



CHESTER LE STREET CHURCH OF ENGLAND (CONTROLLED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF THE GOVERNING BODY HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON 1 MARCH 2021 AT 2.00PM

Present: Mrs R Butler (Headteacher), Mrs C Dixon, Mrs J McKay, Mrs A Vear (Chair) and Mrs B Watt

Also Present:

Mrs K Allison, Clerk to the Governing Body

ACTION

		ACTION
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declaration of Pecuniary and Other Interests</u></p> <p>The following declaration of interest was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs Watt is Chair of Governors in another school	
3	<p><u>Monitoring of the Remote Education Offer</u></p> <p>It was highlighted that this was discussed in depth at a recent monitoring visit undertaken by Mrs Vear and Mrs Watt. A copy was circulated with the agenda for this meeting.</p> <p>There had been an 84% uptake of remote learning that included a mix of live and pre-recorded lessons. Children's participation was colour coded (RAG) and there was a robust system in place to contact those that were not participating.</p> <p>It was also highlighted that there were 100+ children attending school across the week.</p> <p>Mrs Dixon reported that she was able to work around the children and her own work at home and that lessons were good quality.</p> <p>Mrs Butler reported that the school was running the normal curriculum. Friday afternoons were used to plan work for the week ahead. Those learning from home were getting the same lessons as those in school.</p>	

	<p>Teacher - pupil feedback was noted and the use of an online tool (Learning by Questions) for self-marking was also discussed.</p> <p>It was asked whether there are plans to transition engagement with parents for the return to school as instant responses would no longer be provided. It was noted that it may be difficult for some parents to adjust as they are now used to immediate feedback. Those still isolating on wider reopening of the school from 8 March would still access remote education and live lessons would be streamed. Feedback would be given after school.</p> <p>Mrs Dixon stated that she assumed things would go back to normal and that e-mails would be answered when staff were available.</p> <p>Parent consultation meetings would be undertaken remotely in the first instance, with the school mindful of risk assessments and advice on when face to face meetings can take place.</p> <p>It was highlighted that remote learning worked well last term. The Headteacher reported that she had spoken with Chris Young, School Leadership Advisor, about the remote offer for SEND and vulnerable pupils. It was noted that pupils with EHC plans were still offered one to one TA time remotely on a daily basis. THRIVE continued for most vulnerable pupils and small group phonics work had taken place via Zoom.</p>	
4	<p><u>Monitoring of the Curriculum Offer</u></p> <p>It was asked if this would be easy to pick up on return. The Headteacher spoke about the Dimensions Curriculum used in school and stated that the current topic would be closed off on 8 March and a new three-week topic would be started. All would start new topics together.</p> <p>There will be a cold write at the start of the writing unit to identify planning moving forward.</p> <p>A pre unit assessment would take place for maths in order to tailor the next three weeks planning.</p> <p>The Headteacher stated that World Book Day would take place on 8 March, with authors attending via zoom and a petting farm would be on site. This is to ensure that the first day back in school was encouraging.</p>	

<p>5</p>	<p><u>Monitor and evaluate the provision for all groups of vulnerable pupils, Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children</u></p> <p>Vulnerable pupils were invited to attend school and those that didn't were encouraged to take up remote learning. CPOMS and SEND register were reviewed to ensure that the school staff were proactive in contacting vulnerable pupils. 47% of vulnerable pupils were in school along with all LAC except one. 20% of SEND pupils had not accessed any remote learning, despite being offered computing equipment.</p> <p>It was noted that all LAC were attending school apart from one.</p> <p>It was reported that one parent was in the process of withdrawing their child for home educating. The Headteacher stated that the pertinent paperwork had been forwarded but not yet returned by the parent.</p> <p>Discussion took place on non-engagement and processes in place for contacting pupils and parents. Regular 'phone calls and e-mails are provided and it was highlighted that engagement had gone down. It had been picked up by staff during 'phone calls that some pupils were anxious about returning to school following lockdown. Work was being done to address this.</p> <p>Where necessary, parents have been signposted to bereavement support for pupils.</p> <p>The SRE curriculum was discussed and it was noted that progress with positive relationships was a priority. The SRE plan would currently focus on key areas of transitioning back into school. The Dimensions Curriculum now includes a <i>Getting back into school</i> topic.</p> <p>The Headteacher had spoken to Park View about the quality of lunchtime provision. The use of <i>Turbo Charge</i> was noted which uses young leaders from the sports college to provide activities.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Monitor and evaluate</p> <p>(a) Effectiveness of leadership and management</p> <p>The Headteacher reported that she had met with Chris Young, School Leadership Advisor, this morning and work was undertaken on the SEF. The SEF would be shared with Governors shortly. It was highlighted that before Christmas the school was on a trajectory to move towards <i>Good</i>. The school was currently at <i>Requires Improvement</i>. It is anticipated that a Local Authority review would take place at the end of summer term or beginning of Autumn term as external quality assurance and validation is required.</p> <p>Mrs Watt reported on her visit to school that took place last week. A learning walk was undertaken with the Headteacher and Mrs Watt spoke of the positives and engagement in learning that was seen.</p>	

It was asked whether the expertise across the Governing Body could be utilised in monitoring. More formalised monitoring was discussed.

