

VICTORIA COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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BOARD of GOVERNORS

FEBRUARY 2022

Together we aim for the stars

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held virtually for Victoria School on
Tuesday 15th February

Members Present via 'Zoom':

Miss Christine O'Callaghan, Chairperson
Mr David Adams
Cllr. Rhiannon Birch
Mrs Sam Daniels
Mr Simon Husband
Mrs Judith Jones
Mrs Helen Kerr

Mrs Cerys McDonald
Mrs Sonia McLaughlin
Miss Jeanette Minns
Mr Mark Petherick
Mrs Helen Moreton
Mr Rhys Taylor
Cllr. Mark Wilson

Apologies

Mrs Rebecca Connor
Ms Julie Plumb

Apologies were given and accepted by Governors.

Absent

Mr Marc Cahill
Mrs Amanda Reynolds
Mr Grant Robson

Welcome

CO'C welcomed Mrs Charlotte Brown, ALNCO.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 30th November 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday 30th November were approved by the Governors; proposed by **JJ** seconded by **MW** and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising

Attendance

SD advised that attendance was improving, Covid-19 cases were not as prevalent. The reduction in isolation from 10 to 5 days has proved beneficial, children were not missing as much schooling.

INSET Days

Following Welsh Government guidance that the start of the spring term should have two planning days the INSET day that should have been held in January had been moved to February 18th, the ALN INSET will now be held on 28th February.

Food Pod

The school are still supporting the local food pod. As we approach Easter, parents will be asked to donate Easter eggs.

Charlotte Brown ALNCO

Mrs Brown gave an informative presentation on the implications of the new ALN bill. Please see PowerPoint presentation attached.

Governors were informed that the definition of ALN was 'Children and young people with additional learning needs – having a difficulty or disability that means they need extra support, or they find it harder to learn than other children, or have a disability which prevents them from using the local school or college.' The new law covers children and young people up to the age of 25.

All children with ALN will have an 'Individual Development Plan' (IDP) which will be checked every 12 months or when anything changes for the child. The plan is bespoke for the child. **CB** advised that by July 2022, 13 IDP's will be completed.

The school is using some grant money to fund some Educational Psychologist consultations. **SD** and **CB** had identified some children who would benefit from this, although the LEA were supportive, the difficulties of the last two years had led to a backlog and it was important to get these children assessed a.s.a.p. The Ed Psych. Report was a necessary starting point for any referral.

CM'D asked how many children were on the ALN register, **CB** advised that there were approximately 34.

CO'C reminded governors that they were now welcome to come into school and could meet with Mrs Brown to get a further understanding of her role. They were also welcome to look around the school but would need to make an appointment first.

Safeguarding

JJ informed GB that she had now received her updated safeguarding training. Governors were informed that this academic year there had been 4 multi agency referrals and 17 'My Concerns'.

JJ will undertake ACE's training in March and will meet with Mrs Brown again before the end of term.

Correspondence

Confirmation that **JJ**'s term of office has been extended.

Any Other Business:

Cllr.MW has recently visited the Nursery unit and was very impressed with what he saw. The children were enjoying their activities and the staff were very welcoming.

SD advised that a 'winter well-being' grant had been received and part of this would be used to repair the trim trail on the yard and also to purchase some fitness stations.

SD has applied for another grant which would be used to employ the services of an artist, who would work with YR5 children to update the back wall of the yard with the 4 school purposes.

The work of the PTA was acknowledged, last year they raised in excess of £11000. They have just launched a 'Go Fund Me' campaign to raise money for the playground.

CO'C advised that she is aiming to hold the next GB meeting in school. The meeting will be available via zoom for those who are unable to attend in person, although she hoped that the majority of the governors would be in attendance.

Matters Confidential

See attached

Finance & Personnel Committee – Friday 25th March @ 8.30AM

Health & Safety Committee – Tuesday 5th April @ 4.30PM

GB meeting to be held in school – Tuesday 5th April @ 5.30PM – the school council will be attending – please come prepared to ask questions.

NB IF WE ARE UNABLE TO MEET IN PERSON ON 5TH APRIL THE MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY AT 4.30PM