



Minutes of Ace Centre Nursery School Full Governing Body Meeting held on Monday 6 July 2020 at the Centre

Present:

Helen Ruff (HR) - Headteacher
 Kate Barlow (KB) – Parent Governor (**Chair**)
 Georgia Mazower (GM) – Co-opted Governor
 Mike Cahill (MC) – Co-Opted Governor
 David Quick (DQ) – Co-opted Governor (**Vice-Chair**)
 Lorena Nessi (LN) – Parent Governor
 Teresa Morenes (TM) – Parent Governor

Apologies:

Eve Coles (EC) – Associate Member
 Rebecca Macrae (RM) – Parent Governor
 Asia ??

Absent:

None

In Attendance:

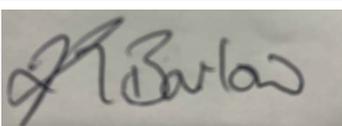
Lexy Tuckwell (LT) – Associate Member
 Lucy Tyrrell – Local Authority Clerk

The meeting started at 7.05pm and was quorate.

Item	Discussion	Action/ Outcome
1.	Welcome and Apologies KB welcomed all to the meeting.	
2.	Notice of AOB None.	
3.	Declarations of Interest None. Forms for the new governors.	
4.	Minutes of the FGB held on 5 May 2020 and 11 June 2020 and matters arising (not already on the agenda) The meeting minutes of 5 May 2020 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting, signed by the Chair to be filed at the school.	

	<p>The meeting minutes of 11 June 2020 were found to be incomplete, and LT agreed to provide an update for the Clerk to insert and forward to the Chair to be agreed at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising:</u></p> <p>None.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>COVID 19 Update</p> <p>HR reported that all sessions are running well. We have based all sessions outside and are experiencing all weathers. However, the quality of experiences for the children is fantastic. HR invited the governors to view the planning sheets to review the quality of experiences, which are held in the school for viewing at any time.</p> <p><i>Have there been any practical difficulties experienced from being outside?</i> None at all, our ethos is outdoor learning, so we are very well set up for this. We have used the small outdoor classroom which has been useful on the hottest days. <i>LT shared slides of the outdoor lessons including the new den.</i></p> <p>HR advised that thinking ahead to September, and following recent guidance, there have been some contradictions to how we should approach whole school opening. We currently have 48 children moving to school in September and are expecting 21 15-hour a week children, and 20 30-hour a week children, therefore a total of 61 sessions to deliver across the week.</p> <p>We have discussed splitting these into 2 groups and could manage with 31 children in each group. However, it is not expected for all children to attend for their full 5 days initially, so is likely to be lower than this. We will continue to operate outdoors using the outdoor classroom to begin with and could continue this until October half term.</p> <p>The enhanced level of cleaning will be a challenge, but we will review as we go along.</p> <p><i>There are indications of another spike in Autumn/Wintertime, therefore these plans may need to be revised.</i> The main issue we have is with staffing levels and splitting into two groups. The guidance has said there are no plans for reimbursement for any additional costs for nurseries, and we have been excluded from any COVID funding.</p> <p><i>And the implications of running reduced sessions will impact us financially?</i> Covered further below.</p> <p><i>Are there any updates on our school transitions?</i> Staff are completing leavers reports, we have focused on characteristics of effective learning</p>	

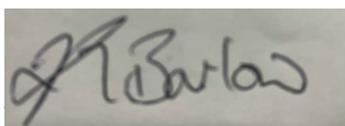
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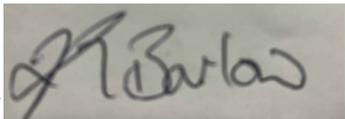
	<p>for each child, the last assessment was completed just before lockdown and includes their learning journey. We will also include any input from parents gained during lockdown, and next steps. We are planning to email these early next week. Any parent wishing a consultation will be offered a telephone call.</p> <p>LT advised that all SEND paperwork will be completed and sent to each school and all funding applications have been successful.</p>	
6.	<p>Numbers on roll for September 2020</p> <p>HR advised that we are expecting 5 children with high level SEN next year, each one qualifying for full 1:1 support.</p>	
7.	<p>Virtual NS Tour and NHT Video</p> <p>HR advised governors of a video produced that gives a virtual tour of the nursery which will be uploaded to the school website for new parents to view. <i>Governors agreed this was an excellent idea to show what makes us different to other nurseries in the area and highlights our areas of expertise. HR to circulate video to all governors following the meeting.</i></p> <p>HR also advised we also produced a video for the NAHT ‘Above and Beyond’ campaign. This was produced by NAHT as they do not feel that parents and politicians have a positive view of what is going on in schools at the moment.</p> <p>KB advised she attended a NAHT conference last week and will email the information to any governors that are interested.</p>	<p>HR</p> <p>KB</p>
8.	<p>Governor Visits</p> <p>HR advised of a SEND curriculum focus following the government publishing its response to a pilot and consultation to review Foundation Stage. The new agenda can be adopted from September; however the document is not due to be published until then. It will then be statutory from 21 September so we will want to align our work to the new document as soon as possible. Early Learning Development Matters Bands are also due in the Autumn.</p> <p>The following visits were agreed:</p> <p>Mike – SEND – liaise with LT KB - safeguarding LN and TM - General curriculum DQ – H&S</p>	
9.	<p>2020 Progress and Attainment Data</p>	

