



An Daras Multi Academy Trust

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CEO/Executive Head Teacher – W Hermon

5/10/17

Minutes

Local Governing Advisory Board; St Catherine's Church of England School – Autumn 1 Wednesday 27th September 2017 at 5pm at St Catherine's School

Note that actions are highlighted in bold and red, and will be carried forward to the next meeting and questions or challenges during the meeting are highlighted in bold and blue

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Rebecca Brewer (Chair), Margaret Young, Lisa O'Connor, James Wonnacott (Vice), Maria Lawson, Libby Bruce, Liz Davy, Louise Hussey (HoS)

Apologies: Eoin Gillespie

In Attendance: Clerk, Pippa Warner

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. She confirmed that Rev'd Jane has now left the Governing Board. JW led with an opening prayer.

2. **Declarations of Interest Relevant to this Agenda**

None declared particular to this agenda. LH, ML, LB, LD and PW are employees of ADMAT. RB is contracted by ADMAT. Annual Pecuniary Interest forms were handed to the Clerk.

3. **Confirm Minutes of LGAB Meeting Summer 2 (28th June 2017) and Matters Arising**

- Add SATs results and SIP report to Autumn 1. HoS. *Already at item 9.*
- Carry On-Line Safety policy to Autumn 1. HoS. *See item 19f*
- Carry Curriculum Policy to Autumn 1. HoS. *See item 19g*
- Action from confidential minutes will be taken to RSS committee on 1 Nov 17. Clerk. *Added to RSS agenda and Clerk will report back at Autumn 2.*

Everyone agreed the minutes and the Chair signed a previous copy.

4. **Confidential Agenda Items**

None.

5. **Chair and Vice-Chair**

MY proposed that the current Chair and Vice-Chair remain the same, and LH seconded. All governors voted unanimously for RB to remain as Chair and JW to remain as Vice-Chair. RB explained that continuity would be an advantage until after OFSTED and everyone agreed.

6. **Annual Signature Requirement**

All annual signature requirements were completed.

7. Review Documents

Governors were made aware that the revised governance documents are now posted on the An Daras website.

8. SEF and Improvement

HoS explained the SATs results – everything has improved, particularly SPAG. Some work is still required with Maths, particularly GDS. **RB challenged what was done in SPAG to get the results and hence can we do something similar to get an improvement in Maths too?** HoS explained the initiatives that are currently in place and that will be put in place. She then explained the 2016-2017 comparison. Everything has gone up but also highlighted that the teacher assessments were very accurate when compared to actual results. She showed the progress measures; writing is particularly good, reading is good and although maths is lower progress, it is above floor standard.

HoS briefly discussed the comparison with other schools in the MAT, and explained the averages across the MAT and that the MAT is generally secure. **RB challenged the fact that people are less likely to admit to not being able to read and write, but will admit “I can’t do maths” and it is socially acceptable!** HoS explained the issues with Maths learning and the approach to it. **RB challenged her for more detail of the maths strategies used in Yr 5 and Yr 6.** Parents are given the opportunity to have maths explained and to understand the concepts that are being taught. **LO challenged whether the reasoning behind the maths problems are explained to children so they know why they are doing it?** HoS stated that the detail behind this needs to be more embedded into the teaching and highlighted ways in which this contextualising has started.

HoS talked through the SEF. She specifically mentioned:

- All data serials are scored 2 or above.
- Serial 2.11 - HoS explained that the teachers have improved in the way they skilfully probe pupils’ responses and reshape tasks accordingly to improve pupils’ better understanding. Scored as 3 but much improved and almost there.
- Serial 5.8 - Staff are reflecting on and debating the way they teach. Teachers are now more involved in their own professional development, are more willing to take risks and innovate in ways that are right for the pupils. This is improving and almost there. **LO challenged what the Shanghai teaching method is?** HoS mentioned Shanghai maths teaching can’t just be inserted into every school without contextualising the methods.

HoS ran through the progress of PPG pupils, and the breakdown of very good, good and expected progress. **JW challenged how the expected progress figures are arrived at?** HoS explained and stated that the itrack system allows the progress to be monitored. She also explained how the Thrive provision works with individuals and groups of pupils, and then explained the PPG impact tools such as swimming, motor skills interventions and residential trips.

