

**Governing Body Sub-committee
For Hoxton Garden School**

On Thursday 9th July 2020 at 5pm

(Meeting was conducted via Video Conferencing)

Committee Members

Sara Fox (SF)
Hannah Lownsborough (HL)
Victoria Crawford (VC)
Rachel Davie (RD)
Rachel Adams (RA)
Claudia Moreira (CM)

Clerk: Beverley Shore

1. Apologies /Consent for Absence

No apologies

2. Governing Body Organisation

2.1 Membership.

SF & AK have both resigned, the last meeting was AK's last meeting and this one will be SF's last meeting. SF hopes that the school will be able to recruit new people to join the subcommittee. SF suggested that HL should consider being the Chair. HL is open to this.

2.2 Acknowledgement of TOR

There are no changes.

2.3 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda & register of pecuniary interests for 2019/2020

There are no new declarations of interest.

2.4 Code of Conduct

There are no changes.

2.5 Governing Body Annual Calendar for 2020 – 2021 (draft)

3. Agreements of minutes from previous meeting and actions

There were 2 action points from the last meeting, both actions are long term and relate to distribution and completion of the school survey, this will be marked as ongoing.

The minutes were approved.

4. Headteacher's Report

RA reported that since the last meeting it has been a very unusual term, the data presented has been collated to the end point of data for March. There has been no submission for EYFS of KS1 data and no testing for KS2 has taken place. Year 6 data shown was on target for the end of year expectations, reading 87%, writing 89%, maths 89% and grammar and punctuation 89% . Exceeding, all figures are above national, including the combined reading writing together.

SF asked does the school have any sense from the year 6 teachers to what degree the learning has stalled.

RA replied based on the children who have returned, they have retained a lot of the information since they were last seen in school. Year 6 have continued to do work and reading and make progress. There has been approximately 15 of the year 6 children returning to school.

SF was worried about Year 6 as next year will be a new adventure.

RA is confident that the children have the right tools for secondary schools, there have been a lot of transition meetings with individual secondary schools including virtual tours for the children. There have been 1-1 meetings with the children and the new school, there have also been 1-1 meetings with the parents. All Year 6 children have been assigned a secondary school and the meetings and virtual tours have been good for the children.

VC asked why have only 15 year 6 children returned to school.

RA replied that the year 6 is a small cohort of only 38 children, the children who have not returned to school have been because of parental preference. The school have not put any pressure on the parents but have supported and reassured the families.

VC asked are the children that returned are the ones that the school were less worried about.

RA replied that some of the year 6 children have been in school since lockdown and they were high priority, probably most of the children in year 6 are the ones that school was concerned about.

VC noticed in the google friends report it looks like year 6 has been accessed less than the other year groups.

RA said that RD will go through the data in more detail later. It seems that some children can only access online learning through a mobile phone. The school has been in touch with families and have also done some home visits. The school has been supplying paper packs for many children, especially for the families accessing the FSM hampers.

RA said the year 2 data is on track to meeting end of year expectations and is broadly in line with national standards, this is the same for EYFS. They were on track to meet end of year expectations and broadly in line with national standards.

The teaching profile continues to be stable, many teachers have stayed. 2 teachers are relocating. The quality of teaching has remained the same since the autumn term. There is one teacher in RI but this is a different teacher to the autumn term, this teacher has decided to move on and will not be with the school in September. During the current situation staff have had access to CPD by way of reading activities and virtual meetings. NQT's and apprentice teachers have been set their half termly targets through action plans and have met virtually or in person with their mentors. All of these teachers have continued to teach since the 1st June, actually a lot of teaching has been done.

The school has provided a lot of support for children and parents especially the families where the regular access of online learning has stalled, the school has given additional support to help them re-engage. Celebrations and enrichment week and families have all happened virtually, lots of photographs and videos have been sent into school. Last week was Healthy Living Week and sports activities were done on each site, each class was set a number of activities, there were also virtual activities for the children at home and again lots of photographs and videos have been sent into school.

The focus at this time is now on our recovery curriculum. On the 1st June years 1 and 6 plus reception children returned. The phase 2 return was for children vulnerable pupils in all year groups, this includes children who have not been engaging in the home learning and children that were behind their peers in the March assessments.

There are currently 80 children in schools and the numbers have been increasing on a week by week basis.

SF asked are the Hoxton children now attending Hoxton, before the small amount of children were attending Orchard.

