

P R E S E N T:-

Mr A Hirst (in the Chair)

Mr S Abbotts, Mrs S Bone, Mrs L Echevarria, Mr G Hoyle, Mr R Melles, Mrs E Philpot, Reverend M Pollard, Mr P Robson, Mrs D Walker, Mr G Kay and Mrs A Wilkinson.

Also in attendance were the following members of school staff:

Mrs B Brown, Mr B Cooke, Mr A Edwards, Mr R Fraser, Mr D Hudson, Mrs S Matthews, Mrs T McCann, Mrs T Roberts, Mrs G Rogers, Mr D Stamper, Miss A Stamford, Miss L Woodward, Mr I Walton and Mrs R Walton.

Clerk to the Governing Body – Mrs A Hall-Miell.

2509 **APOLOGIES**

No apologies for absence were received, all governors were present.

2510 **CONFIRMATION OF ITEMS TO BE RAISED UNDER ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

RESOLVED: that no items be raised under any other urgent business.

2511 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

RESOLVED: that no declarations of interest were received on any item on the agenda.

2512 **MEMBERSHIP**

RESOLVED: a) that the resignation of Mr Stone as a Parent Governor be noted;

b) that the appointment of Mr Hoyle as a Parent Governor from 5 February 2021 be noted;

c) that the appointment of Mr Kay as a Parent Governor from 5 February 2021 be noted.

2513 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: a) that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2020 be confirmed by the Chair;

b) that the Chair sign the minutes at the first opportunity following the restrictions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

2514 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that there were no matters arising from the minutes.

2515 **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Leading Behaviour Committee - 14 January

The minutes of the Leading Behaviour Committee meeting held on 14 January 2021 had been included within the agenda pack for governor information.

Leadership Committee - 11 February 2021

The minutes of the Leadership Committee meeting held on 11 February 2021 had been included within the agenda pack for governor information.

Leading Learning Committee

The Leading Learning Committee meeting had been held the week prior to the full governing body meeting and the minutes would be circulated to governors once finalised.

- RESOLVED:
- a) that the minutes of the Leading Behaviour Committee meeting held on 14 January 2021 be received;
 - b) that the minutes of the Leadership Committee meeting held on 11 February 2021 be received;
 - c) that the minutes of the Leading Learning Committee meeting be circulated to governors.

2516 **SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNT**

Governors discussed that the auditor for the School Fund Account had already been approved and that the 2019/2020 account would be presented to governors in the summer term 2021. Should the local authority accountants not be in a position to audit the account, the school would explore the option of requesting a local accountant to undertake the contract.

RESOLVED: that the School Fund Account be deferred to the summer term 2021 meeting.

2517 **SCHOOL FINANCIAL VALUE STANDARD**

The School Financial Value Standard had been discussed by the Leadership Committee and recommended to the full governing body for approval.

RESOLVED: that the School Financial Value Standard be approved for submission to the local authority.

2518 **REPORT OF THE HEADTEACHER**

The report of the Headteacher was shared on the screen during the meeting and had been circulated in advance for information.

Governors were reminded of the key school priorities and that during the recent two day Ofsted Inspection the category of 'good' had been referred to by the inspector.

The context of the school and its setting remained the same although governors noted that there had been an increase in Pupil Premium (PP) students and also a rise in safeguarding concerns during the lockdown periods. The emotional wellbeing of students had raised its profile, which increased demands upon the school.

Educational Health Care Plans

The school had seen an increase in Education Health and Care plans (EHCP) and felt that the local authority (LA) were often too quick to produce a plan without consulting with the school in the first instance.

Attendance

In respect of attendance, governors noted that the local authority Education Welfare Team had a policy of not carrying forward attendance action plans to the next academic year; therefore providing families with a 'fresh start' and who would not be in receipt of any sanction or prosecution. Mrs Deborah Myers, Head of Children, Families and Schools had been approached regarding the situation.

Destinations

Mrs Philpot was thanked for the work undertaken regarding careers.

Quality of Education

It was reported that the teaching and learning provision had been categorised as good and that there had been positive feedback received from parents. Live teaching lessons had provided appropriate challenges although it was acknowledged there had been no loss of learning and no significant gaps identified.

Disadvantaged students

An action plan would be implemented during the summer term 2021 for 107 students who required interventions and governors noted that 15 Special Educational Needs (SEN) students out of a total of 300 had not engaged with the online learning provision during the lockdown period.

IT Equipment

Graphics tablets had been purchased to support the home learning provision and would also be utilised in the classroom to assist with the pace of feedback for students. Although governors noted that the quality of the WIFI provision in school was a current issue of concern.

It was reported that Year 9 were currently self-isolating and the difficulties around ensuring social distancing and minimising contact between student groups in school was difficult. It was not known who else students maybe mixing with outside of the school therefore the decision had been made for the whole year group to isolate at home. There had also been cases where symptomatic students had been sent into school by parents.

Governors acknowledged there had been six cases of students missing education reported to the Education Welfare Service and that Mrs Wilkinson, Safeguarding Governor, had supported the situations with advice and guidance for which the school was appreciative.