ML left the meeting at 6.05pm.

RB challenged that academic performance is measured in great detail but how do we measure a child’s confidence and willingness to do something new? MY reiterated that the focus at school is now stats and achievement but all the ‘other stuff’ sits on the periphery. Governors and HoS agreed that there are huge benefits to school trips and the

'softer' activities that help develop the child, and have a knock on effect to their learning and achievement. **LO challenged whether if it's not possible to fund residential trips, can they have days out which involve team building and putting children outside of their comfort zone?** RB commented that it was pleasing to see that some PPG interventions have stopped because they were proven not to be effective. LD suggested pupil conferencing would be a good way to judge what children feel before and after 'soft' activities or school trips (see if they have more confidence etc).

SIP county services will no longer be used. The MAT has bought into services of a currently serving OFSTED inspector and a previous HoS/advanced skills teacher to coach the teachers.

New targets have been set for next year. HoS discussed the KS2 Forecast Headline Attainment Overview and explained the structured plan and targeted groups. HoS explained the Home Learning Log.

9. **Visible Learning Update**

More training has been conducted. Impact coaches are being trained in October so they can train TAs in future. All staff have to complete an 'Impact Cycle' by January and impact coaches will support staff with this.

10. **Governor Impact Statement**

The Chair will draft and send to Clerk for inclusion on the website.

11. **Confirm School Risk Register**

HoS and Chair will work through and highlight the top 3 risks. They will inform the Clerk to take to Directors, and inform the Governors at the next meeting.

Action: Top 3 risks to be briefed to Governors at next meeting. HoS/Chair

12. **Governor Portfolio and Responsibilities**

These will remain the same.

13. **Review Staff Directed Hours**

HoS highlighted the staff directed hours and Governors approved. She then highlighted the non-negotiable expectations for teaching staff and TAs. Governors were content and agreed these are useful for when teachers or TAs arrive new to the school.

14. **SEND**

HoS highlighted SEND progress and gave the Chair the latest SEND report. LO queried the SENDCO provision and HoS explained what this will be. SEND Offer is on the website.

15. **PPG**

See item 8.

16. **Review Discipline and School Behaviour**

HoS explained a few individual issues. She also explained the support to lunch time supervisors, and that she is looking at the collective worship behaviour to refine how it is conducted. Getting children to take responsibility for their actions is being built into how everything is done. LO complimented LB on Yr 5 cohort behaviour.

17. Skills and Training

MY attended L2 safeguarding training. RB attended a character education CofE conference. ML has the latest skills audit and has booked relevant courses for the Governors.

18. Review of Policies

- a. Accessibility Plan – approved.
- b. Equality Objectives – approved.
- c. Discipline and Behaviour – approved.
- d. Admissions Consultation – approved.
- e. SEND – approved.
- f. On Line Safety – approved.
- g. Curriculum – approved.
- h. Peer on peer abuse – approved.
- i. Homework – approved.

19. Any Other Business

Clerk reminded Governors to fill out visit forms and hand to HoS or herself for filing. It is important to show evidence of visits and the impact that the Governors are having.

20. DONM

Date for Autumn 2 confirmed as 29th November 2017 at 5pm at St Catherine's

The meeting closed at 7.10pm

Toni JH Martin (ADMAT Clerk/LGAB)

Distribution List:

- R. Brewer – Chair/Foundation Governor
- J. Wonnacott – Vice Chair/Foundation Governor
- E. Gillespie – Parent Governor
- M. Young – Foundation Governor
- L. O'Connor – Foundation Governor
- M. Lawson – Foundation Governor
- Vacancy – Parent Governor
- L. Hussey – St Catherine's Head of School
- L. Bruce – Staff Governor
- L. Davy – Associate Governor
- P. Warner – Observer and Advisor, St Catherine's Deputy Head of School

- B. Jennings – ADMAT Board of Directors Chair
- W. Hermon – Executive Head/CEO
- B. Couch – Diocese of Truro