

## **THE GOVERNING BODY OF MILL LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Minutes of a virtual meeting of the Governing Body held at 5.00 pm via Zoom on Thursday, 2 July 2020.

### Present (Online)

Mrs H Farooq (Chair), Miss C Barlow, Ms J Johnson, Mrs C Jones, Mrs L Kilroy, Ms C Prendergast, Mrs A Wilby.

### In Attendance

Angela Hutchinson (Minute Clerk)

#### 181. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Ms A Mackie (consent) and Mr A Hussain (consent). There were no declarations of interest.

#### 182. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2020

The Chair suggested that consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2020 should be deferred to the next meeting. This was agreed.

RESOLVED: That approval and signing of the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2020 be deferred until the next meeting of the Governing Body.

#### 183. MATTERS ARISING

Any matters arising would be discussed at the next meeting of the Governing Body.

#### 184. UPDATE RE COVID-19 AND SCHOOL RE-OPENING

The Head Teacher confirmed that the LA did not require schools to submit data returns for assessment. The progress of children attending throughout the year would have a report on Maths, English and Personal Development up to 23 April 2020.

With regards to school opening in September 2020, the Head Teacher confirmed that she had received Government Guidance details earlier today.

It was noted that there was considerable autonomy for school regarding when the school day should begin and end. Pupils would be taught in Bubbles but their size was not restricted, so the school would be able to operate with Bubbles of up to 33 pupils.

There would be different start times for each year group, possibly starting earlier than at present. Pupils would go straight to their classroom with the Teacher and Teaching Assistant/s and the class would stay together all day. A shortened lunch break of 45 minutes would not require lunchtime supervisors. Staff lunch break provision was explained.

An outline of the plan for the end of the school day was given. It was confirmed that no parents would be allowed on school premises.

Uniform requirements and restrictions on what could be brought into school in pupils' school bags were noted. Items would be placed in a carrier bag for children to take home.

The Head Teacher would discuss the provision of school lunches with LA Catering Services and would clarify whether hot and/or cold food would be available. Lunches would be delivered to classrooms for consumption to reduce movement.

There were five separate areas where staggered playtimes could be accommodated.

The need for PPA was discussed. It had been suggested that the school could close at Friday lunchtime to enable all teachers to have their PPA time. The Head Teacher would consider the impact of this move on other staff and check the legal obligation of the school, with regards to opening hours, with the LA. Governors agreed that any changes to the school day or school week would require further discussion.

The impact of changes to working hours and practices on 2 part-time teachers was outlined and had been resolved.

Questions were invited.

**Q Will these changes have any impact on the school budget?**

A No.

**Q Start time for school is working well at the moment. How long will it take when all pupils are coming in?**

A It can be done fairly quickly but it relies on parents.

**Q With staggered start times, what about siblings?**

A They will have to wait in line with the class.

The planned routine was detailed, with a start time of 8.40 am for Nursery and completion with pupils in classrooms by 9.00 am. There would be no Breakfast Club

**Q What about Support and Admin staff on Friday afternoons?**

A I will be seeking advice from the LA Advisor.

There was discussion around whether pupils could leave school before or after lunch if a Friday half-day opening was agreed. It was noted that Free School Meals would be provided 5 days per week.

**Q Will it go back to 5 full days when this pandemic is over?**

A That is for discussion in the future.

**Q Will a Friday half-day impact the budget?**

A No.

**Q Will there be an end-of-day deadline for everyone to leave the premises?**

A Yes, to enable cleaning.

**Q Are finish times also being staggered?**

A Yes.

**Q Can you drop curriculum items to cover what has been missed.**

A That's quite complex. Maths, English & Personal Development have never been taught by age as indicated by the National Curriculum. For example, a Year 6 pupil learning at Year 2 level will continue to do this.

There was further discussion around lessons. It was noted that the first week of term would be all about Transition. Zones of Regulation, which are all about emotions, would be discussed. Children would start to be assessed.

**Q Central Government has promised extra funding. Have the additional grants been explained?**

A There is £650m but we have no information yet.

**Q What would additional resources be used for?**

A We would like to employ an extra teacher specialising in Maths & English interventions.

The Head Teacher was thanked for her thorough and informative update. She confirmed that she would have further discussions with her staff before sending information out to parents by the end of the current term. The Chair would send an accompanying letter.

185. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Recent discussions and correspondence with a parent

Governors confirmed that they had received and read recent correspondence and details of discussions between a parent, the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors.

RESOLVED: That Governors confirm their full support for the Head Teacher and her excellent management of the school and care of pupils during the Covid-19 crisis.

186. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

The Chair and Head Teacher would discuss a suitable date and circulate details to Governors.

187. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of these minutes, agenda or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the school in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.