

Sarratt CofE Primary School Local Governing Body

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Governing Body
Held on Thursday 14th Jan 2021 via Zoom**

Present:

<u>Role</u>	<u>Names</u>
Parent Governor	Julie Disdale (VCh), Melanie Boda
Head of School	Nicola O'Hare
Executive Head and Chess Valley CEO	Duncan Gauld
Co-opted Governor	Matthew Gould (Ch), Tony Coupland (VCh), Sally Hale
Associate Member	Tony Bond
Staff Governor	

Absent – absence approved

Rev'd Michelle Du Saire, Helen Bailey,
Angela Fitzgibbon

The meeting opened at 6.32pm

Action agreed

	Action	Due
1. Welcome and Prayer The chair welcomed all to the meeting and invited BS to open with a prayer.		
2. To receive apologies for absence and to consider approving any absences Apologies received and accepted from: Rev'd Michelle Du Saire, Helen Bailey and Angela Fitzgibbon		
3. To receive notification of any conflict of interest from the agenda No conflicts were declared.		
4. To agree minutes of the last meeting 12.11.20 The minutes of the meeting dated 12.11.20, were circulated in advance and were agreed as an accurate record; signed and dated by the NOH and to be added to the school files.	NOH	
5. To consider matters arising from the last meeting's minutes a. TB to complete paper work for H&S visit – scheduled for next half term b. All other actions were noted to have been completed		
6. Ratification of school policies Recommended change to admissions policy which gives children from outside England previously looked after the same level admission criteria as those from England was agreed.		
7. Head of School's report		

Signed..... N.J.O'Hare

Covid update

In the last lockdown the school had 8 children regularly attending, this time we have 35 and as such class teachers have been allocated their own classes and maintained class bubbles rather than one whole school bubble as last time.

It has been difficult particularly for the lowest year groups to get the balance right between home schoolers and those in the class room.

MB asked how the teachers feel about the large number of children in school where each child in school is obviously an increased risk to them personally?

NOH said that the staff all know that each child is in school for a reason and each class in school is within the limits defined for keeping the school safe. The school has reached out to some families that the school thinks would benefit for having the children in school even though they might not fit the precise required criteria. One or two families are maybe pushing the line but phone calls have been made in these cases to ensure they understand the situation.

TC asked if as a result of the numbers have there been any breakouts in the school?

NOH said that there have been no shut downs of any of the bubbles and the increased restrictions in place – such as not eating or sitting in the communal areas and even less inter bubble mixing – have helped. TC then asked if staff are finding ways to communicate with each other so they feel slightly less isolated? NOH said that the usual meetings are now happening over zoom and that staff are able to talk to at least one other member allocated to their bubble.

MG asked DG how he feels the school is doing with the current lockdown. DG reiterated that the school is doing very well and that switching to the class bubbles rather than the whole school was the right decision. He also said that CC school has also seen numbers increase this lockdown from 10% to 33%. Although some parents have the right to send children in, the school needs to have the difficult conversations to ensure there are no less risky options.

Staff

NOH informed the GB that the counselling sessions are to restart next week. MSA are working across bubbles, but only inside with one bubble, when required to work with another bubble, this is outside only.

Clinically at risk staff are now working remotely and the staff decided that face coverings should be used in any communal areas to limit the risk of virus spreading.

Pupil Numbers

The school has currently got 51 applications for reception next year so is looking like a full intake.

Home Learning

Both in school pupils and those working remotely are getting a consistent format of work with google sites to share the work for the week with the pupils are parents.

TC commented that although it is just one adhoc perspective but the work this time seems much easier to follow and is consistent across the school. The teachers and school at large is doing a great job to manage a very difficult situation.

NOH commented that the school has received a number of very positive feedback

Signed.....

N.J.O'Name

from parents and not had a single piece of negative feedback.

Teachers are online throughout the school day to give feedback and communicate with the children. TAs are continuing with the interventions so long as another adult is present to ensure they are adhering to the safe work environment.

Some children have not had access to devices but by next week all remote learning children will have access to a chromebook and internet connection.

Pupil and Staff Welfare

Welbeing notices have been posted onto the class google classroom. NOH has asked staff to try to make time for themselves as much as possible during the day to avoid a burn out and try to find a balance between providing feedback to the children and having a sustainable model that can last the full half term.

Welbeing meetings are happening for staff bi-weekly.

Attendance

School attendance is currently at 97.2% up from 94.1% last year. Persistent absence is also down from 10.32% last year to 5.49% this year.

These figures are mirrored across all pupil groups including the most vulnerable.

PPG and SEND

School meals are being switched from hampers to the voucher system since getting into school to collect the hampers seemed to impede take up for many.

Headline Data

Although the SATs test for Y6 have been cancelled, the tests that were performed in school indicate that this cohort would most likely have done very well. From the starting point of this group, it would probably have been the best ever 'progress' figures. DG said that the school will be able to generate its own version of the figures with evidence which can then be shown to anyone who would have had benefit of seeing these stats.

MG thanked NOH for the summary of the state of things and iterated that the school has done really well. From a parent POV, the school has really stepped up a gear or two since lockdown 1.0. Please pass on our thanks to the staff.

JD reiterated how well the remote learning has worked, google classrooms enabling peer feedback has been great to see. There have been definite silver linings to the situation where parents are having new insight into how the children are doing.

8. Staff welfare

First week of term has been busy and exhausting, SLT has been trying to get the message across that staff need to pace themselves and an SLT meeting on Monday was had to see if there were more things that could be done to support staff.

MB asked what kind of stamina are the school expecting staff to have? NOH said that last time the school was able to stay open due to the low numbers, a rota could be

Signed.....*N.J.O'Name*.....

<p>drawn up. The school will need to look into what the expectation is and how many children are likely to be taking up places in the half term break. It is going to be essential for all staff to have a break though so some rota will be required.</p> <p>MB asked if the teachers are looking forward to the children coming back and NOH replied that the teachers can't wait. Not just because at the moment they need to do two jobs – teaching the remote learners and those in the class room – but also to see their class face to face.</p> <p>SH asked if there was some way to demonstrate the appreciation we have for the lengths the Sarratt staff are going to – a goodie bag of things perhaps? NOH said the video that was done at Christmas was very well received. It was agreed that SH and MB would work together to come up with ideas of ways to do this.</p>	SH MB	
<p>9. Safeguarding report from SH</p> <p>Annual report has been uploaded to google drive and SH will do the site visit in the summer term if conditions are appropriate. Either way, SH and NOH will get together to generate the next annual report.</p> <p>NOH stated that there has been a more deliberate approach to keep in contact with families that could get some help.</p>		
<p>10. AOB</p> <p>JD asked if there had been any applicants for the parental GB position. NOH said that one application has been received and that MG had been in contact with them. With the news that TC is planning to step down after the building project has completed in the summer it was decided that the GB may rearrange the co-opted positions to maximise the skills and long-term representatives. MG, JD and TC to discuss further</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>GB rearrange co-opted positions skills</i></p>	MG, JD, TC	
<p>11. Chair's Business</p> <p>MG informed the GB that he is moving out of the county at half term but has offered to stay in post working remotely if we would like him to. He is equally happy to step down now if that is preferred</p> <p>To enable more free discussion MG left the meeting leaving JD with the chair.</p> <p>The GB agreed to take MG up on his kind offer to stay in post working remotely until the end of the academic year or until we have a replacement chair.</p>		
<p>12. Next meeting dates</p>		

Signed..... *N.J. O'Hare*

▪ Wednesday 17 th March 2021 18:30 (budget reforecast 2 will be available in February)		
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The meeting closed at 19:37 pm

Signed.....