RA said that originally there were only 3-4 children so the provision was merged with Orchard for 4 weeks including the Easter holidays. When the numbers increased to 10, the children were moved back to Hoxton and the numbers continued to increase.

RD said that to give context, there are about 4000 children attending across primary and secondary schools across Hackney. 14 schools have more than 100 children back, Orchard has 180, Southwold has 130 and Hoxton has 80 children attending. The schools are doing incredibly well considering the number of children who have come back to school across the borough.

HL asked is there a reason behind the different sizes on the sites.

RD replied that due to the number of children on roll, and that Hoxton is a one and $\frac{3}{4}$ form of entry, 80 children back on site is excellent.

SF asked how recruitment is going for next year for pupil roll.

RD said we are driving our nursery allocations for September and have been since April time, there has been a clear strategy in place to support. Hoxton nursery numbers are on par with Orchard and Southwold. This is a strong position going into the next academic year, all 3 nurseries are at broadly around 60% capacity across the 3 schools for next year, we see a rise in the Autumn term. The impact of that is that reception numbers will increase next academic year.

There are 47 reception allocations for Hoxton Garden, the capacity is 60 so we need to fill 13 spaces and will be driving this. There are 38 year 6 children leaving, this means the numbers will hold steady. The school needs to look at the recruitment into the other year groups. The school is opening the full number of teaching classes, 2 for each year group. There have been additional nursery applications today.

Due to the current situation the school has not been able to do the normal induction process in terms of having parents in and doing presentations. The school have moved to a virtual presentation, this will be available from next week, the link will be sent to all families. There have also been 1-1 face to face meetings with every new parent with a member of the admin team so the paperwork forms and pupil premium forms have all been completed.

RA said that the link will be shared with the Governors. The current priorities have changed this term and the school is working on the recovery curriculum this will be ready for children returning in September. There will be a catch up programme identifying the gaps in children's knowledge and to ensure that the school is looking after the families and staff. There will also be a catch up programme for NQT's an apprentice teachers as they have been teaching less, the school will support them as they move to the next step in their careers. The baseline assessments for all children will be done in the autumn term.

5. Website Data (Google Analytics)

This data has been pulled directly from our websites, and relates only to the website access, the data is from the beginning of March to the beginning of June.

The purpose of this was to see how children were accessing the website and the online learning. There are additional programmes that run alongside the website, all children have access to a programme called Mathletics for practising maths skills and access to Times Tables Rock Stars for timetables focused programmes. KS2 children also have access to Google Classroom, they have been submitting work and accessing online learning.

SF asked can we get analytics on the other programmes or is it only the Viridis website?

RD replied that they have gathered analytics from these websites and broken down the access and tracked the usage over the same period of time. Overall 60% of children are accessing the programmes when we track all year groups, years 5 & 6 particularly are accessing Google classrooms significantly more than they are accessing the website, they have the same tasks on Google classrooms as they have on the website, that is why it is lower in year 6 as they are accessing the work through Google classroom instead of the website.

You will see that the access to the home learning web pages are particularly high for EYFS and Year 1 where they are accessing the task packs either down loading them or where they can see them on the phone and they are tasks that would be done offline.

The graph on the left hand side shows the spikes in the week, the highest points being Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and you can see where it drops off at the weekend. The dip in the middle is the Easter holidays and that is because different homework was provided for the holidays, they would only need to access the website once during this period. What we do know is that the increase in the uptake in that time significantly increased, 43% of visitors to the Hoxton Garden site during that time were new visitors, that means new families that have not accessed the website before. 57% returning visitors, the most intensive use has been around the home learning pages and the page with the links to the parent letters sent out.

In total there were 5702 visits to the website over a 90 day period, this is a significant number, this is reassuring that lots of people are returning to visit the pages again. 60% of families are accessing through either a mobile phone or an Ipad, 39% accessing through a PC. The Government has provided funding for laptops.

SF asked what has happened with this as this was promised months ago and there does not appear to have been any laptops delivered to anyone.

RD said that last week the school was informed by Hackney that they had received the money and they had identified a number of vulnerable children across Hackney who have additional needs. These children would either have an EHCP or a social worker, the school has received the new chrome books that they have been gifting to the identified children. Hoxton received 2 laptops for identified children, SW received 6 and Orchard received 9. The schools have chosen to gift the laptops as recommended by HLT as the safest and most readily accessible for the children.

