

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**Meeting no. 2 held at the school on 20th January 2016 at 9:00am**

Present:

Ms. Cobden (Chair)
Mr. France (Headteacher)
Ms. Knudsen
Ms. Sammons
Mr. Dorrell
Ms. Dominey

In Attendance **Mr. Ryder (Clerk)**

The meeting commenced at 9:05

Summary of Action Points

Action Point	Description	Responsibility	Status
4.1	Circulate English and Art curriculum reports	SF	Ongoing

1. Apologies

There were none

2. Declaration of Business Interests

The Chair asked governors if they had any changes to their Business Interests Form and there were none.

3. Previous minutes, matters arising and action points

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on September 30th were **agreed** and signed by the chair.

4. School Lead Reports -Science

Ms. Dominey tabled the Science Report at the meeting, and a copy is filed with these minutes. The report has 3 sections: an overall summary, a list of action points currently underway and a list of further actions. Ms. Dominey mentioned that a lot of time and effort has gone into training staff to teach science. The report was discussed and the committee were invited to ask any questions. The committee thanked Ms. Dunn for the report and all her hard work as science co-ordinator which is helping the children to develop their knowledge and abilities.

Music

Ms. Dominey tabled the Music Report at the meeting, and a copy is filed with these minutes. The report covers 5 main areas: curriculum, topics, peripatetic lessons, performances and Ofsted observations. The report was discussed and the committee were invited to ask any questions. The committee thanked Ms. Pratten for the report and all her hard work as music leader, along with Ms. Markham (KS1 music leader) which has created a diverse and enjoyable music learning environment at the school.

5. Planned developments for the improvement of spelling

Ms. Dominey mentioned that the school had been visited by Lyn Gaudreau, the DCC English advisor, on an inset day to discuss practical aspects of teaching spelling. Work is ongoing to enhance the teaching of spelling and helping children who struggle with phonics. The school should start to see clear evidence of improvement in about 18 months. Mr. France also mentioned that spelling results have been negatively affected by some children joining the school at KS2 with poor phonics abilities.

6. Analysis of RAISEonline data for 2015, and aspects to focus on for 2016

Mr. France mentioned that the SEP reports are based on the RAISEonline data which was discussed at the last FGB meeting. Ms. Dominey had also placed 2014 and 2015 dashboard reports on the governors shared drive. Ms. Knudsen raised a concern that the level of analysis of school data seems to have reduced lately. It was noted that a former governor, Mr. Robinson used to analyse the data in great detail and produce monitoring reports but since he left the governing body these reports have stopped. It was noted however that the school's SEP (Deborah Zachary) produces detailed analysis that is reported to the FGB. Also the RAISEonline data is produced in dashboard form and is available for all governors. Therefore it was agreed that the current level of analysis is sufficient and that it would be better for governors to become more familiar with the RAISEonline dashboards than having separate reports produced.

The RAISEonline dashboard reports hadn't highlighted any specific areas that the school needed to focus on, however it was agreed that the school should continue to focus on spelling and 'mastery'.

7. Mastery in English and Mathematics

Ms. Dominey tabled some documentation that had been used during a recent inset day to enhance the understanding of 'mastery'. One document was titled 'Mastery in Assessment' which outlined the basic concept of 'mastery', and the other was a set of slides from a presentation called "Mastery- Myth or Mystery?" The purpose was to explain what 'mastery' really means, as there are many different understandings and interpretations. It was noted that 'mastery' is difficult to evidence and test, so teachers will put purple stickers on any piece of work that they feel denotes 'mastery' of a topic. Achievement of 'mastery' can also be recorded in the school Pupil Tracker. Mr. France noted that as 'mastery' must be evidenced in each year group, some pupils' achievement may appear to drop when they move up a year until they get achievement of 'mastery' recorded again. Ms. Dominey mentioned that the school is using the 'National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics' information sheets supplied by the Oxford University Press in helping the children. Copies of each sheet for years 1 to 6 were placed on the governors' shared drive.

A further discussion also took place around the Singapore Maths Bar Model concept. Mr. France and Ms. Dominey said that teachers attended a training meeting on this in November. It was agreed that the system would be helpful for some children but not all. Some parts of the method are being implemented but not across the whole school.

Mr. France and Ms. Dominey also stressed that practical equipment is widely used in teaching Maths. Each classroom has a table with Maths equipment.

8. Chair's Correspondence

There was none.

9. Items for next Agenda

- Computing
- History

The meeting closed at 10:20

Future Meeting Dates:

FGB Meeting no.4	Wed 9 Mar 2016	17:30
PPC Meeting no.3	Mon 14 Mar 2016	17:00
Curriculum Meeting no.3	Wed 23 Mar 2016	09:00
PFM Meeting no.3	Thu 28 Apr 2016	17:30
FGB Meeting no.5	Wed 4 May 2016	17:30
PPC Meeting no.4	Mon 13 Jun 2016	17:00
Curriculum Meeting no.4	Wed 22 Jun 2016	09:00
PFM Meeting no.4	Thu 30 Jun 2016	17:30
FGB Meeting no.6	Wed 6 Jul 2016	17:30