St John the Baptist Roman Catholic Primary school Dartmouth

Local Governing Body

Meeting Tuesday 17th January 2023

Attendee initials Role present/apologies

Elizabeth Hamilton EH Headteacher Present

Laura Upton LU Chair Present

Karen Mosely KM Vice Chair present

Angela Simmonds AS Parent Governor Apologies

Angela Robinson AR Foundation Present

Mike Robinson MR Foundation Present

1. Welcome

Strict time limit to this meeting held via zoom, please rejoin via same link if time runs out.

LH lead Opening prayer.

1. Apologies

Angela Simmonds send apologies unable to attend this meeting.

1. Declaration

EH are there any business interests

LU/AR/MR no business interests to declare

1. Confidentiality

Reminder that all discussed is to be confidential

1. Previous minutes

Minutes approved by AR/MR

1. Declarations of Business interest

Oracy Project

EH A big project contributing to School Improvement plan started in September 2022,It’s, a year long project The four strands of Oracy discussed. They are: social and emotional, cognitive, Linguistic and physical. Examples of learning activities shared for each area. The research behind the project shared.

LU Will this information be shared with parents?

EH yes it can be viewed on the school website and in the Autumn we will have a workshop.

LU Have you noticed an increase yet particularly with vulnerable children like disadvantaged and SEND ?

EH It’s to early to say but research suggests that these are the children that the project should have the most positive impact upon., it’s currently being rolled out to the teaching staff following training.

EH discussed and asked the governors questions from the Oracy quiz showing how important reading is from an early age and the reasons for carrying out the Oracy Project.

LU If we asked the children, what the Oracy project is would they know ?

EH We have given them talk guidelines, so you would be able to ask them what Oracy is and the activities that they are using in class. They should be able to tell you about the ‘talk rules’ in their class.

MR Will this be rolled out throughout the school?

EH it would start at the beginning school age, with new starters at the age of 5 and then across the curriculum, the earlier they start the better the outcomes.

EH class 3 tried some of the Oracy activities in class to help introduce new vocabulary..

KM Will the policy go on the website ?

EH once it has been approved by governors it will be on the website.

LU have all children been assessed for accelerated reader now and how is this assessment used ?

EH yes they have and staff are using impact report to plan future reading activities .We shared individual reports with parents at parent’s evening.

1. Governor visit Safe guarding

KM visited the school on 11th October 2022 with Helen Bridges and Liz Hamilton

Has seen all staff files checking up that all contracts and references are on file for all members of staff.

EH is the safe guarding lead for the school and DW is the safeguarding deputy

Spoke to staff and pupils and asked questions about online safety and asked the children various questions for example if they knew what to do if they needed to report an issue

The green exit button should only be pressed by adults and not children- children knew this and also were clear who to go to with worries or concerns.

EH thank you Karen for a detailed verbal report. Written report to follow.

8)RE and Worship policy

EH the policy was discussed at the last meeting

Catholic life is an area of development, Father Yarak will be coming into school to do an Ash Wednesday service and hopefully some other dates during Lent,

We are also looking at doing stations of the cross.

MR how is he settling in? I’m aware he’s not had a school before?

EH he’s cheerful and Jolly and becoming more confident around the children.

MR and AR to do Governor visits to support Father on Ash Wednesday.

1. Send information report

EH are they any questions? Regarding the report ?

LU there’s two send governors on the list but currently only LU listed . Governor visit planned to look at SEND SEF.

EH I think there was a reason they had to be two I think the online document will have myself on it as well, we will meet once it’s completed before half term.

1. Buildings update

We have had a lot of painting and updating of the school buildings so looking more modern with more to be done within the next six months.

LU is there an update on the computer suite ?

EH We are using more devices in the classroom, therefore we have turned the computer suite into a SEND space

The outside fencing to be done in the next year but it’s an expensive job but positive news it will be replaced we are currently updating the furniture in the classrooms class one has new furniture and we hope to replace the adult furniture too.

EH what impact are we having as a Governing body

KM is chasing references and contracts for new staff. She will do a follow up visit this term for Safeguarding.

MR assisting new priest support the school. This was an area I our S48 inspection-parish/priest links.

EH it would be good if you could support Father yarak and develop his confidence

MR I would be happy to do this

EH Discussed future governor visits for health and safety and safe guarding prior to next meeting .

1. Next meeting 21st March 2023