

Directors' Note for Portfolio Groups

Portfolio title: Pilton Bluecoat LG

Date of meeting: 23rd November 2018

Attended by: Mary-Lu Hick (chair), Ian Thomas (Head of School), Bridget Quinn, Nigel Dilkes, Thomas Lawrence-Hall, Zoe Charlton, Louisa Burbidge, Verity Goss.



Brief overview of discussion

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

IT and MLH welcomed all to the meeting. Role of chair discussed – MLH felt it may be more beneficial to have someone more involved in the school to chair, as she was also looking to step down in the near future.

Apologies received and accepted from Michelle Potter and Pip Cartmell.

BUSINESS OF MEETING

Order of business for the meeting agreed.

REGISTER OF BUSINESS INTERESTS

None declared.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of meetings on 5th October and 20th October signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Ethos Group – short conversation had been held prior to this meeting with IT, ND and Gill Tewkesbury. GT and IT had recently been to a SIAMs meeting and were having conversations as a result of that. IT gave an overview of the discussion – had agreed it was better to have an ethos meeting immediately prior to the LGB meeting – to start at next meeting, with a 1.30 start.

GOVERNOR CHANGES

As in welcome.

CHAIR'S REPORT/ACTIONS

MLH had brought report from her visit to focus on the Shanghai Maths approach with Sal Edwards. MLH reported that she had found it very interesting, and could see how it benefitted different groups of children. MLH had been pleased to see the approach allowed for differentiation so that children who needed extra support/were working below the level of their peers were well supported. MLH would be returning to view some classes on 6th December.

IT confirmed that Shanghai approach was used throughout the school, and that staff were constantly monitoring to see that the Shanghai approach was proving effective and of benefit to the children.

CONFIRM MEETINGS

Discussed future dates for spring term – one meeting, to be held on Friday 22nd March, 1.30pm for Ethos and LGB meetings.

SUMMER DATA REPORT

IT circulated report, and explained the format. IT reported on the success of the Children in Need fundraising day, and explained the introduction of ethos representatives from each class – it was hoped to have the representatives visit an ethos committee meeting and explain what they were doing within the school.

Sustrans – had received plans for bike/scooter storage to be funded from last year's scheme, had responded asking for a smaller version to fit better in the space. It was hoped that this would be installed soon.

IT reported on the success of the multi-faith day – representatives had attended the day from the Hindu, Sikh, Jewish and Muslim community. ND had led a morning session on science as related to the bible – explaining how somebody could be a Christian and also a scientist.

Pilton had started to work with the Global Schools Partnership, and were looking to link with a school in Uganda. Were currently putting an application to the British Council to do a curriculum project with Y6 children. IT confirmed that Pilton were still working with the school in India – all children in Y5 had a penpal in the school.

There were going to be two Christmas productions this year – Y3/Y4 were performing a nativity, with Y5/Y6 performing a pantomime.

IT explained the work currently being done by staff to look at what is good quality feedback and marking.

Learning in depth – IT explained that each child had their own project (chosen by themselves) that they worked on for an hour each week. Examples of topics chosen by the children included planes, trains, moths, dance and Premier League football. Children also chose what to do within these topics – this could include carrying out experiments, creating presentations, writing stories, creating artwork. This freedom allowed each child to focus on what they were really interested in, which was proving successful in encouraging them to be independent learners.

It reported on the introduction of the CPOMS system for safeguarding recording.

IT distributed information on the attainment achieved in the summer SATs tests compared to national data. [Why was there an upward trend in the national percentage over the past few years?](#) Discussion on this – may be due to greater familiarity with the new curriculum.

IT demonstrated how ASP data was used to compare different groups of children, and to see where the focus needed to be. This was also used to see which types of questions children struggled with – for Pilton it had highlighted ratio and proportion in both of the maths papers. IT emphasised that focussing on areas for improvement was not just for Y6, but in all year groups. Local governors felt that the ASP data did not always reflect the needs of individual children – for example those with SEN or complex needs.

Did IT feel confident about this year's Y6 cohort? IT felt that the current Y6 cohort was quite a strong group, and that the challenge for this year was to make sure that each child made their own appropriate progress, and to ensure that opportunities were provided for children who might not have the level of support needed at home.

AUTUMN TERM CURRICULUM REPORT

Covered in data report.

SIP – MAT AND SCHOOL SPECIFIC

Covered in data report.

GROUP SPECIFIC LEARNING SUPPORT

IT explained how 'learning champions' activities were being used throughout the school to target children with a variety of needs. IT gave an example of the gardening maths group, which included some Y3 children currently working at a Y1 level, which gave them practical work relating to their current level of maths. There were also groups for children needing emotional support/work on self-esteem – for example a group going to the church each week, cooking groups, art groups and a group visiting Pilton House.

TARGETS

Discussed in data report.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Introduction of CPOMS discussed earlier in the meeting. Sue Davies was coming in on the Monday to do data collection exercise. John Hick had run a parents group to educate on online safety. LB had attended and reported that this had been a very good session covering a wide range of topics, giving lots of practical strategies/resources.

H&S – INCLUDING SUMMER IMPROVEMENTS

Main issues on report were the kitchen steamer and hall floor. BQ was attending walk with Briony Parsons and Simon Wallis the next week to be updated on these.

GOVERNOR ACTIVITY SUMMARY – Summer VISIT SUMMARY

LB to carry out a reading/writing learning walk.

ZC to carry out a safeguarding walk.

BQ to carry out science learning walk.

GB MONITORING PLAN FOR THIS TERM

Had previously talked about priorities for local governor monitoring.

COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF SCHOOL WEB SITE

IT informed local governors that Michelle Sampson was currently reviewing the school website to ensure all was compliant.

GOVERNOR TRAINING

Local governors had previously discussed undertaking training in ASP – IT stated that he was happy to lead this training if required. Local governors agreed the training would be a good idea. To discuss in March meeting.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None

Meeting ended at 3.30pm with a prayer from ND.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 22nd March 1.30pm, Pilton Bluecoat Academy.