

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

**Minutes of the Learning and Development Committee Meeting
Thursday, 28 February 2019 (6.00 to 7.15 p.m.)**

Membership of the Learning and Development Committee:	
Vicci Godbold	Head
Christine Curtis	CC
Claire Gerrard	CG
Dawn Mills	DM
Jane Ainscow	JA
Peter Smith	PS
Rob Jagger	RJ
Cathy Sweet	CS
Louise Lawson	LL
Jon Lee	JL
Andrea Dollard	AD

Item		Action	Lead
1.	Subject Updates: RE & Art		
1.1	The committee heard a presentation from Judy Bralee (JB) on the new Religious Education (RE) policy.		
1.1.1	JB talked the Governors through the new Religious Education Policy. JB explained how the policy had been revised to bring us in line with the new Cambridgeshire Country (CC) Agreed Syllabus. The Governors were pleased to hear how JB had been involved in the formulation of the CC policy and that the plan Thorndown had put together whilst trialling had been used as a template for the CC policy.		
1.1.2	JB explained how the new policy has had an equal opportunities section added as a result of training courses that JB has attended. JB also explained that there will be more questioning as part of our pedagogy in addition to trying to take more of a hands-on approach to RE. This had already been practised very successfully by two school visits to local mosques in the last year.		
1.1.3	The Governors voted to adopt the new RE Policy.		
1.2	The committee also heard a presentation from Hilary Patrick (HP) on the new Art & Design Policy and the Artsmark scheme.		
1.2.1	HP explained to the Governors the aims and objectives of the Art & Design curriculum and how it varies in the different key stages.		
1.2.2	HP also talked us through entitlement with regards to learning in Art & Design. HP and the governors were pleased to hear that the school artwork is already displayed in local libraries, museum & hospital.		
1.2.3	The Governors also heard that the students use sketchbooks to record, practise and reflect on their artwork. The Growth Mindset philosophy is embedded in the policy.		
1.2.4	The Governors voted to adopt the new Art & Design Policy.		

1.2.5	HP explained to the Governors that Thorndown currently hold a Silver award in the Artsmark scheme and are now working towards a Gold. A Gold award will enable us to access more Arts opportunities. With a view to working on the Gold award, Artsmark will be more embedded through the school for all teachers and Governors. Frank Newton will become the Artsmark Lead Governor. Kate Medlow and Matt Sweeney will become a team to support HP and other teachers with the journey towards Artsmark Gold.		
1.2.6	HP explained how Artsmark needs to be integrated into everything we do rather than just through 'discrete' teaching, enabling all to experience a rich diet of Arts experiences. The mantle of the expert fits well with this approach.		
1.2.7	Students will be given a voice by creating Art ambassadors to help embed Art & Design into the curriculum.		
1.2.8	Governors thanked HP for all her work on this.		
2.	Welcome / Apologies / Declarations of Interest		
2.1	Governors Present: Vicci Godbold, Cathy Sweet, Rob Jagger, Louise Lawson, Claire Gerrard, Peter Smith, Jon Lee, Chris Curtis, Dawn Mills and Andrea Dollard. CC was in the Chair in JA's absence. CC welcomed AD to first meeting. In the absence of the Clerk, CS took the minutes.		
2.2	Non-Governors Present: Hilary Patrick, Judy Bralee for item 1.		
2.3	The meeting was quorate with 10 governors present.		
2.4	Apologies for absence, with governors' consent: Jane Ainscow.		
2.5	Absent: None.		
2.6	Declarations of Interest: Rob Jagger's wife is employed by the school. Jon Lee is a Senior Finance Officer for the LA, and therefore may have a conflict of interest in any matters relating to Finance. There were no other declarations of interest by members of the GB in respect of any item on the agenda.		
3.	Notice of change in order, or any other business		
3.1	The Committee agreed that there would be no change to the order of business and that there was no other business.		
4.	Outstanding Learning and Development Committee Action Points		
4.1	There were seven Action Points from the last meeting on 10 January 2019.		
4.2	Two of the seven APs (APs 5 & 6) had been completed prior to the meeting.		
4.3	For AP1 – this visit has now been finished and the report will be distributed shortly and considered at the Next L & D.		

4.4	For AP2 and AP7 – The policies have been updated as required and will be considered as part of agenda item 9.		
4.5	For AP3, this was completed in agenda item 1.		
4.6	For AP4, the Head confirmed that this had been completed and updates will be coming to Full Governors shortly.		
5. Headteacher's report			
5.1	VG went through the very good parent questionnaire results. The response to many questions were 100% satisfaction. VG confirmed that as a result of the question regarding the 20 minute parent consultations the parents are in favour and they will therefore continue.		
5.2	VG confirmed that International Week at the school was a big success with several international members of the community coming into school to talk to the students. International Week will be repeated on a 2 year rota.		
5.3	Open Classrooms have continued and are very well attended by parents. The school receives very positive feedback from the parents at the end of the sessions. VG confirmed that the days will continue to vary between Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to enable as many parents to attend as possible.		
5.4	Year 6 will be sitting Mock SATS next week. VG and CG are ensuring that interventions are taking place where necessary to ensure Year 6 and Year 2 students are as ready as they can be for the SATS.		
5.5	It will also be Book Week next week. The following week will be Comic Relief.		
6. Chair's Action			
6.1	The Chair had no additional action to report.		
7. Standing items			
7.1	Innovative Practices – See 1.2 above, embedding of Artsmark across the curriculum. See 1.1 above. RE work.		
7.2	Governor Visits - The Governor visit on the Mantle of the Expert visit to be followed up in the summer. SPAG visit has had to be postponed because of illness but is due to take place in two weeks time. AD was invited to join the Forest School visit in the summer.		
8. Review Work Schedule			
8.1	There were no activities on the Work Schedule to be considered.		
9. Review Schedule of Policies			
9.1	There were eight policies to review as part of the Review Schedule, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-Safety Policy – addition of Acceptable Use by Pupils Appendix (AP2); • Early Years and Foundation Stage Policy (AP7); • Sex & Relationships Policy (AP7); • Intimate Care Policy (AP7 - PS); • Assessment Policy; 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework Policy; • Pre-school Attendance Policy; and • School Attendance Policy 		
9.2	There were some minor amendments E-Safety policy which were then approved for use in school.		
9.3	The Intimate Care Policy review will be deferred till the next meeting as PS has spent a great deal of time reviewing this.	May 19	Head & PS & Clerk
9.4	The homework policy will be deferred till the next meeting to allow VG to review it thoroughly.	May 19	Head
9.5	All other policies were approved for use in school.		
10.	Minutes of the previous meeting		
10.1	The minutes of the last meeting on 10 January 2019 were read, agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.		
11.	Any Other Business		
11.1	There being no other business the meeting closed after item 10 at 7.10 pm.		
11.	Summary of Impact on Standards and Progress		
11.1	Full GB and Committee meetings now end by reflecting on what the meeting has achieved to further school improvement.		
11.2	The Committee agreed that, at this meeting, it had: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become much better informed about RE policy and Art & Design policy. • Received information about very positive parent questionnaires and future actions. • Understand better the impact on curriculum enhancement through working towards Artsmark gold and the integration between subjects throughout the school. 		

Learning & Development Committee Action Points – 28 February 2019

L&D 4 2018/2019	Action Point	By Whom	Outcome
AP1	Intimate Care Policy to be up-dated by Head based on PS's work. Clerk to add to next agenda.	VG & Clerk	Completed
AP2	Homework Policy to be revised by Head and added to next agenda.	VG & Clerk	Completed