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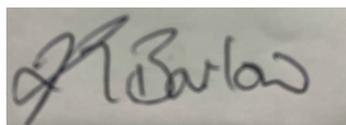
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	<p>HR gave an overview on progress and attainment data for the new governors for information. This data ensures our learning is effective and forms a conversation for Ofsted.</p> <p>This year has been unusual, including how we are able to analyse this data. We have assessed on entry, mid-year, and would normally on exit to go to primary school. This year the exit point is the mid-year point, and we are able to measure progress in the normal way through those 2 shorter points.</p> <p>The headlines are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trend continues that children’s attainment on entry is lower, and this in part due to the closure of Children’s Centres. • Lower than normal levels of attainment on exit, however this is mid-year data. • Progress levels are positive, 94.5% for all children. Therefore, for all 48 children leaving, in 94.5% all levels of learning are making expected or greater than progress. • Closing the gap data – we look at lowest 20% on entry to make more rapid progress than the others, the data for that is positive – they are closing the gap in all areas of learning except technology which is not an area of focus for us, as we look for learning in other areas. Also, for girls in speaking, in bottom 20% we had a child with SEN and if taken out would be the same as their peers. • Difference on attainments on children with 15-hour and 30-hour attendance – it is a generalisation but accurate – often our children who qualify for 30-hour are in more advantaged families, and those that don’t qualify tend to proportionally to be more disadvantaged. The 30-hour boys on entry were online on 49.5% whereas the 15-hour boys were 12.2% - at the time they left 30-hour boys were 89.3% and 15-hour boys were 55.3%. On progress 30-hour boys were 90.7% and the 15-hour boys were 92.2%, therefore they are making good levels of progress but their levels of attainment is getting bigger as attainment is further back. <p>HR advised the team have worked well together and the children have had a good experience and the above shows a positive picture up until lockdown. To analyse this data further a small sample will be taken for case studies, for example a 15-hour boy, a more able learner and a SEN child.</p> <p>This data will be analysed in more detail at the P&S Committee and ready for the next FGB meeting.</p>	
10.	<p>Finance Committee Update</p> <p>HR advised that we are expecting 61 places to be filled however it is always fluid at this time of year and could increase over the summer.</p>	

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	<p>Could we advertise via Google and Facebook? HR advised that this could be useful but is unsure of costs. <i>KB and DQ to discuss budget implications of increased advertising.</i></p> <p>GM advised that we have secured a promotional window in the town centre, displaying artwork.</p> <p>HR advised that following the review with the LA due to the deficit budget, we are currently monitoring the financial losses due to COVID, mainly due to lost income from clubs and responsive COVID expenditure.</p> <p>HR also advised of increased costs for supporting 1:1 SEN children expected in September, as the additional funding received does not fully cover the costs involved. Not all settings will accept these children due to the increased costs, however we are an inclusive setting and want to support our families in the community. However, it is an unsustainable workload with financial pressures for the school.</p> <p>HR advised of positive feedback received from the EASET teacher and social workers on the work we are doing at the Centre.</p>	
11.	<p>P&S Committee Update</p> <p>Meeting to be arranged for September.</p>	
12.	<p>Staffing Update</p> <p>HR advised the charity have funded a HSLW post for 11 hours per week. They will mainly work with LT, relieving the time pressures involved with paperwork heavy TAFs and visits.</p> <p>Governors urged that this post should be advertised as soon as possible, to aim for the best start for September. HR advised that they want to ensure the highest quality of candidates, and advertising over the summer months is not the best time.</p> <p>HR also advised that we are looking to recruit the fourth person back into the nursery, and are following up on potential candidates.</p> <p>HR also advised that GM will be leaving us to start her teacher training, however part of her placement will be at the Centre. We will be recruiting for her replacement.</p>	
13.	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
14.	<p>H&S Update</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	

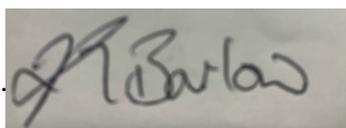
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15.	Policies for Ratification None.	
16.	<p>Governor Business</p> <p><u>Vacancies</u></p> <p>Governors were informed that GM is resigning from the governing board - Governors wished to thank GM for all of her work over the years for the governing body. Governor were advised that GM is also the Major Elect, which will increase out links within the town and will continue to be involved with the Centre.</p> <p>LN and A? joined the governing board as Parent Governors.</p> <p><u>Training</u></p> <p>New governors are undertaking their training. Clerk asked that this be recorded via Governor Hub.</p> <p>HR advised of joint finance training with Michelle Jenkins – will be reinstated in the Autumn term.</p> <p>Governors Roles and Responsibilities – KB advised these should be considered as guidance to support governors. KB will review these documents and recirculate them for agreement at the next meeting.</p>	<p>All Govs</p> <p>Agenda item/KB</p>
17.	<p>Friends Group Update</p> <p>LT advised governor that funding raised from the Friends Group enable the Centre to purchase the outdoor structure which is a very welcome addition to the garden. Governors thanked the Friends Group.</p>	
18.	<p>A Moment to Celebrate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Children are really enjoying their time in nursery and are exhausted following their sessions’ – feedback from a Parent Governor. • Working outdoors with the children who have wholly embraced this way of learning. • Sense of wellbeing from being outdoors. • Applauding the work of the team – the amount of additional work has ensured opportunities for increased access to the curriculum being accessed in the garden. • Have been brave enough to continue the high quality of provision under the difficult circumstances. 	
20.	Future Meetings	

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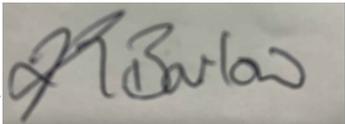


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	Clerk to circulate dates for agreement.	Clerk
21.	AOB GM advised of the new artwork in the Town Centre and has also participated in a radio interview promoting the Centre.	

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.
(LT 20/07/2020)

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