

**A MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM, POLICIES AND SCHOOL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WAS HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON
25th JANUARY 2017**

1. Present

Andrew Mortimer (Chairman), John Andrews, Pam Evans, Gill Fox.
Gillian Pratt; Tash Patrick; Margaret Carey (Clerk)
Mark Garrett and Andy Howe (Maths review)

2. Subject and performance review:

Maths

Pam stated that the school was aware that there was an issue with Maths. The RAISEonline showed value added as 99.3; 98.8 and 99.1 but it should have been at least 100. The data for Maths 2016 showed a 56% attainment but this needed to be raised and not enough progress was being made.

A meeting had been held on 6th January with Pam; Tash; Andy (H); Mark and Gillian and the detailed report of that meeting are attached with these minutes. The meeting had looked at all the data and the distribution of attainment and progress.

The data was shared with the Committee.

In the whole school 86.6% made progress in maths. There is evidence to show improvement but the school needs time for the improvement to be embedded and everyone is working extremely hard to achieve this.

Yr 1 This is a strong cohort from EYFS and more children are achieving GLD than the National average.

Yr 2 None of the children are exceeding but there is a good chance of value added. There are not yet not six pieces of evidence for some children so they could not be deemed greater depth. More written evidence is needed.

Yr 3 The data enables the school to pick up those children who should have attained. One child is working well below. This child can, it is hoped, be taken out of the numbers for Ofsted because of the provision that has been put in place.

Yr 4 This is a smaller class but there was a fluctuation within the data. There is a large distribution of SEN in the cohort – some are higher attainers who can perform well in KS1. Provision needs to be in place before Yr 6. May have over assessed in some of the KS1 data and Pam has addressed this in the SEF

Yr 5 All working in greater depth.

Yr 6 There is a low number of children in this year group but a high level (5) of Pupil Premium children. One child had a high score in KS1 but has not continued to attain – this may have been through over assessing or lack of confidence. There is one child with complex Special Needs who can, it is

hoped, be disapplied from SATS. Intervention groups and 1:1 have been set up.

The committee raised various questions on the data and impact of the work on Maths, including -

Q. Is there sufficient evidence for any child to be disapplied from the data?

A. Yes there is enough evidence

There are a number of children in school with complex needs but there is evidence of progress from the starting point. This is a recognised problem area and a lot of focus has been put into it. Books need to show high progress and the teaching must be high.

Q. Is the school confident in talking to Ofsted about this and where the evidence is?

A. Yes – the evidence must be kept up to date.

Follow up actions from the meeting held on 6th January include Mark G following up on Yr6 predictions with next governor visit including learning walk and data scrutiny during pupil progress meeting at start of term 5 on 25th April at 9.30 am.

Pam and Gillian had met with Linda Wynn, Local Advisor for Maths and had talked about the Abacus scheme. Linda had concerns about the National Curriculum objectives. Pam reported that there are precursor objections which it is not recommended to teach. Linda had liked the marking in the books but need to evidence the National Curriculum objectives. Pam and Andy are to visit a school in Warminster with similar Ofsted objectives and discuss progress together. She agreed that they must show Ofsted National Curriculum objectives in books and all the Abacus objectives will be taught by May.

Thanks were given to Mark and Andy and they left the meeting.

Literacy

A meeting had been held on 9th January with Pam, Tash, Gillian and Andrew and a detailed report of that meeting is attached to these minutes.

The same process was followed for writing and reading and it was agreed that the process of putting all the data together had been beneficial. The feedback from the staff was that they were surprised that the Governors looked at the data in so much detail.

Writing

It was agreed that lower percentages in progress were linked to teach understanding of assessing achievements and these staff were being supported in their use of the school assessment system. By way of example, Tash outlined plans for five children with SEN who were already showing increased confidence and progress.

Tash discussed the SIAP in reading and whilst the main focus had been on Math the school was continuing to pursue literacy as well.

