

Fowey Primary School

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Local Governing Committee of Fowey Primary School held in the Headteacher's Office on 10th October 2019 at 3:30pm.

Present:

Kay Peacey (Acting Chair), Kate Sicolo (Headteacher), Maria Barnes, Kay Taylor, Chris Price, and Tony Freshwater.

Absent:

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 her office.

3. Declaration of Business or Pecuniary Interest – verbal

There were no additional business or pecuniary interests to declare.

4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Chris Price for leaving the meeting at 4pm.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2019 and Matters Arising not included on the agenda

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2019, having previously been circulated, were agreed as an accurate record. The Headteacher said that she had circulated a copy of the behavior policy to all governors.

6. To receive and consider the following matters:

Update on Planned Merger with NET

The Headteacher said that Lisa Mannell was appointed as CEO of the new trust, CELT, on 1st August 2019. She said that the trust gained Poltair School on 1st August 2019 but the merger with NET did not take place. She said there are plans to explore the merger further, but this cannot happen before 1st January 2020. She said that the Boards are discussing the matter with

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the Regional Schools Commissioner within the next few weeks. **A governor asked if this has had an impact on the school.** The Headteacher said that it had had no impact other than causing some confusion over systems and structures.

Head Teacher's Report

It was noted that the report had been circulated in advance of the meeting and questions were invited on the report. **A governor asked how the mixed year groups are working.** The Deputy Headteacher said that this has been a change for some staff and that she is looking closely at the different classes to ascertain how the work varies across the two classes in a year group. She said that she is also looking at how teachers are structuring their days. She said that the children are very flexible and are getting on well with their peer groups. She said that there were some lunchtime issues for some children but these have now been resolved. She said that for the children, from an emotional and social viewpoint, mixed year groups is working well. She said that for teachers, it represents a change in teaching style but it is going well and the workload for them is not significantly different. She said that it is a more collaborative mixed way of working.

A governor challenged the Headteacher to clarify the school's relationship with the Church.

The Headteacher said that she has met with the vicar and the plan is to increase contact over time. She explained that the level of commitment from the Church to the school which previously existed, will not occur but that it is hoped that the school will have events with the Church at key dates, including Christmas and Easter. She said that there will be a foodbank in school in association with the Church.

A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain the data relating to pupil premium attendance.

The Headteacher said that general attendance across the school has improved significantly but this is not the case for pupil premium children so that the gap in attendance between pupil premium and non-pupil premium children is widening. She said that in 2018-19, 4 pupil premium children were persistently absent for varying reasons. She said that the school is looking at robust, early challenge for non-attendance. She said the EWO will look at the attendance data for pupil premium children when she visits the school. **A governor asked if pupil premium absence is a problem in KS1.** The Headteacher said that she was unsure but will look at the data.

A governor asked the Headteacher to explain the progress data for Year 3 children. The Headteacher said that Year 3 was a real concern last year and that these children are being carefully monitored in Year 4. She said they are being taught by the most experienced teachers and there is a reading recovery programme in place. **A governor challenged the Headteacher to explain how the targets for children are set.** She said that all children have targets based on attainment at the previous key stage or above the previous key stage. She said that CELT will have a new target system. **A governor asked if it will be easy to make a comparison between the two systems.** The Headteacher said this will not be easy to do.

A governor asked for an update on project-based learning. The Headteacher said that she has not undertaken a lot of work on this but will prepare a report for the February meeting of the LGC. She said that she is currently looking at the new curriculum under the Ofsted framework which relates to progression in single subjects.

Governor Business

The Headteacher said that a new Chair of governors will be recruited and that an advertisement will be circulated in the next two weeks. Chris Price was nominated to be asked to act as Safeguarding Governor. However, as he declined, Kay Peacey was nominated as the Safeguarding Governor. Tony Freshwater was appointed as governor to the Fowey Grammar



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School Trust. The Headteacher said that all governors must undertake safeguarding training which will be undertaken via NSPCC online. She said that Prevent training will take place on 30th October 2019 at Carclaze School between 3:30 pm and 5pm. Tony Freshwater agreed to attend, and the Clerk said that she would ask Chris Price if he could attend too.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 4:35pm. The next meeting of the LGC will be on Tuesday 3rd December commencing at 3:30pm.