

**Minutes of the Summer Term Meeting of the  
Curriculum, Standards and Welfare Committee**

**At Ashley Junior School**

**On 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7pm**

**Present:** Fiona Wood (Chair), Melissa Kilbey (Clerk)  
Ian Rix, Isabelle Pennycook, Norman Bullen, James Rand, Lorraine Henville, Elizabeth Ward  
**Absent:** James Hutson, Paul Cousins, Amanda Edgson  
The meeting began at 7pm

**1. Apologies and declaration of conflict of interests:**

Governors accepted apologies from Paul Cousins & Amanda Edgson  
Governors accepted Fiona Wood as chair.  
No further conflicts of interests declared.

**2. Matters arising from minutes of Spring Term meeting 13-01-15**

No matters arising.

**3. Reports of the Independent Teacher Workload Review**

Circulated to Governors in advance by the Head Teacher, all agree it made interesting reading. The HT explained that the school would be looking at its current policy for marking and planning. There was concern for the excessive procedures currently being employed. It was considered that the reports now give a cleared focus on what is important and what is time wasting for all concerned, including children and teachers. The HT explained that there should be more focus on the progress of pupils rather than the amount of work or length of marking. Quality should be paramount. The HT called for Governors to visit and look through the revised procedures after half term. 3 Governors volunteered.

**4. The Government White Paper 'Educational excellence everywhere.'**

Previously circulated to all Governors a short discussion regarding the key points ensued. The HT explained that the school will need to look at the implications of becoming an academy by 2020 and that he is currently attending meetings and discussions about the changes. A MAT Multi-academy-Trust will have to be created; under which AJS will be a member.

A governor asked who would be the driving force for the changes.

The HT explained that this would be led by the school itself.

A governor felt a strong objection to being forced by National Government to become an academy.

A discussion took place regarding the benefits and dis-advantages of becoming an academy. One of the main benefits could be to meet the specific needs of children by school selection within the MAT.

The HT informed Governors of a meeting scheduled between the Pyramid Schools and the DfE after which the implications should be clearer.

**5. Update on assessment**

**Standards:**

- **Attendance**
- **Exclusions**
- **Pupil progress – including RAISE data IR**

The HT showed Governors the current validated data held on RAISE online about AJS last Y6 cohort. Attainment overall was noted as good, exclusions slightly above national average (but the school uses exclusions to make sure adequate interventions and learning plan is prepared for the pupil to return).

A Governor asked what the priorities were based on the data.

The HT informed the group that Reading and Writing will be the areas to focus on, alongside work to close the gap between non-disadvantaged and disadvantaged (FSM) pupils.

The HT passed round up to date progress data based on teacher assessment at the end of March 2016. The HT reminded the group that Government current guidelines are 65% meeting or exceeding ARE. The data looks like meeting this percentage, however there is still some very conservative assessment brought about by the lack of Government guidance/exemplar/descriptors for assessing accurately. Y5 seem to be the main group to monitor closely. The HT explained that individual pupils will be targeted to ensure they are on track for ARE.

The HT also believes that the school will be moderated this year for writing.

**Actions to be taken**

**EW, MK & JR  
volunteered to  
visit to review  
changes to  
marking and  
planning  
procedures**

**Supported school (SUP)  
Challenged leadership (CHA)  
Strategic planning (STR)  
Benefit children (BEN)**

**SUP, BEN & CHA**

**STR**

**CHA**



**8. Policies**

Governors agreed that Home School Policy should go out to ALL year groups EVERY year and not just new Y3's. Governors agreed all policies with the exception of Offsite Educational Visits & Positive Handling due to AE absence. These should go forward to next meeting. **AE to email Governors any amendments.**  
Governors agreed to amendments as follows:

**Governor Visits Policy**

Remove top paragraph.

**AOB.**

A Governor asked to arrange an SEN/LSU visit with HT.

Close 9.10pm

IR  
AE

SK

STR

SUPP