Also discussed was the ongoing strategy for Covid-19 testing within the school. Governors were in agreement for it to continue in the existing format.

Safeguarding Report – March 2021

Mr Edwards, Assistant Headteacher – Behaviour, provided governors with an update on Safeguarding within the school and stated there had been no real changes in the safeguarding responsibilities. Comparisons were made with January 2021 within the report and that child protection plans had decreased by one and that Child in Need (CIN) students had reduced from 19 down to 15. Other logged concerns had also been lower as well.

Multi agency meetings had continued utilising a virtual platform and it was reported that early help referrals had increased from the last report although it was noted that there was now a rapid response time from the East Riding Hub for referrals that had been made to them. The number of Looked After Children (LAC) had reduced and now involved four families.

The school had reviewed safeguarding policies and procedures in September 2020 and it was also confirmed that staff had undertaken safeguarding training and they would be participating in Prevent training after the Easter 2021 break, which involved a video to observe. The video would be forwarded by Mr Edwards to governors for information.

Return to School

The return to school for all students at the beginning of March 2021 had generated some anxieties, which could explain the increase in student exclusions. It was hoped that the situation would calm down and to help support students in the ARC the school had held discussions with Aspire Academy with a view to introducing a horticultural project in school one day per week. Governors noted that life skills would enhance social interactions for students.

Careers presentation

Mr Stamper, Associate Assistant Headteacher – Community, provided governors with a presentation regarding careers and shared slides on the screen during the meeting. Mr Stamper was the Careers Lead for the Humber and East Yorkshire region.

The presentation included:

- Where the school were in 2018 and now in 2021;
- Quality of careers standard reapplication;
- Student aspirations;
- What the school had done – Benchmarks 1 – 6;
- Tracker monitoring system – 3 years after student leaving;
- Careers journey's – reports for parents;
- Curriculum links;
- Mock interview day;
- Google Drive and Google Classroom utilised;
- Work experience;
- Careers Fair – 40 employers attended;
- Destinations

A governor asked whether it could be evidenced how many students had accessed the careers Google Classroom. It was acknowledged that Google Classroom did not provide that level of information therefore the only evidence had been student feedback. Also noted was that a mock interview day had taken place virtually with international attendance. Excellent feedback had been received from students and employers.

A suggestion was made for consideration to be given to the provision of parental information on careers via a link on the school website and governors acknowledged that this was an excellent home grown resource with a comprehensive tracking and monitoring system in place, which was now embedded within the school. A full range of support was available for students to access. Governors wished to thank all involved for the hard work undertaken and the successes achieved.

Leadership and Management

Governors were mindful of their responsibilities which had been highlighted in green on the report presented.

Finance

Mr Hudson, School Accountant, presented governors with a financial update and confirmed that £8,000.00 fund raising had been received, which had been utilised to purchase IT equipment. The documents displayed had been reviewed and had been updated from the figures presented to governors in the autumn term 2020. Governors noted a number of areas highlighted which included the loss of the teachers' pension grant and the one year pay freeze.

The summary level of figures was shared on the screen and it was reported that income was on target and the funding allocated for educational visits had not been required due to visits not taking place.

The deficit budget had now been reduced to £873,000.00 and it was confirmed that there was some outstanding income funding. Mr Hudson explained the £122,000.00 gain in income funding and that further funding of £40,000.00 would be received in the next financial year from the ARC.

Staffing costs were forecast to come in below the allocated budget spend due to exam invigilators not being required. Other savings including exam fees and resources during the lockdown period had been made, although it was noted that the school had already received some refunds of exam fees. There was also a potential saving of £180,000.00 for professional services. It was explained that as the local funding formula would be utilised to calculate the schools block funding allocation and there would be a benefit to the school budget of £82,000.00 increased income. The sixth form funding from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of £35,000.00 had been more than the school had anticipated.

Governors were also informed that initial approaches to banks to open a new account had been made although some were not very interested. It was also explained that the current charge free period of the existing account was due to end in April 2021. **A governor enquired whether the school had receive Covid-19 related payments to support costs incurred.** It was acknowledged that to date £40,000.00 had been received and a further payment was anticipated. Also, for cleaning costs relating to staff and materials there had been no charge applied due to the school closure periods.

Governors thanked Mr Hudson for the level of detail within the financial information provided.

Freedom of Information Request

Governors were informed that Mr Hoyle had recently made a freedom of information application to the local authority regarding the private finance initiative (PFI) for the school. He was informed that it was classified as a sensitive document. Governors felt they should be provided with information regarding the cost for services relating to catering and premises and how the figures were derived. It was acknowledged that as the school were required to put in place a 10-year plan to take the school's finances post-PFI, it was reasonable for the PFI company or the local authority be asked to present the information to governors to inform them towards the post-PFI financial plan.

