

Minutes declared as accurate at governing body meeting on the 25th September 2023.
Minutes proposed as accurate by MF, proposal seconded by JC.

Southam Primary School Governing Body Meeting
Monday 17th July 2023 @ 6pm

Present: Nicola Lester (Chair) (NL), Adelle Wainwright (AW), David Moran (Vice Chair) (DM), Marie McClay (MM), Marc Fulner (MF), Mandi Startup (Deputy Head), Sian Warner (Clerk)

Guest present: Ranjit Samra (CEO SVMAT)

Apologies: Julie Chohan

Presentation by CEO

Headlines were:

- Communication with local governing bodies and the trust will take a more structured approach next academic year, with ½ termly chairs meetings, termly newsletters and CEO to attend at least 1 governing body meeting each term.
 - Strategic priorities for the trust are:
 - Continue to develop and invest in staff.
 - Provide an excellent education for all children.
 - There have been 3 Ofsted inspections this academic year and all were graded as good.
 - The trust has developed partnerships with other local schools, providing support and guidance.
 - *Governor asked if the schools that trust staff are currently working with could potentially join the trust.* CEO said yes, possibly.
 - The pupil numbers across all schools in the trust has increased from September 2022.
 - *Governor asked how big the CEO envisages the trust becoming.* CEO said around 15 schools.
 - Oakley School & Myton Gardens builds progressing well at a cost of 63m & 14m respectively.
 - *Governor asked how the increased number of central staff roles can be justified considering the deficit budgets by schools reported.* CEO said that the need for these roles is required before the trust increases in size so that the infrastructure is in place beforehand.

 - Governors thanked CEO for presentation and CEO left meeting.
2. Pecuniary Interests
- None declared.
4. Minutes from previous meeting
- All governors declared minutes from previous meeting as accurate.
 - DM proposed minutes as accurate, MF seconded proposal.
5. Finance (refer to budget documents circulated prior to meeting)
- Governors noted that school is predicted a deficit budget.
 - *Governor asked how the recruitment of staff, in particular TA recruitment, was going.* DH said that they recently have been working with recruitment agencies to assist with finding staff that can work with children, specifically those with SEN need.

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- DH said that there are 3 children that are joining them into the reception year in September with SEN need from the start, one with an EHCP and 2 that are in the process of obtaining them.
 - DH said that due to the need and challenges of some of the cohorts, more experienced staff are needed, whereas smaller schools can potentially run effectively with recruiting more ECT's.
 - *Governor commented that there seem to be a large number of staff that are at the top of their pay scales and does this mean that they will move onto other schools as a result.* DH said that not necessarily, providing that staff are happy in work at SPS, with plentiful CPD opportunities.
 - *Governor asked if they had considered swapping teachers between year groups for the coming year.* DH said that they had and had already switched some more experienced staff with those newly qualified to work with the more challenging cohorts.
 - All governors present, acknowledge budgets, current and forecasted.
6. SATs results
- *Governors acknowledged the good sats results for this academic year.* DH said that some of the KS2 children were just 1 mark off the pass score. DH acknowledged and said that they were pleased with results as they had been a cohort who had struggled from KS1 so progress is good. Also they were pleased with KS1 improvement, in particular the KS1 reading scores, with 42% at greater depth, which is a great increase.
 - *Governor said that the introduction of the RWI Scheme has had a very positive impact.*
 - *Governor asked that this was the final year for KS1 sats.* DH confirmed that it was.
 - *Governor said that the EYFS assessments are vastly improved from previous years.*
 - *Governor asked if the parental engagement with the RWI scheme was good.* DH said that it was.
 - DH said that they were also particularly pleased with the MTC results.
7. A year on from Ofsted
- DH said that they have carried out a lot of work on the curriculum, with the implementation of knowledge organisers which can be used across the board including children with SEND, as reference points and for quizzing. This is being trialled for history in the Autumn term, followed by geography and science.
 - DH said that they continue to use the progression grids.
 - DH said that they medium term plans have been finely tuned and are working documents.
 - *Governor said that the report produced following visit by Derek Watts was very positive.* DH said that it was a useful visit and especially for those subject leads that had not had recent experience of Deep Dives, to ensure no gaps in the subject.
 - *Governor said that they noticed that during learning walks it was obvious that children had a great deal of knowledge in subjects and was evident across all year groups.*
8. Staffing for September
- DH confirmed that in the Autumn term, Head will spend 1 day a week at Great Alne Primary and 4 days a week at Southam Primary.
 - DH said that herself and Andrea Heath hope to be non-class based at some point in the next academic year, however will only occur if they are able to recruit a strong candidate to fill the

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teaching position. DH said that currently they do not have any applicants. It will be readvertised in the Autumn Term.

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- 9. Safeguarding
 - DH said that there are several child protection cases currently that both herself and Deputy DSL, Sian Warner are working with.
- 10. Staff Wellbeing
 - MM advised that there is a planned wellbeing meeting on Wednesday 19/7 @ 4.30pm via teams. MM said that she is not able to attend. AW agreed to attend on her behalf. **ACTION: AW to attend well being meeting on behalf of MM.**
 - *Governor commented on staff absences and referenced a couple that appear to be longer term. Governor asked of there was support in place, such as an EAP, to assist with staff welfare.* DH advised that all staff have access to assistance programmes through school absence insurers, which includes access to online GP appointments, physio referrals etc.
 - *Governor asked about MAT safeguarding audit that had been postponed.* DH said that it will be re-arranged for the Autumn term 2023.
- 11. Dates for meetings next academic year (circulated prior to meeting)
- 12. AOB
 - Link governor for Maths & English MF, advised that he is meeting with subject leads on Friday 21st July.

Chair took opportunity to thank governors present for they continued work with the school this academic year and also to all the staff at school for their dedication and hard work.

Meeting concluded 7.45pm.

ACTION – JULY 2023

ACTION	BY WHOM	DATE COMPLETED
AW to attend wellbeing meeting in place of MM	AW	Attended – notes to be circulated

Next meeting 25th September 2023