The school can't move forward from RI without external validation. It was noted that it was anticipated that full onsite Ofsted visits were expected to start again after Easter.

It was hoped that Governors would have the opportunity to reconnect with staff. Governance needs to be good in order to move towards good for Leadership and management.

(b) Quality of education

The Headteacher stated that subject leadership work was ongoing and that subject leaders were required in class to teach the new curriculum.

Mrs Watt stated that independent learning was seen during her visit with all children engaged. Children spoke confidently about what they were doing.

The possibility of a learning walk for all Governors after Easter was suggested. This would depend on Government advice at the time and risk assessment arrangements.

It was highlighted that knowledge of the Dimensions Curriculum would help subject leaders with deep dives.

It was noted that the quality of education across the school was sporadic, with some very good and other weaker which was being addressed.

A discussion took place on the quality of work in books which was improving prior to lockdown.

A monitoring and evaluation timetable had been set for next term. Learning walks had been set up to look at behaviour and learning; assessment and the placement of additional support within classrooms.

Mrs Dixon reported that members of staff had praised the support given by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher. It was stated that there was much clearer accountability, staff ask questions and they are enjoying what they teach.

It was noted that Mr Richard Crane, Head of Education and Skills, was due to visit the school on 12 March.

(c) Impact of continuous professional development

The school was currently focussed on use Covid catch up premium.

	<p>Training had taken place on Early Reading, Basic Maths skills, TA's Maths programme and Reading Plus for KS2. <i>Sounds-Write</i> programme training had taken place along with work with the St Michael's English hub. The hub had also delivered training on <i>Word Power</i>.</p> <p>It was noted that it was necessary to purchase additional resources of low ability high interest materials, particularly for Y3.</p> <p>Mrs Butler had attended the Diocesan Briefings.</p> <p>Staff had undertaken Psychological First Aid Training.</p> <p>Education Endowment Foundation training had also taken place.</p> <p>There had been two onsite training days for the Dimensions Curriculum.</p> <p>Mrs McKay had undertaken bespoke one to one training with staff relating to planning.</p> <p>It was asked if subject leadership was a priority for development. A meeting had been held in September with Chris Durand, LA Support Advisor, regarding the best use of support time. Early Years and subject leaders were a priority before lockdown. There have been a number of staffing changes so priorities would be reviewed. The new curriculum and working towards outstanding teaching and learning in the classroom would be an area for consideration.</p> <p>Early Years was a priority and from February – March in-house support and direction were supplied.</p> <p>Middle leaders will be a priority for the school moving forward.</p>	
7	<p><u>Receive reports from external sources</u></p> <p>Governors received special interest reports on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Vear and Mrs Watt – Curriculum development, remote learning, Pupils mental health and wellbeing development and support through the curriculum, EYFS, and phonics. <p>Elements of the report were discussed throughout this meeting.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the Dimensions Curriculum was a good fit for the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Dixon - SEND Mrs Dixon met with the SENDCo and reported that the SENDCo was well prepared for the meeting and provided good knowledge of the role. Staff were taking responsibility for children they were teaching and would be held accountable. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Watt – Safeguarding; staffing The Safeguarding Review Note of Visit was received. Mrs McKay reported on progress of the four NQT’s within the school. Their reports were received and were very positive, all were developing well. 	
8	<p><u>Monitor school publicity and relationship with community, parents etc</u></p> <p>It was reported that feedback from parents had been very good. A member of office staff updates social media and had attended training on this.</p> <p>A video for prospective parents had been well received and was available on the school website.</p> <p>There had been concerns about staffing absences raised by parents but these questions can’t be answered due to confidentiality issues.</p> <p>The weekly newsletter was starting again next week and the school was trying to become paperless. News and letters are uploaded to the school website.</p> <p>It was asked if it would be made clear to parents how they will be contacted in future regarding feedback and what would be the “new norm”. Any revisions would be noted in newsletters for parents. The Headteacher reported that she was waiting for updated Risk Assessments regarding wider re-opening on 8 March.</p> <p>The Headteacher reported that there was a strong plan in place for the first three weeks. Priority is getting the pupils back into school and settled ready to learn. During week 1 and 2 there is a specific list of staff assessments to be completed, including Maths, phonics, and writing. During week 3, there will be pupil progress meetings with senior leaders to establish where the greatest needs are across the school. This will ensure that there would be a clear plan of needs available after Easter. Verbal reasoning will be an area for priority. Vocabulary across the curriculum training was to be arranged.</p>	
9	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place in June, date to be confirmed.</p>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.28pm