

STANDARDS & CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday 12 th October 2018		9.30	Dartington C E Primary School		DRAFT MINUTES			
<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Category of governor Any office held</i>	<i>Time they joined/left if not present for full meeting</i>	<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Initials</i>	<i>Category of governor Any office held</i>	<i>Time they joined/left if not present for full meeting</i>	
				Jill Mahon	JM	Headteacher		
Amelia Poore	AP	Co-opted		Lucy Woollett	LW	Parent		
Abigail Read	AR	Parent		Donna Hamet	DH	Co-opted		
Amina Abdellaoui	AA	Staff						

Apologies	Initials	Reason (Category of Governor)
Tony Gregg	TG	Foundation (Chair)

Absent without Apology	Initials

In Attendance	Initials	(anyone who is not a governor/associate)
Yvette Elliott	YE	Clerk

Minutes to
All Governors
School Web Site

Documents shared or referred to:

- School Improvement Plan 2018-19
- USF Evaluation Visit notes - 02/10/18
- RE Policy

Agenda Number	Details of discussion	Decision or action
1 & 2.	Apologies.	Accepted
3.	Declaration of Pecuniary or Business Interests. None	
4.	Minutes of the last meeting, held on 26th June 2018. Reviewed and approved.	Approved and signed.
5.	Appoint Chair & Vice-Chair TG happy to stand again as Chair. Unanimously agreed by the Committee. AP happy to stand again as Vice-Chair. Unanimously agreed by the Committee.	
6.	USF Partnership E-Visit feedback shared. AR highlighted that <i>Governors</i> must be focussed on differentiation and ensure that <u>all</u> pupils are making progress. JM confirmed that the USF visit focus was on maths, due to outcomes. All teachers were observed, children were spoken to about their own targets, school safety, British values etc. The focus was also on the children's learning, rather than the teaching. <i>Outcomes</i> were discussed. There is still come inconsistency across classes and few demonstrated 'all pupils making progress.' Behaviour and the learning environment were positive. AA explained the Ambassador system and this was reported on positively in the report. <i>Further outcomes</i> - the marking policy is being followed but is not yet consistent. Targets are working well and pupils are clear on e-safety and how to be healthy. Middle Leaders need to work hard to ensure 'most' and 'come' becomes 'all.' There is now a full Leadership team and their time needs to be used well for full impact. <i>Points of development</i> - Consistency across the school requires work. Staff are now meeting for English and maths planning and strategies are being implemented. AA explained how she & Sophie Hope plan together the differentiation in their lessons. AP asked if this means Leaders are just as clear about teachers' lessons as the teachers? AA confirmed this, explaining that observations of each others' lessons are also completed as they follow the same sequences. AR asked if staff are comfortable giving honest feedback to Leaders? This is the case and JM reiterated that the school has very reflective practice, so honesty is expected and the more opportunities for review and feedback the better. Some teachers reported trying to fit a teaching model that didn't feel right, but USF	

	<p>have confirmed that the style is not prescribed and staff are now happier. The pace staff are working at is high, but USF expected greater progress. Some delays are due to the need to address basic skills and changes to the teaching pattern are now resolving this. Clear differentiation based on prior attainment is a definite focus for development. AA felt that some Leaders had not been clear on their role Vs the USF roles but following a meeting expectations have been clarified and all staff will be given suggestions but it is up to them how they implement this. Shared Leadership release time now occurs on Friday mornings.</p> <p>AR has met with DH and AA about their Lead Governor focus and the use of the LA/USF E-visit feedback to give priorities. SIP outcomes and actions are step-times and Governor targets could also be integrated into this document (Strategic Day work).</p>	SIP / GAP work at Strategic Day
7.	<p>Autumn Term - What's the difference?</p> <p>AR reminded Governors that T&L is very important now in preparation for the next E-visit and it is crucial for the school that each area is at least 'amber.' Ofsted headings are now being used in the SIP, tying in with USF and ensuring a focus on leadership too. The draft SIP will have Governor input at the upcoming Strategic Day and it should be used to help Lead Governors plan focussed school visits to evaluate impact.</p> <p>The previous Ofsted report is referred to as a starting point and this should be constantly revisited. The school needs to set targets at or above national averages to demonstrate high expectations and this data is tracked. A new format is used, in-line with USF, showing prior attainment and this is constantly updated as pupils come & go and at half-termly data drops. AR asked <i>why there are separate columns for 'at and above' and 'above'?</i> This is so the school can monitor greater depth working. The data used is already triangulated, from testing data, lessons, books and also from conversations with pupils and others.</p> <p>The strategic plan is to move the SIP forward, secure the school in a formal partnership; manage the budget; have outcomes at least in-line with national data and increase pupil numbers from F1 and F2.</p> <p>The school needs to clearly show progress for all. We will be considered to 'require improvement' if outcomes are low. AR asked <i>what is being done to address the fact that only two classes had clear progress for all in the observed lesson?</i> JM highlighted that this was just a snapshot and does not suggest overall progress - there are now learning walks, a new marking policy, improved planning, basis skills focus, data highlighting</p>	

