



**KENTISH TOWN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:  
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day**

**Love – Equality – Compassion**

**PUBLIC MINUTES  
FULL MEETING OF THE BOARD  
23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 at 5.30PM**

**In attendance:**

Governor Role		Name	Present
<b>Foundation Governors (7):</b>			
Ex Officio (1)		Father Guy Willis	✓
LDBS (2)		Colin Reader, <b>Chair</b>	✓
		Shirley Skrentny, Vice Chair	✓
PCC (2)		Fan Yeung	✓
		Rachel Wrangham	✓
Deanery Synod (2)		Gaby Chan Stroud	✓
		Nigel Palmer	X
<b>Non Foundation Governors (5)</b>			
Staff (2):	Head Teacher (1)	James Humphries	✓
	Teaching Staff (1)	Karen Trussler	✓
Parent Elected Governor		Ellie Besley-Gould	✓
		Graeme Caul	✓
Local Authority (LA) (1)		Vacancy	X
<b>Associate Members (2)</b>			
Deputy Head Teacher		Grant Jacobson	✓
Support staff member		Sarah Haag	X
		Emma Benham	X
		Miriam Nadarajah	✓
<b>Others Present (1)</b>			
Clerk:		Pamela Ansley	✓

PART 1 – PUBLIC ITEMS		Actions/ Date
1	Opening Prayer, Welcome, introductions and Apologies for Absence	

	<p>Father Guy opened in prayer.</p> <p>Fan had recently resigned from the Board and she was presented with a leaving gift from the Governing Body and thanked for her contribution during her time with us.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Father Nigel and Sarah.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests</b>	
	There were no declarations of interests for today's meeting.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting and matters arising</b>	
	<p>The minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October were agreed.</p> <p><b><u>Matters arising:</u></b></p> <p>Admissions Criteria – The Head advised that changes to point 4 of the criteria had been made and it was effectively to give priority to staff's children who had been employed by the school for two years to come to the school.</p> <p>Prospective parents visits – The Deputy Headteacher advised the Board that we had one of the biggest ever visits this week - there were about 30 prospective parents in attendance.</p> <p>Islington SLA – The payment schedule has now been received.</p>	<b>Action: Minutes agreed.</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>SEN Governor and Equalities Governor</b>	
	At this point the Chair asked for volunteers for the above posts. As it was important not to go into an Ofsted inspection without an SEN Governor Rachel volunteered to step into this role temporarily until we had a full Board at which point this position would be reviewed. Ellie offered to fulfil the role of the Equalities Governor.	<b>Action: Rachel appointed as SEN Governor and Ellie as Equalities Governor.</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>LDBS Academisation Conference Report</b>	
	<p>The Chair, Headteacher and Father Guy had attended this conference and the outcome of this had been to sit tight and watch this space.</p> <p>GQ: Was it a government mandate to academise? Yes, all political parties are behind this and there is an expectation that it will happen by 2030. The driver behind it is falling rolls and under-performance of some schools (mostly out of London).</p> <p>GQ: Could falling rolls be a problem for us? The Head and those who attended the conference advised that it was close but numbers are bouncing back. The LDBS are offering support when and if it happens and the schools within the LDBS are coming at this from a position of strength.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Camden approach to academisation</b>	
	There has been no substantive meeting regarding this within Camden.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Headteachers Report</b>	

### **Standards Meeting**

There was discussion around the Standards Meeting letter and how it has taken a different format this year but it was still an accurate representation of our school.

GQ: A Governor queried the tone of the Standards Meeting letter as it read more like an inspection report as opposed to the more supportive description of Camden Learning from their website. The Head advised that whilst Camden school's pay into the service that they receive from Camden Learning it has changed somewhat recently due to the appointment of a new CEO who has an Ofsted background.

### **Challenge Partners**

We had requested the visit from Challenge Partners with a focus on writing. This had been challenging, fair and helpful. They had also found inconsistencies in our practice.