There were specific cohorts where there were issues with motor skills and these were being addressed. There were no trends across the school for boys and girls and the school was dealing with issues on a case by case basis as they arise.

The children need familiarisation with test situations and need to improve their technique for dealing with tests. The school was looking at guided reading for meeting the national curriculum objectives.

Yr 1 This is a strong cohort and the school is looking to extend the high achievers. The low attainers are getting more support with phonics.

The Committee would look at tracking SEN and Pupil Premium progress at the April meeting and look at the importance of parental engagement.

Yr 2 Evidence that they had completely achieved the objectives.

Pam reported that there was a lack of consistency with moderating across Wiltshire schools and she had been meeting with other schools in the cluster to look at evidence etc.

Q. How did Neston compare with these other schools?

A. It compared well and had strong evidence. The teachers felt that it had been helpful to see how other schools were showing their evidence.

Action from the meeting of 9th January – Andrew to attend future round of Pupil Progress meetings in terms 5 where the data analysis sheets will form the basis of teach discussions. Provisionally booked for 25th April.

Thanks were given to Tash for this presentation. It was agreed that this process would be repeated annually.

3. Apologies

Gill Fox

4. Declaration of Interest relating to matters on the Agenda

None.

5. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th September 2016 were approved and signed as a true record.

6. Matters arising

PREVENT Training: Governors can now complete this on line at www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk All remaining Governors need to complete the training and Clerk will email out the link to everyone. Governors to be asked to notify Sonia when they have completed the training.

7. Results and SPTO – assessment of progress

Pam reported that there was new Ofsted Inspection dashboard data on 17th January and she highlighted the strengths and weaknesses. Phonics are a strength of the school. The attendance stats for Pupil Premium are low but the reason for this was that one child had been hospitalised. The school had changed the way the register is marked and Pam will clarify this with the Education Welfare Officer.

Pam stated that she had discussed this data with a contact in Middlesborough which was extremely useful. Neston is classed as “average” social area, not a well off one.

8. SIAP review

Pam has rewritten the SIAP in a new format and will circulate to all Governors.

9. Governor visits

- The Single Central Record needs monitoring by a Governor. John A undertook to review all the information with Sonia
- Fay Hemmings, an Ofsted Inspector, has been into school and the school will now work on the feedback given. Gilliam agreed to visit on 17th March to monitor the impact of the changes
- A Governor is required to work with Pam on the Pupil Premium report. John A will discuss this with Pam on 27th February.
- Andrew M will meet with Tash on 25th April to look at Pupil Progress analysis sheets.

10. Policy reviews

Educational Visits This has been reviewed and updated.

Child Protection This will be reviewed again in October 2017

Equality Scheme This has been reviewed.

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions (formerly Health in School) This has been reviewed.

Teaching for Learning This has been reviewed

Marking and Feedback Pam has drawn up a new policy. This was circulated, discussed and agreed. She explained that “pink” denotes elements that are excellent; “green” denotes elements that are missing or incorrect and “purple” is used by the children for purple polishing to improve their own learning eg adding missing punctuation or to make corrections. There has been a work scrutiny with all the staff to look at marking.

Assessment Pam has drawn up a policy which she will go through with Tash as this is constantly changing. They will look at this and circulate to the committee for agreement. To be reviewed in January 2018

11. Any other business

Information and suggested standards on helping Governors to be more effective had been received from the LA. Pam and Gillian will go through this.

John A will review the school website with Sonia and add Governors photos. Andrew M and John A to attend a “naughty day” at the school where the whole staff will be looking at a curriculum review

Residential trips – Pam had met with parents who were happy with Stackpole. She will visit this on Friday.

11. Date of next meeting

26th April 2017.

Agenda items to include –

Special Needs – update and review (Helen, John and Pam to present data).

Pupil Premium - Pam and John to present the data.

Relational Schools – update.

Chairman

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm