

## Fowey Primary School

Windmill, Fowey, Cornwall, PL23 1HH

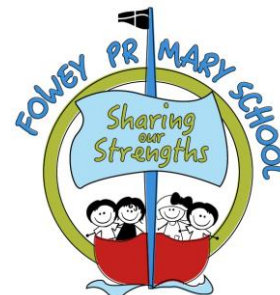
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**Headteacher: Kate Sicolo**

**Clerk to the Governors: Sue Blaxley Email: [sblaxley@foweyesch.org](mailto:sblaxley@foweyesch.org)**



Minutes of a Meeting of the Local Governing Committee of Fowey Primary School held in the Headteacher's office on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 3:30pm.

**Present:**

**Absent:**

**Chris Williams (Chair), Kay Peacey (Vice Chair), Kate Sicolo (Headteacher), Maria Barnes, Natalie Peperell, Kay Taylor and Chris Price**

**In Attendance:** Sue Blaxley (Clerk to the Governors)

**1. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Procedure for evacuating the building**

The Headteacher outlined the procedure for evacuation of the Headteacher's office.

**3. Declaration of Business or Pecuniary Interest – verbal**

There were no additional business or pecuniary interests to declare. The Chair asked the Clerk to send all governors a declaration of interests form which must be completed by all governors as soon as possible.

**4. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.



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## 5. Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and Matters Arising not included on the agenda

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record. The Headteacher explained that, over the summer holiday, a considerable amount of greenery had been removed from the roof of the school by a local roofing contractor and that, to date, the roof does not appear to be leaking. She said that this work was approved by PLT as part of the capital spending bid. She said that the cost of removing the greenery from the roof was 6,500. **A governor asked if this work would be undertaken on an annual basis.** The Headteacher said that it was likely that it would as it also enables any necessary repairs to the roof to be carried out at the same time. **A governor asked who had organised the roof repairs.** The Headteacher explained that PLT had organized the work which was undertaken by a local contractor. She explained that PLT had approved the capital bid for works to the roof up to the value of 110,000 so if the cleaning of the roof proves unsuccessful, there is surplus money to repair the roof. She explained that PLT had also authorized 60,000 for IT, 6,000 for trees and paths, 10,000 for LED lighting plus the 110,000 for the roof. She explained that if the money allocated for repairs to the roof is not spent on roof repairs, it can be used to bring the internal environs of the school up to standard in accordance with the condition report based on the Dfe assessment.

The Headteacher explained that attendance for 2017-18 was 95.72% which is a slight improvement on the year before. However, she said that the figure is still below the national average of 96%. She said that persistent absence for 2017-18 was 6.1% which was a slight improvement on the year before but it should be between 4.5% and 5%. She said there has been a slight shift in the culture of parents in that they are realizing the policy on attendance will be enforced particularly with reference to taking children on family holidays during term time. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain if any parents have been fined for taking their children out of school during term time.** She said that 15 parents have been fined since Easter for taking their child out of school for more than 5 days and that the fine is 60.00/parent/child. **A governor asked who receives the income from the fines.** The Headteacher said that Cornwall Council receives the income. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain how parents felt about receiving fines.** She said that it sends a clear message to parents that they will be fined if they take their child on holiday for more than 5 days during term time. **A governor asked what the regional data was for fining parents.** The Headteacher said she would circulate this information to governors. **A governor asked if there is evidence to suggest that it is beneficial for children not to have family holidays during the school term.** **A governor asked if the inset days could be grouped together to enable parents to take their children on holiday at a time which would be more reasonable in financial terms.** The Headteacher said this would not be beneficial for staff training days as they would all be together and it would not be beneficial for the school in general.



## 6. EYFS, KS1 and KS2 data – to receive and consider a report on EYFS, KS1 and KS2 data

The Headteacher circulated KS2 outcomes data for 2017-18. She said the overall strength, in terms of attainment, was that all the data was above the national average in all areas. She said the particular strength of the data was the big increase in greater depth reading in Year 6. She commented that greater depth reading, writing and GPS did well overall although the data was not so good for Maths. She said this is an area which requires some attention in this academic year.

In terms of progress measures, the Headteacher said there had been a shift from a positive score in 2017 to a negative one in 2018 in the first ISDR. She said that this had occurred mainly because there is one child who had KS1 data but DfE were not aware of it. Therefore, it was not used and as a result, her progress was recorded as zero. The Headteacher said that she hopes by the January ISDR, the progress measure for KS2 data will be a positive score as this child's data will have been included. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain if this child has progressed in reality.** The Headteacher said the child had progressed as expected. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain the impact on the school if this child's data is not included.** The Headteacher said that the average progress measure at the end of KS2 should be anywhere between -3 and + 2 so it will not affect the school's position within this range.

The Headteacher said there had been an improvement this year in the number of pupil premium students reaching the expected attainment. She urged governors to exercise caution in looking at the data for disadvantaged pupils as it relates to very few children. She said the gap between attainment in reading between pupil premium and non-pupil premium students is 15% but this is because one child had a very bad test day. **A governor asked if this related to pupil premium disadvantage.** The Headteacher said it did not. She said there was no gap in terms of attainment in writing and only a 5% gap in terms of attainment in Maths and the combined scores. The Headteacher said that the gaps between pupil premium and non-pupil premium students in terms of greater depth are bigger 39% in reading, 22% in writing, 11% in Maths and 17% combined score). She said this is an area for focus in this academic year. In terms of the percentage of children achieving the expected standard, she said the figures for reading and writing were an improvement on last year but were 1% lower in Maths than last year. In terms of phonics, the Headteacher said that this is an area on which to focus in this academic year as insufficient numbers in Year 1 are achieving the required standard.

The Headteacher circulated data showing how all the primary schools within PLT had performed and how they compared to the national average. She said that, overall, the school is in a favourable position. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain why the Year 1 phonics result is only 79%.** She said that, in the last academic year, there was a focus in school on writing and reading at KS2 but not on reading in KS1. She also said that Read Write Ink needs more focus. Overall, she said that the school should be driving the Year 1 phonics score to be higher and, in this respect, she said that the teaching staff have been changed in Year 1 and that some placements within groups have been challenged. She said the score should be at least 90%. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain what the phonics score is based on.** She said that it is based on the Phonics Screening Test.

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## 7. Policies - to receive and consider the following policy - Attendance

The Headteacher explained that this is a PLT policy which replaces the school's policy. She said that the only change is that it makes provision for rewards for attendance. **A governor said that the policy refers to a two week break at half term.** The Headteacher said this needs to be omitted from the policy. It was noted that the Attendance Governor is the Vice Chair, the EWO role is undertaken by PLT and the Attendance Officer is the Headteacher.



## 8. **New Curriculum – to receive and consider comments on the new curriculum**

The Headteacher said that the new academic year is going well and the new immersive areas are looking very good. She said that there has been positive feedback from parents regarding the new curriculum and that there will be launch days for the new curriculum next week. She said that the launch for EYFS and KS1 will take place on Wednesday, on Thursday Years 3 and 4 will be camping overnight in the hall and on Friday, Years 5 and 6 will be cooking with local people from the community. **A governor asked if it had been challenging to engage volunteers to cook with the children.** The Headteacher said that it had been challenging and in particular, it had proved difficult to engage parent volunteers. It was noted that a letter asking for parent volunteers had been sent out last week and that a governor volunteered to prepare a video for the website explaining why it is positive to volunteer at school. **A governor asked how many financial contributions had been received.** The Headteacher said that 31% of parents had paid to date with Years 5 and 6 having had a higher percentage than other year groups. She said that once the launch days have taken place and parents are able to identify what the money is being used for, it will make asking for contributions an easier task in the future. It was noted that there is still some parent negativity regarding the new curriculum but that it is not getting traction on social media. The Headteacher said that, overall, she is pleased and positive about the new curriculum and that the children are excited about the books and the school is looking visually pleasing. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain how the staff are coping with the new curriculum.** She said that they are coping well as they had the summer break to prepare but it will be more of a challenge for them to prepare for the next half term during the October break.

## 9. **New Academic Year – to receive and consider comments on the first few weeks of the new academic year**

The Headteacher referred to an ongoing safeguarding matter. She said that overall, there is a great team spirit in school and everyone has worked hard to get the school looking visually pleasing. She said that overall there has been a calm start to the new academic year.

## 9. **Governor Focus Areas – to consider the Governor Focus Area for 2018/19**

It was noted that Chris Price will be the Finance and PLT link governor, Natalie Barnes will be the Safeguarding governor which will include SEN and Looked After Children, Kay Taylor and Kay Peacey will be the Curriculum governors and Chris Williams will be the Health and Safety, Finance and Happiness and Wellbeing governor. It was noted that Jaine Colwill is an Associate Governor supporting on Safeguarding (not attending meetings) and Sinead Hanks is also an Associate Governor supporting on PR & Community links (not attending meetings). **A governor questioned how the link governors for curriculum will operate.** The Headteacher said there will be different focus areas throughout the year such as novels and Maths.

## 10. **SEND – to receive and consider a report on SEND**

There was no report. The Headteacher said there will be an annual report at the next LGB meeting.

## 11. **Confirm Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The date of the next LGC will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in the Headteacher's Office at Fowey Primary School commencing at 3pm.

The meeting finished at 4:30pm.





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