

**THORNDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
& THORNDOWN PRE-SCHOOL**

**Learning and Development Committee Meeting  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 (6.00 to 7.15 p.m.)  
Minutes**

<b>Learning and Development Committee Membership</b>			
Chris Snape	Head	Nick Drury	ND
Heather Wood	HW	Rob Jagger	RJ
Katie Humphrey	KH	Peter Smith	PS
Emily Broadhurst	EB	Duncan Woodall	DW
Jane Ainscow	JA		

<b>Item</b>		<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>
1.	Welcome / Apologies / Declarations of Interest		
1.1	Governors present: Peter Smith, Duncan Woodall, Katie Humphrey, Nick Drury, Chris Snape, Jane Ainscow, Rob Jagger and Heather Wood.		
1.2	Apologies for absence: Emily Broadhurst.		
1.3	Declaration of interest: ND and RJ spouse work in the school.		
2.	Minutes and action points from the meeting held on 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2023		
2.1	The minutes from the meeting held on the 4 <sup>th</sup> May were signed as an accurate and true record.		
2.2	There were no action points.		
3.	Head's Report		
3.1	It has been a busy term of assessment including SATs, phonics, times tables checks and general end of year assessments. Sports day was delayed due to the weather, but other trips have still been completed across KS1. The English lead has been working with staff across the school to ensure there is cohesion and best working practice across the school. Pixl programme is going ahead, Emily Broadhurst and Lesley Dixon attended a conference regarding it. EB will lead with LD support and the plan is to introduce the assessments and then build other aspects in to ensure it is embedded fully. Teachers have been informed of the class structure for next year and move up days and open classrooms events are planned.		
3.2	CS shared the most recent attendance data in a printed report as well as the same report from last year for governor comparison. All attendance data is above national, which is the same as the previous year. CS highlighted the only noticeable change is amongst SEN/EHCP pupils and explained the reasons behind this. Generally there is more of an issue around punctuality, which is being addressed. Persistent absences are being looked at and different strategies are being looked at to target this with the support of the LA. <b>CHALLENGE:</b> ND	<b>CHALLENGE</b>	

3.3	<p>raised that with the EHCP is a small group but with a big impact, which CS discussed on how these pupils are being targeted and how the data compares to national.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> HW asked why there was a decrease in attendance in the current year 6 from when they were in year 5, which CS explained the reasons for the decrease.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> DW asked what the definition of persistent absence was, which CS confirmed it was below 95%.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> HW raised that this data was informative and could be used to drill down into peak period of absentees, which CS explained some of the peak absence periods from this years data. <b>CHALLENGE:</b> ND raised a concern that a member of year 1 with an EHCP had a low attendance and CS explained the circumstances around this specific pupil.</p> <p>CS shared that there had been 10 fixed term exclusions/suspensions over the year and CS explained the breakdown of these exclusions. CS highlighted that the exclusions in the lower end of the school were around pupils with particular needs. CS raised that 4 exclusions were one pupil and that the LA are working with the school to support the pupil, the family and the staff.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> HW sought reassurance that the exclusions were all fixed term and not permanent, which CS confirmed there had been no permanent exclusions.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> HW asked how this compared to other schools, which CS said he could compare amongst the other schools in the local cluster.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> ND asked how the exclusions affect the attendance data, which CS confirmed it is marked as an exclusion and not absences.</p>	<p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p> <p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p>	
4.	Chair's Report		
	Nothing to report.		
5.	Governor Visit Reports		
5.1	<p>Open Worlds Curriculum: KH and PS completed this visit and found it to be very interesting. KH explained how this followed on from the previous visit on the topic. KH shared the positives found and then shared the areas of concern shared by staff. KH shared that Lesley is doing work on the curriculum to address the concerns of staff. Thanks were shared for the thorough report.</p>		
6.	Agree Class structure		
6.1	<p>20 classes are agreed for next year. Reception intake is now at 58. CS has compared intake figures with the Heads in the cluster and all are below their PANs.</p> <p><b>CHALLENGE:</b> DW asked if the school was at PAN in every year group, which CS confirmed that only the current year 6 are at PAN. There is room for admissions in all year groups. Pre-school is a big drawing point for engaging families and the EYFS is looking at initiatives to engage the wider community to use our pre-school and then join the school.</p>	<p><b>CHALLENGE</b></p>	
7.	Any other business		
7.1	<p>CS asked the governors what they would like covered in the meetings over the next academic year. DW suggested having subject leader presentation, but consideration</p>		

	needs to given to staff workload. The committee would like to continue to look at the books as they have done historically. HW also suggested a classroom tour to look at the work on display.		
8.	Summary of impact and standards		
	<p>The committee agreed that this meeting had an impact on standards and progress by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutinising the attendance data and identifying trends to be tracked going forward.</li> <li>• Identified the scope of the attendance data and the comparisons it can provide.</li> <li>• Were made aware of the contribution the new world curriculum has made to pupils' learning.</li> </ul>		

The meeting closed at 18:25

### **L&D Action Points - None**