



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMPTON LOCAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (LSC)
HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 10TH MARCH 2022 AT 3:30 PM



Members attending: David Bertwistle, Sarah Hill (chair), Rev Lindsay Yates, Juliet Stupausis.

Also attending: Pippa Bass (clerk).

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

SH welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Ali Avery and Richard Christmas.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting held on 11th November 2021 were approved. The actions were reviewed:

Ref	Who	Action
11.11.2021 – 4b	Clerk	Provide TTG details for JS to access meeting papers, etc. Complete.
11.11.2021 – 4b	DB	Follow-up on proposal to apply for funding (from the bequeathed church fund) for the school minibus. Complete. LY confirmed that funding for the minibus was within the trustees' remit and would be finalised when the trustees next met, but that funding for ELSA support would not fit the criteria. Potentially other trust funds may be able to support additional areas, which DB could pursue.
11.11.2021 – 5	SH	Circulate a reminder email asking for specific strengths of the school to highlight on the website. Complete.
11.11.2021 – 6a	SH	Email JS about providing a pen-picture for the school website. Complete.

4. Head of school report

DB provided his HoS report and the additional premises information – see Annex A. Members thanked DB for his report and the report on the state of the premises, and raised the following queries:

- Q** It is a shame that the residential trips are being reduced, the children still talk about them long after the trip, what is the issue?
- A** These trips are becoming very expensive and the cost of the coaches is also increasing.
- Q** What is going to happen with all these necessary repairs?
- A** We are waiting for estimates for the repairs to the floor and underfloor leak at the moment. There has been no ongoing maintenance for a long time, which is a large part of the problem.
- Q** If things get worse, will there be disruption to the children's learning?
- A** We hope not. Some rooms have no central heating and are very cold, despite providing blow heaters. The children seem to be quite resilient, but the teachers are certainly suffering. If we put more heaters in, it will trip the system. We are expecting temporary work to be done over the Easter holidays.
- Q** How regularly is the SCR being checked?
- A** The SCR is checked each term (by Rita Harrison-Roach, our DVSF safeguarding governor).
- Q** When will the children come back to church more regularly?
- A** We should be able to get them back in church each half-term now, and for the Easter service.

5. Website update

Members discussed the general benefits of the school (small, rural, wrap-around care, etc) and suggested including a section in the visit report template to reflect instances of vision, values and ethos being demonstrated. This would then provide a record to provide additional content promoting the school on the website. SH agreed to raise this with the DVSF governing board.

The clerk would circulate to members the website review document (provided by Neil Ryder) and the professional photos that have recently been taken, for members to input further suggestions for content.

6. Platinum Jubilee plans

DB explained the current proposal, which was to bring the 3 schools together at Rake for a day of activities in year groups. Teachers of each year group were planning to get together to work out what activities could be provided, and the 3 PTAs were also getting in contact for ideas for joint fundraising and involving the parents.

7. The Friends/PTA update

In AA's absence, SH summarised some of the future events being planned, including egg decorating and a film night. DB thanked the Friends for the tremendous work that goes on to provide fun activities and generous fundraising for the school.

8. Policies

There were no policies to review.

9. Dates of future meetings

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 16th June 2022. However, the committee suggested changing the day of the week as Thursday is not a convenient day for members to attend. The proposal is for the **next meeting to be held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 at 3:30pm**, and for future meetings to be scheduled on Wednesdays.

ACTIONS:

Ref	Who	Action	By when
10.03.2022-5	SH	Raise with the DVSF governing board the proposal to update the visit report template to reflect instances of vision, values and ethos being demonstrated.	23 rd March 2022
10.03.2022-5	Clerk/All	Circulate details (report and photos) for members to provide comments and input on the new website to SH and Neil.	18.03.2022
10.03.2022-9	Clerk	Schedule future meetings on Wednesdays.	Next Sept

Compton and Up Marden CE Primary School Local School Committee Meeting**Head of School Report 03/03/22****Pupil numbers – March 2022**

Hedgehogs	Owls		Foxes		Buzzards	
Sarah McLauchlan/ Hayley Smith Christine Francis	Amy Stevens Jo Valentine		Sam Cain/ Andrea Taylor Margaret Jury		Richard Christmas Pauline Scott Jackie Brown	
12	13		17		22	
Total - 64						
Reception – 12 children SEND 1 PP 1 EAL 1	Y1 – 7 SEND 2 PP 0 EAL 3	Y2 – 8 SEND 0 PP 0 EAL 1	Y3 – 11 SEND 0 PP 0 EAL 0	Y4 – 5 SEND 1 PP 0 EAL 0	Y5 – 13 SEND 3 PP 3 EAL 0	Y6 – 8 SEND 4 PP 4 EAL 0

SEND – 17%, PP – 13%, EAL – 8%

This week we have had 4 new children start in YR, 1, 3 and 5. Another family of 3 children are joining the school after Easter.

