

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM AND SEC COMMITTEE OF MONKSDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd MARCH 2023 AT 11.15AM AT THE SCHOOL

PRESENT

Martin Reynolds – Chair
Josh Cliff – Vice Chair
Mathew Douglas – Parent Governor
Maya Diab – Parent Governor
Michelle McKeown – Parent Governor

Also Present

George Allen – Clerk
Chloe Grice – Assistant Headteacher
Liam Corrigan – Class teacher
Sarah Cullen - Class teacher

23/C01 WELCOME

Action

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

23/C02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Jacqui Price.

23/C03 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2022/23

Copies of the School Improvement Plan had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Assistant Headteacher (Chloe Grice) presented the Monksdown Primary School Improvement Plan for 2022/23. Arising:

Chloe Grice stated that the SIP for 2022/23 contains a programme of targets and priorities for the school. It is a working document containing key priorities, next steps and achievable objectives.

- i. Key Priority 1. To continue to develop strategies and programmes that improve attendance.
 - Attendance was 93.6% (national 93.5%) in the Autumn term. 122 pupils have had 100% attendance this year and the Ten-Day challenge was proving to be impactful. The absence levels compare well with other schools but improvements are needed.
 - The intent, actions and outcomes relating to attendance in 2022/23 were contained in the SIP. They detail the wide-ranging and planned activities that are taking place at the school. The plans to decrease absence are targeted, timebound and achievable.
 - Activities to improve attendance include support for families to decrease PA, providing attendance rewards, work with the EWO and tightening up the morning procedures. Absence codes are checked daily, and targeted work is taking place to lessen absence.

Governor Challenge: *Are parents supportive of the plans to increase attendance?*

Response: *Chloe Grice stated that parents are generally supportive of plans. High number of pupils have attendance of over 97% and the aim is to target the majority of pupils and parents who require additional support. Information and advice to families is regularly provided.*

- ii. Priority 2. To raise attainment in Reading across school (in line with ARE).
- Aims are to ensure clear progression in skills in the school, improve attainment amongst targeted pupils and provide high quality teaching of Reading/phonics. Priority 2 also involves the percentage increase of Pupil Premium children who achieve EXP and GD.
 - Chloe Grice explained that Monksdown is a Reading school and the that the key to educational success is the ability to read well. The school strongly supports this objective.
 - Improvements in 2022/23 include that all staff are trained in Little Wandle, vocabulary session 4 was delivered to staff, targeted intervention for PP interventions have taken place and dedicated reading spaces (including Shepherds Huts) are utilised. KO is being used effectively to ensure that vocabulary is used in Foundation subjects.

Governor Challenge: *Why has there has been such progress in phonics provision?*

Response: *Chloe Grice explained that phonics has improved due to factors such as good CPD, good teaching skills and use of resources like Little Wandle. Stacy has enabled effective CPD and provided strong teaching delivery.*

Dedicated reading programmes are occurring and staff feedback and Pupil Voice are used. Examples were presented to governors of the breadth of Reading development such as guided reading, phonics assessments, the use of books and GPS work.

- iii. Priority 3. To ensure effective leadership of Foundation subjects.
- Priority 3 is intended to ensure that all staff and governors have an overview of the effectiveness of the school and what needs to be done to make further improvements. High quality resources are used, and an assessment system has been established. Chloe Grice and Jo Dakin lead the teaching staff all in subject leaders. Melanie Pitt (SIL) has worked with the school to support the Priority 3 developments.
 - Pupil Premium boys are a focus of support in 2022/23. Provision mapping is in place all subject leaders participate in CPD. Subject leaders evaluate impact and progress. Priority 3 activities include book looks, pupil interviews and high-quality teaching.
 - All Action Plans are RAG Rated and subject leaders monitor their respective subjects. Regular meetings take place with curriculum leads and this assists with achieving aims. The deep dive partnerships between cluster schools ensure collaborative approaches. Partner schools have been impressed with the curriculum quality at Monksdown School.
 - Meaningful Pupil Voice takes place. Ann-Marie Ferrigan is a champion of this approach. Regular events take place and all are mapped and reported include within the school. RE leaders set up displays such as during the Christmas period. Events are regular and are carefully planned to ensure all areas are represented.
 - Next steps include ensuring more CPD in vocabulary, creation of enhancement subjects, website to be continually updated, continued twitter use and work with Triad Teams.

Governor Challenge: *How can parents become more involved in these areas at the school?*

Response: *Chloe Grice explained that the school always welcomes support from parents. Parents evenings, breakfast clubs and After School Clubs are arranged in consultation with parents and coffee mornings take place. The school encourages ideas from parents.*

- iv. Priority 4. To ensure effective subject leadership of Foundation Subjects. Taking effective measures to monitor and improve the quality of teaching.
- It concerns areas such as promotion of resilience and 'bouncebackability' in all years. Mental health and wellbeing and emotional health for pupils is a key Priority 4 aspect. The school uses Beautiful New Belongings and is a partner in the HEARTS project. The aim is to ensure that pupils are 'respectful, resourceful, resilient and responsible'.
 - Priority 4 highlights that Monksdown adopts a nurturing approach. The RSE curriculum is bespoke and the pupil/adult voice is part of the delivery of provision. Pupils take on responsibilities such as attendance, eco, assemblies and sport Captains. An extensive range of Priority 4 activities were listed for the attention of the Committee. An example is that emotions are represented by specific colours. Each colour reflects particular emotions and the children are supported to appreciate this concept.
 - Curriculum Leadership meetings will continue. ADHD/ASD parent workshops ensue and school improvement priorities are shared. Other activities in spring term included SEND workshop training, book clubs, Mental Health week and art and sports clubs.

