

**Ashley Junior School
Full Governing Body Meeting via Zoom
Thursday 11th June, 2020
at 4.30pm**

Present:

Ian Rix	Head teacher
Naomi Hutchins (NH) Vice Chair	Parent
Elizabeth Ward (EW) Chair	Partnership
Carla O’Riordan	Parent
Joanne Evans	Parent
Lara Witney (LW)	Staff
Val Twiss (VT)	Co-opted
Norman Bullen (NB)	Partnership
Fiona Wood (FW)	Partnership (Arrived 16.53)
Paul Cousins (PC)	Co-opted
Isabelle Pennycook (IP)	Co-opted
Tim Bradley (TB)	Local Authority

In Attendance:

Lindsay Ratcliffe	Local Authority Clerk
Lorraine Henville	Associate Member

Minutes

Challenge

Support

Impact

Action

Action Grid

Minute	Subject	Action Point	By Whom?	When?
3	Artist in Residence	Details to be shared for approval when available for approval	Governors	ASAP
3	Film Message	Governors to produce a short message for Y6 leavers	Governors	Liaise with PC
4	Quotes	Approval of quotes: fencing	Governors (Chair)	ASAP following submission
4	Dates 2020/21	Dates agreed to be shared via Governor Hub	Clerk	ASAP

	Item	Action
1	Welcome and Apologies Meeting opened at 4. 39 p.m. Chair thanked all for their attendance and explained the protocol of a virtual meeting.	
2	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests (Relating to this Agenda)	

	Staff: LW, PC, LH	
3	<p>Headteachers Report: Developments and Progress : Year 6 Return to School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children appear to be pleased to be returning to school • Organisation means the return has gone well • There is capacity for more Y6 children if necessary; however, there is no interest at the moment <p>Governors who are also parents were asked to share their perceptions on how the return was being received by pupils and families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are happy to be back • Pleased and positive about a 'normal' routine • Were not uncomfortable with the restrictions e.g. distancing • All friends feel the same • Anxious about return but after the first day felt reassured and happy to be back • Helping to prepare for secondary school so is reducing anxiety about the move • Smaller class sizes are boosting confidence <p>Governors who are also staff were asked about the return from their point of view</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are generally happy with the return • Small bubbles mean that staff who do not usually teach Y6 are leading and supporting bubbles. This is working well. • Children are happy to be back in school • It was quickly realised that academic challenge was needed and this is what has been missing for some children <p>The Local Education Authority (LEA) has made suggestions around planning and recovery regarding skills children may have lost and preparation for the transition to secondary school.</p> <p>It was noted that some children are not coming into school and although of this group some are completing good quality home learning there are others who will have lost skills. Inevitably, some children will go back a step.</p> <p>Comments had been taken on board from parents that the weekly choice board had become too procedural . The outcome of this is that the choice board menu is updated weekly. The school has also invested in Doodle Maths – this is more engaging and different to Mathletics. Feedback for this new resource from pupils is positive.</p>	

FW Joined meeting 16.53

Governors enquired if there had been any issues since the return?

Child arrived with headache; temperature fine but on exit temperature had risen to 38. Child was tested – test negative temperature was due to a common childhood illness. Staff and parents of children in the same bubble were informed. The area was given a further deep clean.

There was discussion around when children or staff be sent home and also around a local school where a child had tested positive and the impact of this.

HT stated that there should be transparency at all times and all parties be kept informed of any developments.

Those attending:

- Key worker and priority children: some have chosen not to send children into school
- 4 Robins – this group has own bubble
- Some minor behaviour issues but generally there is a calm atmosphere

Risk Assessment has been completed using basic Hampshire assessment and modifying this to make it relevant to AJS. This has been shared with Union who are happy with it (GMB).

Staff are cleaning during the day according to check list
Cleaning materials have been purchased locally at a competitive price

Furloughed staff are volunteering to come into school

Assessments: these will not take place. It is normal to complete end of Key Stage Assessment, SATs, Teacher Assessment. Local Authority and DfE say these are not required as they would be based only on achievement up to mid-March. There will be liaison with secondary schools to discuss pupils' aptitude/attitude. Friendship groups have been forwarded to secondary schools.

When questioned, HT was able to confirm that virtual meetings have been held with Arnewood as well as with Highcliffe and Priestlands.

School Development Plan:

This had been circulated and it was noted there is overlap as much from the previous plan has not been carried out.