A governor enquired who the PFI organisation was. It was confirmed as a company by the name of Simperian, with the involvement of the local authority. The Headteacher explained the process and who had been involved at the time the contract had been awarded. Governors noted that the Bridlington Schools PFI contract between the local authority and Bridlington Schools Services Limited were responsible for the provision of serviced accommodation to six schools and a library and the contents of the contract fell under the exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act. **Another governor asked whether there was a conflict of interest.** It was acknowledged that the local authority viewpoint was that there was a representation of the schools served and that the local authority had a vested interest.

A governor enquired whether the previous presentations by the local authority had been minuted. It was confirmed that the presentation meeting four years ago had minutes taken during the meeting and a copy would be located for governors. The school were also aware there was built in maintenance and replacement of kitchens within the contract that were not required.

Governors agreed that they would like to receive information regarding the PFI contract and that the local authority would be contacted to arrange for a presentation to the whole governing body. **Another governor asked if there were other schools with PFI contracts in place.** It was confirmed this information was not known.

School Improvement Adviser

Governors noted that the new School Improvement Adviser from the local authority was Mr Mark Knapton, who had been extremely supportive.

Income generation

Yorkshire Coast Football Academy had made enquiries regarding use of the school facilities which would generate a minimum of £10,000.00 income in the first year and £20,000.00 in the second year, the enquiry would be given due consideration.

Sixth form

Governors were informed that there had been an increase in sixth form applications and that initial interviews had already taken place. Applications had been received at national and international levels.

Tomorrows Teachers

The Tomorrows Teachers scheme would be launched to encourage students who wished to join the teaching profession and it was reported there had already been 12 students identified as suitable candidates.

- RESOLVED:
- a) that the report of the Headteacher be received;
 - b) that governors approved the ongoing strategy for lateral flow testing;
 - c) that the Prevent safeguarding training video be forwarded to governors;
 - d) that a request would be made for a PFI presentation for governors.

2519 **SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020/2021**

Governors were updated on the progress of the School Development Plan and that the only amber RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rated item was the nurture school, which would be completed during the summer term 2021.

RESOLVED: that the update on the School Development Plan 2020/2021 be received.

2520 **SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

Miss Brown, Deputy Headteacher – Student Character, provided governors with up to date safeguarding information, which was displayed on the screen and included the number of visits and engagements that had been undertaken, LAC and Child Protection Plans that were in place.

During the lockdown period 24 students had been contacted regularly in line with government advice and guidance. Governors noted that attendance had been tracked and the school held attendance information from during the lockdown period and since 8 March 2021 and had utilised the information to cross reference how well the students had worked and whether they had engaged with online learning. The report presented had been RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rated for ease of use and it demonstrated where school attendance had been made and where involvement with other services had been required.

An example was shared on screen of individual students and the types of barriers to learning they faced, around which governors held a discussion. Governors acknowledged that students on Child Protection Plans had increased by 14 percent when compared with the same period the previous year.

Governors were assured that the school had been working with the appropriate services to ensure all students were back into school and their needs were being met. Miss Brown was thanked for the information provided and her contribution to meeting the needs of the students.

RESOLVED: that the Safeguarding Report update be received.

2521 **SCHOOL POLICIES**

Policies below to be considered for approval by the full governing body:

- Admissions Policy;
- Complaints Policy
- Child Exploitation Policy
- Assessment Recording Policy

Policies below policies had been approved by the Leading Learning Committee:

- Accessibility Plan Policy;
- Appeals Against Internal Assessments Policy;
- Attendance Policy;
- Dress Code Policy;
- Homework Policy;
- Literacy Policy;
- Positive Handling Policy;
- Provider Access Policy;
- Teaching and Learning Policy.

Governors discussed the Student Mental Health Policy briefly and agreed that the Leading Behaviour Committee would consider the policy in detail once it had been reviewed by the school.

- RESOLVED: a) that the above school policies be approved and adopted;
- b) that the Headteacher notify staff of the adoption of these policies;
- c) that the Student Mental Health Policy be reviewed and presented to the Leading Behaviour Committee for approval.

2522 **LOCAL AUTHORITY POLICIES SPRING TERM 2021**

- a) Business Car User Scheme;
b) Car Salary Sacrifice Scheme;
c) Driving for Work Policy;
d) Equality Policy;
e) Job Share Policy;
f) Mobile Device Policy;
g) Relocation Scheme (Schools);
h) Time off for Study.

- RESOLVED: a) that the above local authority policies be approved and adopted;
- b) that the Headteacher notify staff of the adoption of these policies.

2523 **GOVERNOR VISITS**

Mrs Philpot had forwarded governor visits reports to governors in advance of the meeting. As Careers Guidance Governor, Mrs Philpot had visited the school on 2 March 2021 and 16 July 2020 to meet with Mr Stamper. The reports detailed the discussions held during the visits.

RESOLVED: that the Governor Visits reports be received.

2524 **GOVERNOR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

RESOLVED: that all training details are available on the CPD website www.hereforschools.co.uk.

2525 **REVIEW OF ACTIONS**

RESOLVED: that the Review of Actions be confirmed.

2526 **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the next meeting be held on:

Thursday 8 July 2021 at 6.00pm

Chair's Signature