Governor Challenge: *Are wellbeing activities continually available for both pupils and staff.*

Response: *Chloe Grice confirmed that planned and available wellbeing and mental health support programmes are available for staff and pupils at the school.*

The Chair welcomed the excellent SIP presentation from Chloe Grice and stated that the range of curriculum activities and programmes are evidence of quality teaching and that the pupils at the school are achieving progress.

23/C04 PRESENTATION - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sarah Cullen presented the RE syllabus and related learning programmes in 2022/23. Arising:

- I. The Monksdown Primary School RE syllabus has 3 core elements: Beliefs, Living and Expressing. Alongside Christianity the school provides learning and studies in Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. All activities are linked to the priorities with the SIP.
- II. The RE syllabus is delivered across all key stages and is based upon SACRE. The RE Curriculum Map for 2022/23 describes how RE provision is delivered in all years.
- III. RE leaders at the school are continuing to focus on floor books. Various RE books containing the work of class groups were circulated for the attention of governors. The books were scrutinised by members of the Committee.
- IV. The school actively celebrates religious festivals including Diwali, Hannukah, Eid and Christmas. Photos and materials were shown to governors that highlighted how such as Ramadan and Diwali are celebrated amongst pupils at the school.
- V. Bethel Church recently visited the school and provided information and fun activities for pupils in a religious context. Photos from the visit were shown to governors.
- VI. Details of learning programmes for each respective year group and the studies and activities that are undertaken was described. Pupils are taught to make sense of religion and belief at an appropriate level of learning and challenge for their age.

VII. RE is linked to learning and curriculum plans and is delivered with high quality. Pupils are engaged in a range of learning concerning multi-faith education and activities.

Governor Challenge: *Would it be possible to invite a representative from the Catholic church to the school and explain Catholicism?*

Response: *Sarah Cullen stated that faith representatives visit the school. A representative of the local Catholic church will be invited to the school.*

SC

VIII. Governors were advised that the RE curriculum and its related programmes of learning continues to enhance attainment and provides multi-faith activities and understanding. All RE learning and educational programmes are monitored and evaluated.

IX. Members of the governing board welcomed the presentation and felt that it highlighted the quality of RE provision and that pupils are offered a variety of religious studies that embrace differing faiths and cultures.

The Chair thanked Sarah Cullen for her excellent presentation.

23/C05 PRESENTATION - PE

Liam Corrigan presented the RE syllabus and related learning programmes in 2022/23. Arising:

- a) Monksdown Primary School delivers its PE syllabus based on PESSPA. This stands for Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity and it includes PE lessons, school games, events and competitions, sports leadership, and enrichment activities.
- b) The current Curriculum Map was described and a wide range of associated activities were listed. They are intended to achieve a number of objectives and enhance pupil wellbeing. The intention of PE programmes is to provide effective learning as well as pupils being confident and physically literate in a way that supports their wellbeing.
- c) Lesson plans were shown and a selection of photos of PE classes were screen shared for the information of governors. The plan and activities are consistent with 2022/23 SIP. The lesson plans reflect the planned and effective implementation of the PE curriculum.
- d) The list of sports activities being delivered in 2022/23 were screen shared for governors. They included swimming, cricket, netball, rugby, basketball, football. 'Invasion Games' involving team work such as rugby, football and cricket were described.
- e) Governors were provided with photos and evidence of current PE programmes that reflected the variety of sports activities and the benefits that are derived by the children. Indoors and outdoors learning were shown and included kurling, karate and futsal.

Governor Challenge: *Do external staff deliver any of the PE programmes and activities?*

Response: *Liam Corrigan stated that all PE programmes and activities are delivered by staff of Monksdown School. This includes After School Clubs and other extra-curricula activities.*

Governor Challenge: *Is every pupil required to learn to swim and where does it take place?*

Response: *Liam Corrigan explained that all pupils are required to learn to swim by Year 6.*

All swimming lessons take place at the Ellergreen Sports Centre.

- f) PE studies are linked to the SIP and aim to enhance physical and emotional wellbeing. Targets learning within this school year were outlined as where the breadth of activities.

The STEP approach of space, task, equipment and people is adopted at the school. Staff CPD is effective in relation to PE and Pupil Voice is an important area of provision.

- g) Budget. The PE budget was explained including the extent of funded work. Expenditure has enabled a wide of activities and activities. Dates, times, and ranges of After School Clubs were screen shared. 143 pupils are currently engaged in the After School Clubs which are continuing to enhance levels of attainment and progress.

Josh Cliff stated that Liam Corrigan demonstrated the high quality of PE and enrichment activity at the school. The passion and strong commitment to effectively deliver the PE curriculum was clearly revealed within in the presentation.

The Chair thanked Liam Corrigan for his excellent presentation.

23/C06 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of Any Other Business.

23/C07 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- Governing Board – Thursday 20th April 2023 at 9.30am.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 12.50pm