

Exeter Children's Federation

Meeting of the Full Governing Body

Meeting Minutes

Clerk: Neil Keen

Date: 17 July 2017	Venue: Wynstream Primary School	Time 18:30
--------------------	---------------------------------	------------

Present:

Peter Vickery	Local Authority Governor (Chair)
Michaela Young	Parent Governor
Martyn Boxall	Executive Head Teacher
Chris Neads	Co-opted Governor (Vice Chair)
Agnieszka Spier	Parent Governor
Gill Brown	Associate Governor (no voting rights)
Jason Edge	Associate Governor (no voting rights)

Apologies:

Emma Bowler, Grace Williams, David Coven, Lisa Sayers

In Attendance

THIS MEETING WAS NOT QUORATE

2 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Carried to next meeting

3 **Portfolio Updates and Heads Report**

CN had recently carried out a learning walk which was a positive experience, it focused on the Nursery and phonics.

Chris challenged around handwriting ability and had asked GB what can the setting do more of and also how we are getting children who are behind up to national average?

CN was encouraged by the staff member who he had a discussion with who commented on how much they enjoyed working at Wynstream.

MB confirmed that the EAL children make greater progress and have higher attainment.

Governors discussed the entry points for children and MB confirmed that, traditionally at Montgomery only looked at reception entry, but will now start to unpick this further, progress rates for chestnut are through the roof but not at Montgomery? Why is this?

It Could be that the children at Montgomery are coming in at higher level and progressing, but need to know this is the case.

PV stated that governors should be in a position in in autumn term receive baseline data for nursery figures. MB confirmed that this will be the case and will write this into the SEF.

- HR & Personnel (Including workforce remodelling, federation contracts)

MB has carried out a staff survey across the trust schools and will now pass this over to LS as the lead governor.

- Vulnerable pupils and Safeguarding

MY has done some work around THRIVE as well as a survey on Internet Safety for staff which has put out some worrying results. MY and MB going to work on this straight away in September.

Mb – pick up on this is around use of ICT and the safeguarding, clearly embedded in what we do, needs to be top notch everywhere – PV we need to be in a position where we can prove it, and doing survey again in future will help, as will the new scoping briefs in this area from subject leaders.

MY felt Wynstream pupils could tell her how to keep safe.... Montgomery not so... MB to add it to portfolio and pick up in September.

MB asked GB and JE to look at E-Safety in the teacher handbook.

- Early Years

No Update

- Estates (Risk Assessments & Emergency Plans)

No Update

- Standards, Curriculum development

PV had completed a learning walk to focus on attendance and GB is putting plans in place to improve attendance and then next report can see if improvements at next date set. PV – big difference between families taking unauthorised holidays and those that are persistently absent.

PV made the recommendation that an attendance report was also commissioned at Montgomery and JE confirmed this was being arranged.

4.Data and Assessment Feedback (SATS)

The Heads reported back on the SATS results.

Montgomery

Key headlines were that the combined figure for reading, writing and maths was 59%

- Increase from 44% last year.
- 15% percent increase which is only 2% percent below national. So closing the gap on national.

It was crucial this year to show that the school is on an upwards projector and that will also be good evidence to show to Ofsted that the school is on the road to recovery.

Montgomery shows rapid increase in standards, but then see drop in standards in year 6, part is due to higher expectations and part as teaching not as good as could have been.

It is important to challenge perception of parents that good teachers are leaving, this is not the case.

Wynstream Primary School

SATS results came out really good. GB stated that this cohort had a really good grounding at year 5 and is a smaller cohort at 44 pupils and there were not many safeguarding issues for this cohort. The focus was on shifting the lower ability and middle up to speed which was achieved, however, could have done better ensuring more children reached greater depth.

Teachers really knew the gaps and areas of focus to ensure all children were secure.

MB explained that one of the challenges now is to broaden the curriculum, which is a big bit of work in a short space of time.

PV summarised the results by stating that last year they were both surprising and disappointing but last year were surprising and disappointing. This year they are excellent and the message going back to the staff needs to be a big thank you.

MB Head Report

MB went through the heads report outlining some recommendations.

Governors discussed the proposals in detail and will reconvene an extraordinary meeting of the fgb in order to be able to make decisions on them.

5. Ofsted Improvement Plan and Mock Inspection

PV met with JE and Alan Betts at Montgomery as part of a programme called keys to success. This is due to the Ofsted and is the Local Authorities Support Programme, First half term the school met with Alan with progress towards being good. 2nd half of term it's a visit with a different LA and another HT and is about support and challenge.

JE welcomes the challenge aspect of the support, the support is in place for a year, looking at it again in 12 months' time it is hope the school will have got to where it needs to be.

One of the biggest challenge is ensuring that the Governing Board is fit for purpose, governance needs to be sharp, there is so much importance now placed on the role of the governor. AS asked about governor training and PV asked her to speak to him or the clerk about training requirements and this was applicable to any governor.

6 Co-operative Trust Update

PV was charged with making contact with the other chairs to explore what was happening. PV has done this and is still waiting to hear from other schools on way forward. PV will bring an update to the next meeting.

7 Home Work Policy

Governors were asked to study it with the view that it gets adopted at the next meeting.

8. AOB

JE has hosted 2 parent forums at Montgomery. He was able to talk a bit about where the school are and what the school have done and where are going and rationale behind some of the things being put in place and how it will make the school better.

Talking to parent/carers about this journey is a thing that needs to be done together with lines of communications being kept open. Everyone found the sessions useful and is something that will be carried out again.

Date of next meeting: Monday 11th September.

