



ST MICHAEL'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

MEETING OF THE CHILDRENS COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2024 AT 5.30PM AT THE SCHOOL

MINUTES

Membership:

Position	Name	Initials	Term End Date
Staff Governor	Julia Machin	JM	23/02/2026
Parent Governors	Stephen Bethel – Chair	SB	07/04/2027
Foundation	Lisa Maguire	LM	11/04/2027
	*Valerie Doulton	VD	02/02/2025
	Cordelia Brown	CB	07/06/2027
Foundation	Reverend Kunle Ayodeji	KA	Ex-Officio
Executive Headteacher	Geraldine Gallagher	GG	Ex-Officio

*Denotes Apologies - Denotes absent

Also in Attendance:

Sinead O'Brien, Head of School (HoS)
Alexandra Cooper (AC), AHT, Data Lead
Jasbir Aujla, Clerk to the Governing Body, Haringey Education Partnership

PART 1 – Public Matters

- 1. Welcome and apologies for absence**
 - 1.1 The Chair welcomed all to the meeting which was quorate.
 - 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from VD.

- 2. Declaration by Governors of Interest Pecuniary or Otherwise in Respect of Agenda Items**
 - 2.1 There were none declared.

- 3. Minutes of the previous Children's Committee**
 - 3.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2024 were **agreed** as being an accurate record, for the Chair to sign and for the school to retain on file.
 - 3.2 **Matters/Actions Arising**
The Committee went through the actions arising from the previous meeting and noted all as completed.

- 4. Pupil data progress and attainment - AC**
The Committee received the 2024 End of Year Data, with predictions and comparative data report as circulated in advance of the meeting.

AC took the Committee through her presentation and updated the Reading, Writing and Maths 2024 results are good in all subjects in Early Years and Key Stage 1 & 2, against predictions and 2023 outcomes. The Committee reviewed the data and AC highlighted, progress is the important factor, actions the school has put in place to support the children that did not achieve or make



good progress and pointed out factors that need to be taken into consideration in some year groups are the number of SEND, Pupil Premium, EAL children and the impact of the Covid Pandemic and lockdown on children in Year 3 and upwards.

Girls progress in different areas to boys, the school has slightly less girls than boys and more boys with additional needs. Black African, Caribbean, and mixed-race children's performance is slightly lower some with a range of needs and this is being look at for next year at pupil progress meetings. School is looking at the key areas to work on to embed and consider what else can be done to address the gaps.

Governors were pleased with the results outcome and commented this is really good quantitative data and next year we will be able to tell more. AC said yes next step is to analyse the data look at the whole picture and what we need to do for next year. Each child is considered individually and the class a whole.

The Committee thanked AC for her comprehensive update.

5. Conscious Inclusion Plan

5.1 The Committee received the Conscious Inclusion Action Plan 2023-2024 circulated in advance of the meeting. The HoS reported the plan has been updated with progress made against targets during the year and highlighted:

School has done a lot of work this term on the RSE Curriculum, has been working jointly with St James and have had a scenario based inset event with all staff about how to deal with particular scenarios should they arise as part of the RSE curriculum and this work to support staff will continue into next year.

In Year 6 looking at impact of the Maths4girls, out of 14 girls, 12 made significant progress, 2 did not and there were reasons for this. It was good to see this progression as it made a lot of difference to the girls' confidence.

During Steam week had various steam professionals, especially female speakers come talk to the children which was very inspiring.

Hope to be part of a gender research project that is running amongst schools in the NLC. The EHT updated interview is being held on Monday, the project called "Above and Beyond" looks specifically at gender stereotypes, conscious bias and teaching and it would be really exciting if St Michael's is accepted as we could be the control group to lead on this 3-year programme.

A parent group, led by Zara, Yr2 teacher has met twice and have two more meetings planned. Have had useful discussions with a group of 6 female parents with mixed families, heard their views and lived experiences, they looked at the Anti racism policy and Heritage fund which was positive. The parents commented they found it very useful to be aware of how the school deals with such issues. More parents are being approached to join the group to make it more representative.

Q: Chair what is the plan for next year. **A:** To continue work on gender project in house, work with St James's on political impartiality, identify any gaps in the RSE Curriculum, work with parents, may do some work with Highgate Junior and get the tracking system up and running.



6. Review guidance for Anti-Racism

6.1 The Committee received the Tackling the use of Racist Language presentation circulated.

The HoS updated it links with the gap with the RSE curriculum particularly where there has been a number of incidents of inappropriate use of racist language in Year 4 and how the school tackled that and explained to the Committee the age-appropriate lesson plans for KS1 and KS2.

The actions St Michael's has taken is redrafted the Anti Racism Policy, re-established the Global Majority work group, celebrated world Heritage Day. Have found the resources from Antiracism Education useful, their lessons are excellent and demonstrated how they are used as a direct result of incidents that have happened in Year 4, and how the school has adapted them slightly and used with the younger year groups too.

Show Racism the Red Card workshops were held yesterday, they did some great work around language, misconception, and stereotypes with year 4 which was really interesting to watch.

