been a positive start to school with attendance very good. Any children that have been absent have been followed up with a telephone call from the school.

Pods are working well with the staff maintaining a 2-metre distance.

The curriculum is also going well. Assessments have shown gaps in learning in classes as well as specific learners.

The last 6 months have impacted learning. Read Write Inc assessments have shown a lot of children will need 1:1 support. This will start next week. The EHT explained the Catch-up funding and resources have been announced, Bridgemere will get £5520 of additional funding, this will fund the RWI 1:1 along with other resources.

The staggered start and finish times have worked well and some parents have said they prefer it, even reception children are now following this procedure well. There has been an increased number of Nursery children this year and the HOS wished to thank the staff for all their hard work in welcoming the new children and a positive start to the new academic year.

Active 30 has started well and the cleaning schedule is in place.

A staff governor agreed with the HOS that it has been a very smooth start.

The Chair asked if the children will be able to make up the gaps in learning by Christmas. The HOS explained that the children have so much to catch up on and then need time to consolidate their learning and that only by reassessing constantly will they know. HOS felt it was possible as only teaching core subjects and by tailoring resources to specific children needs, e.g. accelerated maths to accelerate learning with specific objectives for individual children.

The Chair would like to thank all staff in achieving a good start and will write to them.

EHT Role and Top Slice implications for Bridgemere

At the last meeting governors approved in principal that a Service Level Agreement was needed. RLLAT have asked what Bridgemere would like in the SLA. The Chair, EHT and HOS will arranged a date to discuss this.

Staff Well-being

The Chair asked how staff were coping and if there was anything that governors could do. The EHT explained that the 2nd inset day was about well-being and included staff well-being and that it will form part of the SDP looking at ways to support staff. Staff are already tired with the relentless routines which BD has reported to the Education Recovery Group. Also, The Together Team at Cheshire East are going to put together something to support staff.

The EHT is checking in with the HOS's and they are checking in with staff.

The staff governors said that it was strange but how it has to be. The HOS said that Bridgemere has a positive strong team and SW is to be the Well-being Champion. The staff are having to work some of their lunch hour so are encourage to go home as soon as they can. The SLT have agreed that there will be no contact with staff over the weekends. The new google suite training will take a lot of Teachers time and effort going forward.

The EHT suggested that they advertise for a new Middy Assistant. Calveley had a number of applicants for their posts which could be a result of the current situation. The HOS agreed and will advertise for the post.

There was a discussion regarding an extension of the Autumn half term but nothing has been confirmed from the government.

The Chair is aware of the pressures staff are under and encouraged staff to let governors know if there is anything they can do to help.

Chromebooks

The HOS had uploaded the parent questionnaire responses to the Governor Hub in advance of the meeting and these results were discussed. It was suggested that parents would need to be educated on google suites and that it would be used in school as well as at home should a bubble or pod have to be locked down. Also, individuals self-isolating would access work via the chromebook but how this would be accessed when a teacher is teaching would need to be worked out.

Parents had been asked to contribute to the cost of these chromebooks but the questionnaires had shown that 29 out of 60 had responded No to this.

The EHT had received quotes for 70 chromebooks with options to purchase or lease. The Acer model was not available until mid November which was too long to wait, from the quotes it was sensible to purchase them over leasing them. The quotes included the device, set-up costs, licence and insurance.

It was felt that the school needed 15 chromebooks straight away in order to provide enough for one class to be taught how to use them. Discussion about asking parents to contribute took place and it was felt that this was not an option. The governors felt it was unlikely that the government would close schools completely and therefore they agreed to purchase enough chromebooks for 2 bubbles. Governors approved the purchase of 35 chromebooks, these together with the 15 already in school would provide 50 in total. The EHT will ask the companies that have quoted for the cost for 35, and will send the quote to the Chair prior to ordering.

GB Action Plan for 2020/21

No plan discussed at present due to current situation, the chair will discuss with the EHT and HOS.

AOB

3 policies to approve

Critical Incident – amendment to page 3 Chair name should read Liz Ford, and communication cascade should be included as an appendix. Approved following changes.

Health & Safety Policy – RL has already made some notes and forwarded to the EHT. SK also requested some additional information be added regarding compliance with contractors and CDM 2015. BD will make the changes and forward to SK and RL then to the HOS.. A link for Covid 19 to be added to no13 - infection prevention and control. **To approve by email when changes have been made.**

Supporting children with medical needs – SENCO is referred to by him, to change to him/her. Policy approved following changes

Code of conducts need to be signed individually – EHT will send out to be signed electronically.

Dates of meetings

Tuesday 13th October 2020 @ 6pm

Monday 14th December 2020 @6pm

Tuesday 16th February 2021 @6pm

Wednesday 21st April 2021 @6pm

Tuesday 25th May 2021 @ 6pm

Tuesday 13th July 2021 @ 6pm