

Newtown Primary School
Full Governors Meeting
Thursday 5th December 2013 at 17:30
Venue: Newtown Primary School

Present	Hayley Back (HB)	Ruth Jones (RJ)	James Lyon (JL)	Ruth Jones (RJ)
	Jane Morris (JM) left at 18:50	Sandra Dalglish (SD)	Steven Fearn (SF)	Richard Westlake (RW)
	Frances Everson (FE)	Penny Burnside (PB)	Simon Belshaw (SB)	
	Chair			
	Jessica Bengier (JB) (Clerk)			
In Attendance:	Alex Dolphin (AD)	Sarah Miller (SM)	Laura Tomlin (LT)	Neil Chislett (NC)
Apologies:	Louise Mason (LM)	Jenny Lloyd (JML)		
Quorum:	7. 11 in attendance, meeting quorate			

Action/ Resolution

1. Apologies for Absence

Louise Mason – Work Commitments, Jenny Lloyd – Illness

Apologies for absence sanctioned

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

None noted

None noted

3. Review of Raise Online Data with Neil Chislett

Printed copies of the Raise Online report were distributed at the meeting. NC highlighted that each year there are changes to the data reported on, and the format of the data presentation within the report. Therefore every year everyone has to relook at the reports. It was noted that the 'G' in a blue box highlighted areas of particular note for Governors.

Pg 22 of the report, Attainment at Key Stage One was reviewed. Blue flags indicate results significantly below the national average. Green flags identify results significantly above the national average. NC noted that within Devon, OFSTED does not consider deprivation a high impact on data as the most deprived school in Devon is within the 70% quintile; in comparison to the national averages this is not a severe level of deprivation. The school has achieved a 'green flag' in reading attainment.

NC stated that the report on pg 37 was the most informative from a Governor's perspective, as it showed how well the school was doing.

Pg 43, Expected progress in Reading from KS1-KS2, NC noted these were good results and had been externally moderated and validated.

Small group discussion on the data took place with governors and staff given the opportunity to study the data in greater detail and ask questions.

NC gave an overview of the Fisher Family Trust (FFT) data and distributed copies of their dashboard report on the school.

The Governing Body thank NC for an information training session.

4. Approval of meeting minutes from FGM 19th September 2013
FGM Minutes from the 19th September agreed by all present and signed by the Chair.

Minutes of the FGM 19/09/13 approved and signed

5. Matters Arising from the minutes of the FGM

No matters arising

6. Questions arising from the minutes of the Resources Committee

PB queried how to monitor the impact of Pupil Premium expenditure.

Action: PB and RJ to discuss monitoring Pupil Premium via email.

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7. Questions arising from the minutes of the Teaching & Learning Committee

No questions arising.

8. Questions arising from Written Report by Headteacher

FE queried the data for SEN on first page of the report. The correct data is 37 pupils/ 22%.

FE asked if Drama club was free to Pupil Premium Pupils (PPP). RJ confirmed that all PPP are sent a letter allowing them to join any fee-paying after school club.

RJ updated that there are now 33 pupils taking musical instrument lessons, which is a higher number than stated in the report.

FE asked about the impact of pupils moving to other schools and whether this was a financial concern. Concerns were expressed regarding the opening of the Steiner School in the Exeter area, which is offering flexi-schooling but it was noted that current feedback is that the school is failing to deliver the promised 'wrap-around' childcare provision which may impact on its popularity.

RJ noted that current instructions from the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) are that if a pupil is absent for more than 20 days they are to be removed from the register and then re-apply for their school place when/ if they return. This will impact on some EAL students who return to their country of origin for extended periods.

The committee discussed the refreshing of ICT equipment: laptops; smartboards and PCs etc. and the options that may be available to the school to finance the renewals. It was noted that the buying power of Exeter Consortium may be beneficial.

9. Policies to be ratified

9.1 Terms of Reference for the committees

These were distributed for review prior to the meeting.

Proposal: Terms of Reference for the Resources and Teaching and Learning Committee to be ratified by the Full Governing Body

Proposed: Mrs Victoria Darios

Seconded: Mr Richard Westlake

Agreed by all present

Ratified: Terms of Reference for the Resources and Teaching and Learning Committee

9.2 Governors Allowances Policy

Proposal: To agree the Governors Expenses Policy for 2013-14

Proposed: Mr Steven Fearn

Seconded: Mrs Sandra Dalglish

Agreed by all present

Approved: Governors Allowances Policy

9.3 Feedback from Parent Consultation letter re Equalities Policy

RJ reported that the school has received very positive feedback from a small group of parents. Communications and the school website were highlighted as areas for improvement. VD said that many EAL parents may find icons/ graphical links as an

Action: SF to attend staff meeting and run a training session on how to

easier way to navigate the website.

upload material to the website.

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Action: Working party of JL, SF VD and HB to meet and discuss how to improve the school website, researching other school websites.

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10. Part Two

Meeting moved to Part Two

11. Developing a new Vision for Newtown Primary School

This will be the main item of discussion at the FGM in January. FE encouraged Governors to consider what this would mean to them and bring this to the meeting.

Agenda item for next meeting.

12. Items brought forward by the chair

Community Governor

RW proposed Saxon Spence as a potential governor to fill the vacant Community Governor position.

Action: RW to pass on to Clerk Saxon Spence's contact details.

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Action: Clerk to write to Saxon Spence and ask her to provide a Pen Portrait for the next FGM

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13. Time and date of next meeting.

Thursday 16th January 2014 at 5:30pm

Agreed by all present

**Next FGM
16/01/2014 at
17:30**

Meeting ended at 19:28