GQ: Was there a timeline for a revisit in order to become leading in a short period of time ready for an Ofsted inspection? The Headteacher advised that the EBI's had been written into the SDP and that this would show progress in this direction.

A member of staff commented that it was a good thing not to be judged as leading as this could lead the staff to become complacent – this way we would still be striving to do our very best.

A Governor wanted to congratulate the staff on the review.

GQ: What are our actions and how do we track this? The Curriculum Committee had made the low attainers and disadvantaged groups their focus for the year ahead and all staff had been given appraisal points relating to writing.

It was commented on that the advantage of the review was to deliver a judgment in a low stake environment which was very useful for new staff who had not been through an Ofsted inspection before.

### **Length of the school day**

As discussed previously it was brought back to the Board that the length of the school day should be 32.5 hours a week and it was proposed that we should lengthen our school day to end at 3.30pm and this would take place from September. We would communicate this to the parents as soon as it was agreed. Governors agreed to this change as it was mandated by the DFE. The Headteacher advised that there would of course be a financial implication regarding support staff hours and clubs may need to run until 5.30pm.

### **Autism Resource Base SLA**

The meeting was advised that we now have an agreement for the capital expenditure. There had been a meeting with Hilary Forbes in which we had told her what we needed to get the SLA sorted and had yet to get a response. Governors discussed this and it was agreed that Colin would seek the response from Hilary and send it to Governors with a short note and this would be agreed remotely via email. The Deputy Head advised the Board that what was missing from the SLA was the capacity of the school – we are full. The pressure on staff/teachers/support staff with the

	<p>extra children and workload without any more funding for cover is difficult and we have a duty of care to protect the children already on our roll.</p> <p>The Leadership Team explained the process of consultations, appeals and judicial reviews.</p> <p>GQ: Does the level of consultations that we are receiving indicate that there is less provision elsewhere in other schools in the borough. Governors were advised that this was not the case. It was the fact that parents were requesting our provision.</p> <p>It was agreed that James and Colin would plough ahead with seeking clarification from Hilary Forbes and report back to the Governors via email.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> It was agreed that James and Colin would plough ahead with seeking clarification from Hilary Forbes and report back to the Governors via email.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Safeguarding Governor Report</b>	
	<p>The Safeguarding Governor Report was attached. The Safeguarding Governor had met with the Safeguarding Lead in the days before the meeting and had updated their report.</p> <p>The Safeguarding Lead advised that he had escalated one case as a child was missing from our school, although still on roll, and we did not know where they were. A referral had been made to Social Services and was subsequently closed as the child had moved out of the area. We then contacted the Pupil Attendance Service and had obtained some advice from them. We would monitor this for the next few weeks and then take next steps.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Monitor for another couple of weeks.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Finance Update</b>	
	<p>The next detailed financial report would be available at the end of December. Support staff pay rises which had been received recently had mostly been accounted for.</p> <p>GQ: How are the energy bills? These are not available yet – heating is coming on at 5am and off at 5pm and is set at 18 degrees.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Questions regarding Committee Meeting minutes</b>	
	<p>The Chair asked if there were any questions regarding the various committee minutes.</p>	<p><b>Action: There were no questions and these were agreed.</b></p>
<b>11</b>	<b>Confidential Item</b>	
<b>12</b>	<b>A.O.B.</b>	
	<p>Governors agreed a contribution towards the Staff Christmas Party and the Church also agreed to pay some money towards this event. It was noted at this point that these funds did not come from any pupil money.</p> <p>The Headteacher advised the Board that the collections at Christmas events this year would be donated to the Kentish Town Community Centre and there would be the option to make a financial donation on ParentPay, collections at Church or donate food for the food bank.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	

	The next meeting would be 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 @ 5.30pm.	
	Meeting ended at 7.30pm	

Signed..........

Date 15.3.23.....

**Colin Reader,  
Chair of Governors  
Kentish Town C of E Primary School  
Governing Board**