Q: Are the children on the receiving end of racist language able to let go of the issue once it is resolved. **A:** HoS said parents spoke about when this has happened to their children, in and out of school and the types of coping strategies children use.

Discussion took place about children having limited understanding hearing and misusing words they have heard and saying things they do not understand or have thought through. The HoS said this work helps them to understand and we continue to talk to the children and are being really explicit about what is and what is not appropriate. Year 4 have responded well to the approach being used. It was noted a lot of the time it is the impact of social media and online gaming, and that language and behaviour comes into school.

The Committee thanked the HoS comprehensive presentation.

7. Curriculum Reports

7.1 Maths

The Committee received the HoS Maths presentation and were pleased to note the 2023/24, KS1, KS2 and Early Years data is consistently high and high in comparison to Haringey and national data.

The HoS updated Adrian Braune, Maths lead has done a lot of work on reviewing the new Maths Mastery scheme introduced September 2023 as previous scheme was suddenly stopped. The evaluation, lesson observations and walkthrough findings are the concrete resources are not used effectively, children are not using the materials, and it is not meeting the children's needs in particular Year 1 and 6 and require supplementing. The HoS described how maths is taught as part of the national curriculum. The EHT explained the pedagogy idea is to go through each year group from concrete then move to visual then abstract.

Adrian has spoken to staff, children and with the school's improvement partner and has come to conclusion this scheme is not working. Is looking at the White Rose scheme and visiting school to see how this is being used, this scheme is widely used by others school and is supported by HEP.

Q: Governor asked about costs involved. **A:** The White Rose scheme is cheaper cost wise. The Committee thanked the HoS for her update.



Lisa joined 18:07

7.2 English

The Committee received the English presentation prepared by subject leads shared in advance of the meeting. The HoS updated 2024/25 priorities are to focus on:

- The library space is not used to its full potential will look at how it can be utilised to promote reading and standard of English.
- Scaffolding for SEND children, the Cope scheme can be intense and heavy going and need to look at how SEND children can access that and they are not being left behind.
- How do we support the more able writers to help them explore their talent.
- Spelling we are looking at, how do we teach spelling is it taught explicitly, or do we formalise how do we support that.
- Handwriting particularly in KS1 to make consistent need to look at approach and scheme to support this in a better way.

Q: What is your experience of home reading. **A:** HoS said it is easier with KS1 as have more feedback from parents but becomes trickier with KS2, have accelerated reader to monitor home reading.

Discussion took place about utilising the library space better by timetabling visits, planning use at beginning of the week, use the space for English and Drama performances and to re-introduce early morning or after school rota with the SMSA for parents to come in with their children to change books as this approach was previously successful.

The Committee thanked the HoS for the informative presentations.

8. Attendance

- 8.1 The Committee received the Attendance Data analysis for Summer 2024 and were pleased to note the schools average attendance per year group of 96%, above the national attendance percentage of 92% and the targets school has in place for the next academic year. School is liaising with the Education Welfare officer regarding a couple of persistent absences. A letter has been sent out to parents regarding punctuality and taking children out of school during term time

9. LIP Updates and priorities for 2024/25

The Committee received the Learning Improvement plan updates and priorities for 2024/25 circulated in advance of the meeting. The HoS went through the rag rated updates and priorities for 2024-25 and highlighted:

Sustainability still an area to work on looking at the curriculum.

Have done some work on staff wellbeing need to do more. Governor asked what has been done and how do staff raise an issue. The HoS said to promote wellbeing staff have been provided tools and tips and information on the Employee Assisted programme. Coffee Mornings help staff feel good and are well received. Staff can raise issues via various routes, school has an open-door policy and staff are aware they can come and have a chat or talk through something to tackle issues.



The Committee agreed to hold an event to celebrate staff and end of year.

A Governor asked now that the school has had Ofsted and been awarded outstanding standard how does that feel. The EHT said it is about maintaining this standard, continuously looking at next steps and constantly striving to do the best for the children.

It was noted the Arts Mark opening may be on the same day as Strategy Day.

There were no further questions. The Committee thanked the HoS for her update.

10. Policies

The Committee received the policies listed circulated in advance of the meeting.

10.1 Designated Teacher for Looked-After and Previously Looked-After Children Policy – Agreed

10.2 Intimate care policy - Agreed

11. Any Other Business

Catering KPIs

The Committee received the Harrisons Catering KPI weekly roundup report as circulated. The EHT updated as reported at Resources Committee the Catering company Harrisons have in place an improved provision of service, KPIs are closely being monitored. The supervisor has taken on board the children's feedback and worked with the chef and catering team in producing lots of ideas which have made a positive difference in the food being provided with enticing displays. The Committee acknowledged and thanked the supervisor for the hard work she has put in resulting in the children enjoying eating the meals and achieving good to excellent KPI ratings.

12. Chair's Items

None

13. Dates and Times of next meeting

2024/25 date to be arranged.

There being no further business Part 1 the meeting closed.

S Bethel

26/11/24

Signed
Chair of Committee
Stephen Bethel

Date