According to news reports they may be more money coming, there are national campaigns running by BBC Radio regarding donations of laptops, there may be more on the way to support the families.

VC said there had been an announcement made by the DFE in partnership with O2 where they stated to people that they would help, it was only small.

RD said the school has done a good job of identifying who is accessing the home learning and identifying the most vulnerable children for homework packs. There is a clear strategy in place if this was to happen again and how the schools would manage it.

SF asked how does the total views across the last 90 days compare across sites.

RD said that apart from numbers of pupils on roll being different, the usage is similar across all schools. There is a slight difference between how the resources are accessed across the sites using mobile phones and laptop at Orchard and Southwold, pretty much 50%/50% the usage on mobile devices. The returning visitors and new visitors is parallel which allows the schools to plan better moving forward.

One of the agreed action points was to ensure that the website is better in terms of communicating letters out to parents because these are being accessed with increased regularity. Making sure that year 2's in KS1 have access and are confident in using Google classrooms in the event that this should happen again. One fun fact is that there have been 166 visits to the website from the USA, also a similar number at Orchard and Southwold. Orchard oddly has had a high number of hits from Mexico.

6. Draft policy discussion: Relationships and Sex Education

SF identified an acronym error on page 5 to correct.

RD said that the SRE policy was discussed in the Governors meeting, the new Government guidelines that come into place in September 2020 changes that and it becomes Relationships and Sex Education and no longer Sex and Relationship education.

The Federation had a clear strategy in place to share the policy change with parents, this has not been able to be implemented due to the partial closure. Some families raised concerns during families week last year and this resulted in a number of individual meetings to unpick the PSHE curriculum and content. This was not isolated as there was a lot of information in the news about SRE at the time. There is a strategy in place to do coffee mornings across the schools in the summer term and to share the policy and get feedback and also share the curriculum. These will be scheduled in September.

SF asked does that mean that this policy is still an unapproved draft until the parent consultations have happened.

RD replied that yes it is, it will be put forward to be approved at the full Governing body in the autumn term. The schools will be working within the principles and guidelines in September with the children. The whole policy has been revised to include the new guidelines, there are certain things that the schools need to be mindful of. One of the things is that the parents don't have the right to withdraw from relationships education at all, they do have the right to withdraw from aspects sex education. The policy itself is self-explanatory about how this is being managed and supported. One of the points of feedback from the Orchard sub-committee was adding a section regarding safeguarding and making a clearer link to the policy on online learning. This will be added to the final policy in the autumn term.

SF enquired if the policy was on the website

As the consultation has not been done and it has not been approved it won't be there yet.

SF asked are you expecting much push back from the parents?

RD replied that if the strategy is handled right and they have seen the policy and see what is in the curriculum, typically this will dispel any fear that a parent may have. Last year I met with parents at Orchard who were concerned about the PHSE lessons, I sat down with them, showed them the policy and discussed the curriculum and lesson content, it is usually the perception of what they may have heard in the news or other people they have spoken to.

HL asked is the issue around same sex relationships or trans issues or both.

RD replied that it is both, some of the text used in families week will be around same sex families or same sex relationships and different family make ups and that is where the challenges come from. Sexuality is a protected characteristic alongside religion and everything else, you can't equate more weight to one than the other.

HL said she imagines that some children in our school have same sex parents or trans and when they see other children being withdrawn from class because families likes there's are under discussion, how do you support those children and speak to them about this.

RD said parents won't be able to withdraw their children from these lessons in September, historically the schools work with the families to break down the barriers. There were 19 concerns raised across the 3 schools last year and the end result was that one family refused to change their mind and the other families changed their mind due to conversation and dialogue.

The school have also looked at the text that they have been using and those texts that parents have raised concerns about, the text has been changed to be more age appropriate.

RA said that at Hoxton the vast majority of parents are more on board and trust them in terms of the curriculum and their children. At Hoxton there were only 2 families that were inquisitive about the content, it was just a matter of explaining and both parents were fine, there is a big element of trust.

SF said that this is a fantastic change that the parents have the trust and are more engaged.

7. Any other business

8.

RD wants to thank Sara for all of her hard work for Hoxton and the Federation, it is much appreciated and we hope the hamper shows a small sign of appreciation for your hard work.

SF has said that she has not seen the draft procurement policy revisions and will volunteer to review the document when it has been issued and would like to do that via email and support.

RD thanked SF for this and will be in contact.

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