Wellbeing:

Returning to school is going to be difficult for many children and there is concern that children currently in Y3, 4 and 5 will not return before September following the latest government announcement. Meetings of SLT have been held to discuss this. The importance of children still feeling they belong is important. Home contact continues to be made.

Around this there, SLT are considering the feasibility of having an Artist in Residence and running sessions for those children. This would allow children to come in, produce something and to reconnect with the school.

Possibility of meeting up with teacher before the end of term. Setting up AJS Extra: Furloughed staff could do this during the summer holidays; places would be available at a reduced rate.

Art week would run during the week commencing 22nd June 2020. The time for planning would be tight but this could be done. It would be set up at a cost to the school but the general feeling was it would be money well spent if it could be done safely. Awaiting costs: **governors will be consulted when figures are available.**

Governors enquired if government had not made the decision to allow more children to return to school how far had AJS got with planning for the return of additional children?

This planning was not underway as Y6 have only just returned; it was necessary to see how this worked before planning for the next stage.

Are there any opportunities for the current Y2 to visit the school?

Logistically this would be impossible. This had been broached in a staff meeting, it cannot be done. There are 77 children expected.

If the distancing measures change to 1 metre instead of 2 will this make a difference to the number of children in school?

Possibly up to 15, this is dependent on the size of the classroom. If this is possible then bubbles could be larger and this would release staff.

There was much discussion around this, the concern of breaking the bubbles, anxiety of children. Some points included:

- Governor stated that it is important not to move on too quickly. 2 metre distancing is important. Covid 19 is still around, we have no idea where the infection comes from.
- The identification of a case in a child in a local school was discussed.
- Children and staff feel safe with 2 metre – if it is changed too quickly it could cause anxiety

There was further discussion around how children could be brought in, the use of a marquee for the possible art day and that the process cannot be rushed.

Other points raised:

- If AJS Extra could re-open then providing at cost would be fair should be considered. Staffing AJS Extra was discussed
- It is important to continue to make plans – to be proactive and capitalise on the good spirit that prevails in school
- It is important to work within the advice /guidelines given
- If AJS was functioning, this would be as a separate bubble
- AJS Extra could take up to 24 children
- Safety and security are important therefore need to proceed on any changes with caution
- Any change or Art Experience must be very carefully planned

HT reiterated that this was in early stages and much detail needs to be considered. Some children have been isolated for 3 months and something like this is very necessary .

When details are put into place, this will be shared with governors for their approval.

Governors considerations:

- There is a need to protect staff
- Year 6 have only just returned so this is early days
- Staff are working above and beyond expectations
- Staff do not need to be placed under additional pressure
- Things are different – must not do too much too soon
- Staff are working hard and need care – their welfare is important

Governors were told that the artist in could help staff and that welfare issues do not have to come down to staff versus children. With careful planning it is hoped all could benefit.

	<p>Governors want to emphasize that staff care is necessary that they are working hard for the children and have been since March. Staff need to know they are appreciated. Care must be taken as although there is much good will and hard work from the staff this can lead to stress and exhaustion.</p> <p>It was noted that AJS had begun to plan at the start of this period early and early planning for future change is beneficial and can help reduce anxiety should a change be suddenly announced.</p> <p>Further discussion around Y2 transition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power point and film are to be produced and sent to families • Year 3 team are reading a story : to be distributed • Parents/carers and children will be asked to email questions to the school. • A film will be made to answer these questions <p>Governors asked about the use of INSET days for an early return for Y2?</p> <p>This may be possible</p> <p>Could a socially distanced open day be held during the holidays?</p> <p>Good idea, but staff need some time to switch off – possibly near the end of the holiday?</p> <p>Governors were asked to make a short, filmed message for the Y6 leavers.</p>	
4	<p>AOB/Next meeting:</p> <p>Landscaping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been progression regarding the planning application for playground • LA have given permission for work on the bike shed to get underway • Land sale appears to be going ahead • Work on fence: quotes are being sort. Work can commence when quotes are in/approved • Y6 leavers tee shirts have been ordered • Governor had walked around to observe the new start and procedures for year 6 and was impressed with the calm atmosphere • Clerk reminded governors that if approval of documents/policies for submission was required, Chair could 	

	<p>approve this under Chair's Action and take it forward to next FGB. This is not acceptable for any Budget change decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair agreed dates for 2020/21 were acceptable – clerk to share • Governors asked that their thanks and appreciation be passed on to all staff once again. • Next meeting: 15th July, 2020 via Zoom at 4.30 p.m. • Meeting closed 17.54. 	
	<p>Minutes Approved:</p> <p>Position:</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Date:</p>	