

THE GOVERNING BODY OF HOWARD PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Standards and Effectiveness Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Standards and Effectiveness Committee held at 6:00 pm at the School on Monday, 1 November 2021.

PRESENT

Mrs V Edmondson (Chair), Mrs J Galloway, Mr K Huby, Mr J Pickles, Ms J Thompson

In Attendance

Mrs A F Jewell (Minute Clerk)

1. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

RESOLVED: That Governors unanimously agreed to appoint Mrs V Edmondson as Committee Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Mrs R Jinks (with consent).

There were no declarations of interest.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items notified to be brought up under any other business.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2021

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2021 be approved by the Chair as a correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

6. DATA SUMMARY

The Head Teacher tabled a data summary of targets and spoke to the contents. The following were noted:

- There are three assessment points through the school year. One is at Christmas, one at Easter and one in the summer.
- There are three meetings held with teachers through the year to discuss pupil progress.

Q: Do teachers factor in outside influences in results?

A: Yes, although they are probably not factored into the data but these are discussed within the meetings. We don't sit and wait for meetings or for anything to get worse, we implement interventions immediately if these are required.

- It was noted that the FFT figures have not been input into the tables for the last two years due to no assessment data. The figures tabled included those figures from the previous year for the same cohort.

Q: How do you set school targets?

A: It is what they are set in Reception and Early Learning goals and mainly through conversations with class teachers as the early data doesn't always translate across properly.

Q: Does it vary from year to year?

A: Yes. Generally the figures are a bit lower than normal. The most affected pupils due to lockdown were the middle and less able children. We would want Y1 to be around 70-80% and those exceeding to be around 20%.

- With Y2, the targets are set from the previous assessed year targets and as a general rule teachers will try to set the same target but in many cases as possible they will try to increase these where realistic. There are the odd occasions where some children will not be able to keep progressing, but these are very rare. The Head Teacher advised that he would like reading and writing targets to be higher and these may well be increased later.

Q: In previous years would these figures have been higher?

A: We are not far off. 10% equals 3 children. It doesn't take much to change it.

- It was noted that historically Y3 would hit a plateau as they have moved into KS2. Maintaining them on a level is good. Reading figures are good, writing tends to drop and maths is strong. This is a fairly consistent pattern through school. There are a couple of children in this cohort who have left and three who have arrived.
- Y4 is a slightly bigger cohort of 34 and their data is down. This is an academically lesser able cohort, although some children are very capable. There is a significant group of 6-8 children who are of very low ability.

Q: What can you do about this?

A: We try to put in as much interventions as possible. We have an extra TA in there three mornings a week to support English and Maths.

Q: Do you say anything to their parents?

A: Yes, they are normally aware and we do have conversations. The home learning has helped and made parents more aware of their child's abilities. Parents do try to offer support. Mrs Mollett is good at offering conversations with parents to support them. We did reading workshops and plan to take this up the school. The intention is to go further and offer these for other subjects as well.

- Y5 is a boy-heavy cohort. This is the last year group with FFT and KS1 data from Y2 SATs. They have challenging targets in terms of improving from the previous year. It is a mixed group who are reasonably capable but they need different strategies to engage for boys. Writing across the board is a concern.
- Y6 had a FFT target. Governors were informed that the DfE will not be publishing SATs data again this year. The school will try to push as many pupils close to their target as possible.

7. CATCH-UP FUNDING UPDATE

The Head Teacher tabled the Covid Funding Action Plan September 2021 – July 2022 and spoke to the contents. The following were noted:

- The school was given catch up funding of £16,500 to spend last year. An area focussed on was reading as it was felt that this was one of the main areas that had been missed during lockdown. The Head Teacher advised that it is apparent in a child's reading record when they have not read any books with their parents.
- There are some concerns around writing, particularly re stamina and skills. This is a difficult area to target with spending.
- The NELI programme was run in Reception last year where every child did a short assessment to look at their use of language and understanding. A group were identified and they are now just coming to the end of the programme. This has been run on into the current year. The pupils have three sessions a week which include a couple of group sessions then an individual session.
- The school purchased appropriate resources to enable a clear approach to reading throughout school

Q: Is this a one-off purchase?

A: Yes. It will run on from year to year.

- A supply teacher was brought in to free up the Deputy Head Teacher so she could do interventions. The cost of supply would have been higher but this didn't start until April due to the second lockdown.
- The school has taken part in a FFT reading catch up programme at a discounted rate and this targeted 40 children from Y2-Y4 on a 6 week intensive programme where an external tutor came in from the FFT to work through the reading programme with the children. This cost the school £2,200. The Head Teacher advised that the catch up programme had been very disappointing, but this had been mainly due to the tutor who had been assigned to the school, who had been very disorganised. Other schools who had different tutors had fared better.

Q: Could you give feedback?

A: Yes, but we were limited on what we could feed back.

- Pupil Progress tuitions groups were set up using current staff. Where was a 6-8 week period before the end of the school year where intervention groups were held every night with a couple in the mornings. These were held for KS2 and they did have an impact.

Q: Were the staff happy to do them?

A: Yes. They were asked and it was completely voluntary.

- Some of the grant has been spent on a new phonics scheme at a cost of £5,500 this year. There is a small sum left from the catch up funding.
- Other grants available are from the National Tutoring Programme with £205 per Pupil Premium child. The school would receive approximately £8,000. The funding is designed to be used on small group tuition of 3 pupils per group. This does not just have to be spent on PP children. The school will start looking to use this for Y3-Y6 pupils and probably using school teachers and support staff. Any money not spent will be clawed back and the school will have to keep a record on how the funding is spent.
- The second grant would be from FSM. It is expected that £5-£6,000 will be received for this.

Q: Do you think there will be any impact on writing?

A: We are currently looking at what the issues are as there are several issues to look at.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items notified to be brought up under any other business.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the date of the next meeting of the Standards & Effectiveness Committee be held at the school on Wednesday 19 January 2022 at 5.00 pm.

10. 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.

The meeting closed at 7:02 pm