

**THE FEDERATED GOVERNING BODY OF SAVILE TOWN CE (VC) INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL AND THORNHILL LEES CE (VC) INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body held **remotely** at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, 29 June 2021.

PRESENT

Miss K Allen (Chair), Mrs K Asquith-Dolan, Ms S Cavanagh, Mrs D Douglas, Mrs S Dudding, Ms A Mocanu, Reverend A Pollard, Mrs K Quinn, Miss D Roberts, Miss M Sharif, Mrs S Patel, Ms H Tariq

In Attendance

Mrs J Lord (Observer)  
Miss A Walker (Minute Clerk)

96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Ms H Laher (consent).

There were no declarations of interest.

97. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP IN ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following item was notified to be brought up under any other business:

- Nursery

98. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2021

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2021 be approved by the Chair as a correct record and signed at a future meeting.

99. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

100. REPRESENTATION

Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
Halima Laher	Designate (Parent)	14/06/2021
Hafeefa Tariq	Parent	19/06/2021
S Patel	Co-opted	29/06/2021

**RESOLVED:** That Ms Patel be appointed as Co-opted Governor.

101. HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT AND GOVERNORS' QUESTIONS

The report had been circulated in advance of the meeting and the following items were highlighted:

(a) Covid

There had been instances of Covid and some pupils were isolating. There were a small number of children absent at Thornhill Lees due to chicken pox.

(b) Pupil Progress

Good progress was being made and this was evident from book scrutiny. The slimmed down curriculum had allowed the School to focus on core elements. Year 2 children had made particularly good progress. The Head Teacher said this was testament to them, their parents and staff.

(c) Curriculum

The curriculum for next year would continue to focus on core skills to ensure that the foundations were in place for pupils to progress. The core elements of other subjects would also be covered but pupils would not be overloaded with knowledge.

**Q: How do staff feel about streamlining the curriculum and does this approach increase their workload?**

**A:** Staff feel that this provides some freedom and releases some of the pressure by allowing them to do the right thing for the children. Teachers feel they do not have to cover everything and can spend longer on those things that provide the most benefit.

(d) Outside Agencies

There continued to be liaison with outside agencies.

(e) Reception

Reception and nursery induction would be undertaken in small groups and children's time in School would start with mornings and build up. Those new to the Schools would receive a door step visit before the end of term and would receive a letter to explain how pupils would be coming into School in September. The door step visits were working well.

(f) Staff Development

Subject leader networks were continuing. From September, there would be staff training on coaching, Team Teach and Prevent.

(g) Performance Management

The mid-term reviews had taken place and the end of year sessions would be conducted. New performance management targets would be set in September. Job descriptions and teaching standards would be the basis for the coaching model and these had been shared with Governors.

(h) Subject Leadership

A staff meeting session would be held to review subject action plans and to develop the plans for the coming year.

(i) Kirklees Learning Partner

The Head Teacher referred to the report from the most recent visit and she commented on the helpful insights provided by these visits. It was noted that the report was very positive and it triangulated detail about what the KLP had seen in practice and what they had seen on paper.

Governors commented on the helpful nature of the KLP reports.

(i) Building, Premises and Resources

The report outlined the list of work planned. The School had regular maintenance work undertaken by a contractor. Saville Town had obtained quotes for the replacement of two sets of toilets and the quote representing best value was £15,000. There had been some ground maintenance issues at Saville Town and a new company would be taking over the contract. There was a tree surgeon currently on site.

(j) SEND

New pupils with significant SEN need would be joining Thornhill Lees. The SENCO had been visiting the children's nurseries and their parents had been into School. Support staff would be identified to support these pupils.

**Q: Will pupil transition go ahead this year?**

**A:** Transition will not be the same as in previous years. Transition for all new pupils will start in September. Year 2's have had one outdoor visit to Headfield, which they enjoyed. The year 3 teacher undertook a visit in School. In Thornhill Lees, the class teachers will be visiting classes to speak to pupils who will be moving up.

The Chair thanked the Head Teacher and all staff for their continued hard work.

102. SAFEGUARDING INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY – UPDATES

This was covered in the Head Teacher's report.

103. SCHOOL WEBSITES

The School website was regularly updated, particularly the sections for parents that covered health and wellbeing, including mental health. Policies were replaced on the school website once they were updated. Thornhill Lees was transitioning to a new website and this was at a holding position due to delays with the external provider.

104. DEDICATED HEADTEACHER TIME

The Head Teacher confirmed that dedicated headship time tended to be first thing in the school day.

105. OUR SCHOOLS AS CHURCH SCHOOLS

The Head Teacher noted that Mr L Talbot, Diocese Link Officer, would be visiting Saville Town on 7 July 2021 to discuss the support available from the Diocese. Each School was required to buy into the service separately and this could be used for support visits or training packages. The split between support/training would be discussed in the meeting on 7 July.

Thornhill Lees had received a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection in 2019 and Saville Town's inspection was overdue. The inspection regime was suspended until September 2021 (due to the pandemic) and it was expected that the delayed inspection would take place later in the year.

106. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

The Head Teacher provided an update on Sports Premium, noting that Schools had received confirmation that this funding would continue into the next academic year. The sports grant would allow the School to fund coaching and training packages, including support from Huddersfield Giants.

The budget monitoring was at an early stage in the year and there was nothing to report. The T5 report to period 2 showed a positive variance of £36,000. Some areas of spend were still being finalised and the report in September would be more meaningful. All consumables for next year had been purchased.

An overview was provided on how staffing changes next year would impact the budget. Staffing costs would increase at Thornhill Lees to provide additional support for high needs pupils and the School would receive some income to offset this.

107. GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

Miss Pollard and Miss Allen had attended the Governors' briefing. They commented that these were helpful and allowed Governors to compare experiences with other Schools.

Ms Cavanagh had undertaken a PE link visit and had spoken to both PE leads who explained the work done during the lockdowns to support pupils to remain active. Resources used to support this included Noodle Kids (educational resource videos) and online yoga, which were shared daily to encourage children to be active for 10/15 minutes.

Following the return to school, there had been plans to hold a mile run but this had not been possible. There was a skipping plan in place and it was hoped that all activities would be able to restart fully in September. The Head Teacher explained that each class had a PE box of equipment to use at lunchtime and break. Classes had also been holding PE lessons outside and in the hall. A Sports Day would be held in each School and activities would be done in team colours. Parents were unable to watch this year.

108. ANY OTHER BUSINESSNursery

A Governor asked when they would be able to undertake a Governor visit to the nursery.

The Head Teacher explained that it was expected that Governors' visits would be able to commence from September 2021. Parents of nursery children would be invited to the nursery in small groups during the first week of term.

109. DATES OF FUTURE ITEMS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

**ACTION:** The Head Teacher to circulate a draft schedule of meeting dates for next year.

110. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

**RESOLVED:** That no part of the agenda, minutes or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the school in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

The Chair wished all staff and pupils an enjoyable and safe summer.

*The meeting closed at 6:08 pm*