	<p>children's requirements, lots of system change demonstrates that Leadership has capacity to change. There is absolute clarity in differentiation and purpose. Progress is seen in the changes that have already happened and children are well set to make more rapid progress.</p> <p>Leadership is a big issue and if 'red' the school will have decisions taken out of its hands. The school is striving to make sure this doesn't happen - Leadership and T&L at amber and the majority of lessons at 'good' will get us through the E-visit. JM confident that Leaders can do this and they are being supported to do so. Starting points to current outcomes need to show rapid progress. AR made it clear that if our E-visit gives 'red' outcomes, the school is likely to receive a formal warning letter from Dawn Stabb and it will trigger an Ofsted inspection. DH asked if all staff are clear about what's required? JM confirmed that they are and that they are willing to engage and get it right. Ofsted will be a big challenge but USF are offering fantastic support - time is the critical factor. Leaders are undertaking learning walks in other schools and feeding back in staff meetings but there is a cost and time implication, so more in-school class visits are now taking place. AR acknowledged the stressful situation and asked how staff are coping? It has made some teachers question if the general education system is right for them anymore, but they want to be at Dartington for the right reasons. Since meeting with Martin Harding, staff are pulling together but the relentless pressure and scrutiny was acknowledged. AR asked how the progress of pupil premium and disadvantaged pupils is ensured? LW has had a meeting with Sarah Cate and the Pupil Premium Strategy is about to go onto the school website - LW to follow up on discussions from school visit. Interventions are having a good impact on progress. AR asked how other curriculum areas (not just maths & English) receive focus? JM confirmed that these are focus areas, but lots of other ongoing activities to keep curriculum as rich and inspiring as possible.</p>	
8.	<p>Christian Distinctiveness / Ethos Group</p> <p>YE has recently completed a Diocese Clerk's Update. The Ethos Group will have its next meeting after the LA E-visit, before the end of term.</p>	
9. 1	<p>Safeguarding & Attendance</p> <p><u>Attendance</u> - AP met JM, Marcus (USF) and DCC Officers who were very supportive and realistic. The work of the school was recognised and an offer of sharing good practice was made. A further meeting will take place after half-term. Attendance data is now carefully managed on a weekly basis with a dedicated Admin member compiling data, with a focus on</p>	

2	<p>attendance codes. JM carries out scrutiny and necessary actions and there is clear evidence of the school's work. AR questioned the time-consuming nature of this work for JM on top of other duties? This is in-line with the way Marcus works at his school and there is an expectation on schools to enter into 'early help' following pupil data scrutiny. JM highlighted that 47 pupils were persistently absent last year, which is significant. AR felt a shift in attitude is required and the school needs to work hard to achieve this. LW asked if there is any improvement in lateness? Unfortunately, punctuality is still an issue.</p> <p><u>Safeguarding</u> - There are 5 pupils currently in child protection, but no new safeguarding issues. JM is booked onto a refresher training course and Sophie Hope is booked onto training so the Leadership team will all continue to be Safeguarding Leads. Governors and staff need to be aware of KCSiE and the SCR should be checked (Strategic Day). Transitions have started for 2 pupils to new provision. LW asked if any pupils are currently at risk of expulsion? JM confirmed that there is for pupil new to the school with no paperwork currently in place - risk assessment and multi-agency staff are engaged and conversations are ongoing with parents. Any serious behaviour issues are logged on CPOMS.</p>	
10. 1	<p>Policies for Review RE - Ratified. Attendance policy to come to Governors at next FGB.</p>	YE to update & save Attendance - agenda
11.	<p>Strategic Questions Questions asked throughout the meeting, as recorded above.</p>	
12. 1 2 3	<p>Matters Arising Ratified polices have been updated and filed. AR to check the SCR prior to the next E-visit. GAP review to be considered at Strategic Day.</p>	
13.	<p>Actions, Question and Next Steps Lead Governor reports are required prior to the E-visit to give clarity of the current school picture (focus on E-visit / Ofsted headings and priorities). JM to share the Leadership grid with Governors.</p>	
14.	<p>Evaluate Impact on School Improvement Governors have a clear idea of the school position and how best they can support JM and the school to get the best for all children. USF support and opportunities have generated great ideas and Leaders are happy with direction. Staff have an opportunity to report directly to Governors at the Strategic</p>	

DARTINGTON C E PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

	Day.	
15.	Next meeting Friday 7 th December at 9.30am. The meeting closed at 11am.	