

Heaton St Barnabas' CE Primary School

Curriculum/Pastoral/SEN/Admissions Committee Meeting, 28 January 2014

Meeting commenced at 4.15pm

Present: Mrs L Lephard (Chair), Mrs G Evans (Head), Mrs J Allan, Mrs M Burnley, Mr I Grant, Rev C MacLaren

Governor Observer: Mr T Howorth

In Attendance: Mrs B Cormican (Deputy Head), Mrs F Prest (AHT), Mrs D Smith (AHT), Mrs A Wild (AHT), Mrs S Edwards (Clerk)

Action

C15/13 Apologies for Absence/ Declarations of Interest

Apologies received from Mrs Jamil, (Mr Ajeeb was absent).
No declarations of interest.

C16/13 New Curriculum training

Mrs Smith, Mrs Wild and Mrs Prest (AHTs) provided training based on a session they recently attended on 'Clarity and Creativity' in the new curriculum.

Points arising from the presentations:

- New curriculum starts September 2014 with Year 2 & 6 core subjects (SATs) from 2015
- Assessment will be radically changed - 'expectations' will be used rather than levels
- Three steps to moving forward with the new curriculum - content (relevant and purposeful), engagement (interesting and inspiring), measuring (assessments)
- Various aspects such as the school's values and vision will drive the curriculum choices that need to be made
- Key drivers already operating successfully in school include BLP (Building Learning Power) and Restorative Practice. Other drivers could include spirituality, music or sport
- Content - examples were given of the range of opportunities for studying English, the essentials for writing and milestones for progress
- Inclusion will be an important aspect with support for pupils not meeting expected requirements and a challenge programme to extend and deepen learning
- Engagement - important principles for engaging pupils will be making it real (visits, visitors, artefacts role play etc.) and letting pupils steer (exploring and questioning)
- It is not yet clear what SATs will look like, they may possibly be replaced with year tests.
- Assessment has essentially been left to schools, the Foundation Stage terms 'developing', 'secure' and 'exceeding' may be used. The system will need to be rigorous and robust and will have implications for tracking and measuring progress and for teacher appraisals
- The next steps are to identify the curriculum drivers (by Easter) and develop the assessment system; it is an exciting opportunity for positive change
- The NAHT is pressing for an extra training day this year which would be very beneficial

8.05pm Mrs Smith, Mrs Prest and Mrs Wild were thanked for their presentation and left the meeting

C17/13 Minutes of 25/11/13 and matters arising

The minutes of 25/11/13 were **agreed** as a correct record.

Matters arising: C12/13, Several fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absence have been issued. One holiday has been approved due to mitigating circumstances.

C18/13 Data review

Matters arising from the progress and attainment update:

There is a marked discrepancy in progress between classes in some year groups and in years 3, 4,5 and 6 there is, as yet, no clear reason for the difference. Parallel teachers are continuing to spend time together to identify possible reasons and share good practice; Mrs Evans will be discussing their findings and pushing them to go further.

Governors asked if staff need any extra support - not at the moment as a coaching programme and support are already in place for the weaker teachers.

Mrs Evans confirmed that teachers are under no illusions concerning what is expected of them and their pupils. At least three points progress across the year is expected and good progress is an average of 4 points progress per year. As a minimum, 30% are expected to

go up three levels between Year 2 and Year 6.

Mrs Evans and Mrs Cormican are due to carry out a book scrutiny and teaching observations in two local primaries.

Governors were pleased to hear that behaviour and attitude to learning has much improved in Year 6 (mainly due to Restorative Practice).

Pupil Premium The Pupil Premium (PP) statement for 2013/14 had been circulated and will be put on the website. The data from last year is being worked on so that it can be accurately compared with this year (the data will be for all PP pupils rather than just FSM). It was noted that the bulk of PP pupils are in Years 4-6, numbers decrease further down school.

C19/13 LAC report

There are currently three Looked After Children in school. Each child has an EPEP (Electronic Personal Education Plan) in place and full details of their current assessments and EPEP targets for this year were included in the report. A further report will be given on their progress at the end of the year.

BC

C20/13 Policy review - Teaching & Learning policy

Minor changes have been made to include references to Building Learning Power and Restorative Practice and the policy now has the Learning Environment policy as an appendix. Mr Grant **proposed** approval of the policy, **seconded** by Mrs Lephard and **unanimously approved** by the Committee.

It is hoped to increase the display board space available in the new block classrooms.

Governors suggested that the outside space could be further developed and that community groups and/or parents might be willing to take this on. Mrs Evans advised that the trim trail needs urgent repair/replacement and that any grounds developments would need to be fully vandal-proof.

Governors asked for a list of policies and review dates for future reference. The policy for Work Scrutiny was distributed and the policy for PSHCE (inc. Sex and Relationships) will be emailed out, both for consideration at the next meeting.

Head/
Clerk
Next
meeting

C21/13 Any Other Business

Governor Training, RAISEonline training is scheduled for 4.30pm, Tuesday 4 February. Further training for governors will be provided at the three remaining Governing Body meetings.

Noted that there is an expectation that Curriculum Committee meetings will take two hours.

Head

C22/13 Date of next meeting

Next meeting to be held on **Wednesday 26 March at 4.15pm.**

Meeting closed at 9.16pm

Signed by the Chair as a true record: _____ **Date:** _____