

**Wellington Primary School
Dudley Hill Road
Bradford
BD2 3DE**

Head Teacher: Mrs Joy Wood

Full Governing Body Meeting Minutes:
16/1/22, 6pm-8pm, held at Wellington Primary School

Attendees: Divinder Purewal (DP), Tanveer Yousef (TY), Noshaba Rashid (NR) (until 7pm), Bryony Dolby (BD), Joy Wood (JW), Neil Gunstone (NG), Mohammed Azum (MA)

Minutes taken by Bryony Dolby

Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Laura Sheffield (LS)

DP informed the FGB of David Carey's (DC) resignation as a governor of Wellington. The group noted the longevity of DC's support to the school, and his particular support with SEND during his time as a governor and noted thanks for this.

Non attendance

Razia Waterhouse (no apologies received) and Lee Robertson (guest) apologies received.

Notification of Any Other Business and Agenda Notifications

NR requested agenda item 13 to be brought forwards due to needing to leave the meeting at 7pm.

Declarations of Interest

None declared.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 21/11/22 were approved as being a true and correct record.
Proposer: DP, Secunder: NR

Matters Arising from the minutes

DC has now resigned as a governor.

JW is proposing to invite the school business manager to a FGB to share (a) her experiences working in an academy and (b) her experience as the chair of governors in an primary academy, as part of the ongoing work of the FGB to consider whether to explore academisation.

JW scrutinised and reviewed the SCR in December as NR was unable to attend a planned visit. On 3rd Jan 2023 NR also scrutinised and reviewed the SCR. Additionally, this has been reviewed by Karl Pease, an internal auditor for safe recruitment. The SCR was deemed to be satisfactory. MA suggested the school looks at Staff Safe which is an add on to CPOMs and gives a percentage of compliance.

Action: JW to make enquiries about Staff Safe with CPOMs

Correspondence

None received.

Governor Visits/Training

NR has made several visits to school. Before Christmas, she visited the Hansel and Gretel performance, and noted that the children were very engaged with this and it was a very positive experience for them.

NR also visited a Y6 concern/presentation and a performance by the choir which was also very positive.

NR attended a Y2 parents information session around the upcoming relationships curriculum due to be delivered. NR noted that the meeting was very informative. Some parents shared significant concerns, but it was reiterated that they had the option to withdraw their child from the non-statutory part of this curriculum. Approx 50% of children have been withdrawn from this in Y2. There were, however, additional concerns about part of the statutory curriculum, most notably around different types of family. Parents were informed what this would involve, and also there was discussion around what it meant for this being statutory. There was some discussion within the FBG about being mindful of differences in view points but ensuring that all children at Wellington were treated with inclusivity. NR recommended that future meetings (there will be one for Y4 and one for Y6 later this academic year) there be interpreters present to support parents where English is a second language. DP volunteered to support with translation.

Academisation

Following a presentation at the last FGB, governors took the opportunity to ask MA questions about his experiences working in an academy trust. MA reiterated that these are his experiences and the importance of getting a balanced view.

Q: What is the general motivation of a school for joining an academy

A: Frustrations with the lack of support from the LA, access to networking, a family of schools and lots of support

Q: Is it difficult having so many senior leaders?

A: Each person has a dedicated role/area of expertise. I get lots of support and there is a lot of accountability, for example with finances, I have support from a chief finance officer and people who manage the accounts.

Q: My child attends an academy but as a parent I find it difficult to contact the right person.

A: Each person's experience is different- interaction with teachers between primary and high school is different regardless of being an academy.

Q: How much autonomy do you retain as Head Teacher?

A: One size doesn't fit all, schools have a lot of variety in terms of the support they get and how they are managed. BD10 has different needs to BD8, and what works in one area won't work in another.

Q: Can you explain how the curriculum works for primary schools?

A: This will vary from school to school, long terms plans are informed by research informed practice and planning done locally.

Q: You are an advocate of academisation, and have talked through lots of pros. What do you see the cons are?

A: There was a lot of stigma when academies came about. You move away from the local authority and take support in house.

Q: How to terms of service differ?

A: It varies, sick pay would be one of the ways this differs.

It was agreed by the FGB that next steps would be:

Action: JW to invite business manager to next FGB to share her experiences

Action: JW and NG to make a long list of potential academy trusts to invite into the FGB to present, and for this list to be discussed at the next FGB

Head Teacher's Report

There was a discussion on the attainment data from Dec, which was distributed to governors.

For Y6, this is looking really positive and on track for better percentages than the last year's data. In Reading 65% are meeting expected standard already, and projected to be well on track for national standards in the summer. Writing, 43% at expected standard, whilst this is lower, last Dec this stood at 5%. Maths also looking positive.

For Y2, attainment scores are looking lower, with many areas children not yet meeting expected standard, it was explained that scores are showing significant improvement from Y1 and good progression.

There was a broader discussion around how parents can offer additional support to pupils, for example when revision guides are available for purchase, teachers sharing with parents the pages and sections which need to be focussed on.

JW noted that there had been no safeguarding alerts on screening re usage.

JW also noted that the safer recruitment internal audit had been completed, the initial feedback was that the auditor was satisfied but the school is awaiting the formal report.

JW noted that the curriculum required further discussion, but that there was only a couple of minutes of the meeting remaining. There are also staffing updates which need to be discussed. It was agreed to add the curriculum items onto the agenda at the next Teaching and Learning committee meeting, and the staffing updates and premises updates at the next Resources meeting.

Action: T and L committee to add curriculum update to agenda

Action: Resources to ensure staffing and premises update is on agenda

Committee Reports

Agenda item not covered

Staffing Update

Agenda item not covered

Premises Update

Agenda item not covered

Safeguarding

Covered in Head Teacher's Report

Policies

None to review

AOB

None

Date of next FBG

Thursday 16th March at 6pm

Date of next T and L

Friday 27th Jan at 2pm

Action Log:

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