



St James' RC Academy Trust, Maybury Close, Petts Wood. BR5 1BL
Faith in Action, Working Together, Walking in the Footsteps of Christ

**Minutes of the Children and Learning Committee meeting
held on 18 May 2021**

The Governors agreed, in June 2009, that all papers submitted to and the minutes arising from, meetings of the Governing body and its sub-committees, should be fully prepared, and managed, in line with the regulations and the guidance, taking into account the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Acts. Minutes concerning confidential matters will not be published.

All documents discussed were circulated prior to the meeting unless otherwise specified.

Present	Mary Hutchinson – Chair of Governors Lisa Weeks – Head Teacher Michelle Wilson – Deputy Head Teacher Margaret Connell Cat Hardiman Elizabeth Williamson In attendance: Dominique Wells – Clerk
1. Opening Prayer	The Chair of Governors led the opening prayer.
2. Apologies for Absence	None.
3. Declaration of Interest	None.
4. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Minutes The minutes were agreed as correct and taken as a true record. Matters arising None.

<p>5. Policies</p>	<p>Science Policy This includes making links with English, Maths and ICT.</p> <p><i>Questions asked by Governors:</i> <i>Q: Can RE be linked, and how is evolution linked to the Bible?</i> <i>A: Fr David has given guidance on teaching this.</i></p> <p>Outdoor Play in EYFS Policy</p> <p>Both policies were accepted.</p>	
---------------------------	---	--

<p>6. Reports</p>	<p>Covid-19 Update All is going to plan at the School. Everyone is remaining vigilant and parents are supportive.</p> <p>With regard to the 'Indian variant', 2 schools in Bromley have started PCR testing due to cases in the school.</p> <p>If restrictions are lifted on 21st June, there will be different expectations in schools compared to the outside community as schools are to carry on with restrictions until told otherwise – likely September. It will be a case of managing expectations, but is not a concern.</p> <p><i>Questions asked by Governors:</i> <i>Q: How will the School communicate this information?</i> <i>A: Via the weekly newsletters.</i></p> <p>The Archbishop has issued a message that masses will remain online for the rest of the term.</p> <p>Data SATs for next year's Y6 (current Y5) are being considered, so this cohort is highlighted in the data. Online learning during the 2nd lockdown was more like a normal school day, and the Maths is consequently very good. Greater Depth in writing especially was harder to achieve in lockdown.</p> <p>The focus on younger children (EY and Y1) following lockdown is on development of social skills, not only on the academic.</p> <p>There will be another data drop in July.</p> <p>Fire Drill This took place on 29th April at 4pm, during the Afterschool Club and Y6 sports club. All were out in 2 minutes and accounted for.</p> <p>Umbrella Trust Confidential item.</p>	
--------------------------	---	--

	<p>Anti-Bullying Questionnaire KS2 completed this in March with results as follows: - 100% could say who they would tell about a case of bullying and what to do. - 98% thought the School dealt well with bullying - 94% said they had not seen bullying. Those who disagreed were found to be referring to incidents a long time ago. - 16% said they had been bullied, but that they told an adult and the bullying had stopped. Overall, the picture was good.</p> <p><i>Questions asked by Governors:</i> Q: Will Ofsted look at this? A: This has been instigated by the School and is a tool for the Head Teacher to check the children are happy. Q: How was bullying defined? A: Bullying is sometimes perception rather than intent, and the pertinent issue is how it is dealt with. If there is bullying at home, it is important that the children talk about it.</p>	
--	---	--

<p>7. Holding the School to Account</p>	<p>The questions posed to the Head Teacher came out of recent Governor training attended by the Chair.</p> <p>The main points addressed were as follows: Quality of Education Regarding quality assuring data, the Head Teacher affirmed that the School has very experienced and knowledgeable staff and their judgement is accurate. Some teachers are LA moderators.</p> <p>The use of formative assessment is confirmed during observations, performance management, observations by subject leaders, planning books and work scrutinies. In class, there are exit questions, recaps on class activities, children’s reflection on their learning and sharing of knowledge. Books are marked in green pen during the lessons and children comment on the marking in their books.</p> <p>A broad and balanced curriculum continues to be taught – only cooking and swimming have been dropped.</p> <p>It has been found that EY and Y1 have been hit hardest by the lockdown, so the focus is on these years. There are phonics interventions taking place before and after school as well as during lunch, using the Catch-up Premium funding. Homework is targeted and the School engages with parents on this.</p> <p><i>Questions asked by Governors:</i> Q: Catch-up intervention is good, but is there pressure on children who are suffering from a gap? A: The strategies put in place will be different for Y6 compared to KS1. In KS1 there is more hands-on, active learning.</p>	
--	--	--

	<p>Behaviour and attitudes: There are no concerns about attendance or punctuality. No racism, homophobia or bullying has been recorded. The Single Central Register is monitored by the Head Teacher and Finance Officer and there are no safeguarding concerns.</p> <p>Personal development: The School has not seen any children who have been negatively impacted and there seems to be no anxiety.</p> <p>Leadership and management: The usual extra-curricular activities are not currently running to full extent. Spanish Club has a half-hour window, there is a KS2 club after school, 2 dance classes before school and drama classes in 2 bubbles. The School is doing as much as it can here.</p> <p>There are 3 internal data drops during the year and work scrutinies weekly. Lesson observations continued during lockdown and are no brought back into the classroom. Assessments in Reading and Maths are checked every term.</p>	
8. Subject Ambassador/ Link Governor 'phone meetings with teachers	These meetings were reported to be going well. Most Governors had met with their subject leaders and the Chair would send a reminder out regarding this.	
9. Staffing Updates	Confidential item.	
12. Any Other Business	The Big Ask: Schools have been asked to take part in this survey – both children and parents complete it.	
13. Dates of next meetings	Full Governing Body Thursday 17 June at 5.00pm	
14. Closing Prayer	The Chair of Governors closed the meeting with a prayer.	

The meeting closed at 1717.