Numbers for September are looking positive, but the final list of new pupils is not published until after Easter.

Safeguarding

Richard Christmas, as our DSL, is continuing to monitor and support one family who has an allocated social worker. There are no safeguarding concerns within school.

Curriculum

Yesterday we had a visit from Liz Walker, the local authority link advisor. Liz was following up from our Ofsted inspection and I had asked her to focus on the development point of **‘Not all teachers adapt the curriculum to best effect for those pupils with SEND. This can slow pupils’ learning. Staff require further training to help them adapt their teaching effectively’**. Liz and I undertook a learning walk to look at the SEND provision in all classes. We were able to see a huge amount of good practice; in Hedgehogs the LSA was working on targeted phonics with a small group, the teacher was using her assessment of the children to ensure all of them were being challenged, she then encouraged the children to work in pairs to support the sounds that they had learned in full sentences; in Owls the class had been split into two by age and the class teacher was teaching one group and the LSA the other to ensure that the individual needs of the children within each small group were met; in Foxes the teacher was using manipulatives to support maths learning, her use of questioning was outstanding. The LSA, who had been out of the room was directed to work with a pair of children who the teacher had seem struggling – her use of questioning was also a strength; in Buzzards the LSA was supporting the most able mathematician leaving the class teacher to work with the least able – this is very good practice.

Classrooms were seen to be bright and inviting, with lots of visual cues to support learning. Liz then spent time with the support staff. Her conclusion was that there had been a huge change in culture within the school and that the needs of the individual children are now at the centre of everything that we approach.

We are planning to deliver more training to support staff and to continue to focus on the principles of Quality first Teaching within each class.

At the end of last term teachers from across the federation were given time to work together to devise a document outlining the development of skills for each area of the curriculum. These documents will be used in conjunction with our assessment document to ensure that there is a development of subject specific skills for all areas of the curriculum. This does not, however mean that we will be moving away from the exciting

and engaging teaching that we are committed to, but that we will be tracking the development of skills within each topic we cover.

Staff from the three schools have worked closely together to moderate children's work within English, maths, science and RE. The teaching staff are very keen to develop relationships across the three schools and the remaining staff meetings will be joint ones and will be focusing on our PSE curriculum.

We have had the privilege of having a student from Chichester University on a final placement this term. Amy Daley has enhanced many areas of the school despite being working in Owls class. She has taken every opportunity to become involved in the life of the school and we will miss her when her placement ends. As a federation we have been able to enhance her experience – Rake and Rogate schools both have students on their final placement and I have been able to work with them all to allow them to share their experiences.

Covid Restrictions

As of the 24th February 2022, most Covid restrictions have been lifted and the risk assessment has been updated to reflect this, however the school will maintain enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures for the foreseeable future. Government guidance is that people should take personal responsibility for their own actions.

The Fairthorne Manor letters have been sent out for next year's year 5&6. As living costs are increasing, we are currently reassessing the viability of children going on a residential twice whilst at Rake School.

Training

All staff have completed their Read, Write inc training and the development of phonics training has improved because of the introduction of the scheme into the school.

All staff had had training from Katherine Miles, advisory teacher for learning and behavior, on Zone of Regulation (how adults can support children to self-regulate).

Hayley Smith continues her links with The Bourne PE department and has undergone training herself, with Sam Cain and with the Sport Ambassadors.

Sarah McLauchlan has worked alongside science subject leaders to develop an exciting new science curriculum and has planned some great activities for British Science Week, which begins on Friday 11th March.

Amy Stevens has completed her Read, Write, inc training and is still part of the current cohort training through the Sussex Maths Hub. She has also attended Key Stage 1 training sessions with other federation staff.

Sam Cain has attended Early Career Teacher training, for which he is supported by Paul Brown.

Richard Christmas continues his work with the Maths Hub to develop maths Mastery throughout the school.

SLT

You may be aware that there has been some friction amongst members of the SLT in relation to the running of the federation and about how the individual schools should operate. We have held a number of consultation meetings with members of the Governor leadership team to work through the differences of opinion and ensure that everyone is in agreement with the aims of the DVSF and individual schools.

Mrs. Garwood has been off sick for a period of time but has now returned. In the meantime, Paul and I picked up the SEND work at Rake, Rogate and Compton.

The SLT continues to manage the three schools in the federation. The time that we spend in each school has been reviewed and altered. I spend as much time as I can at Compton and visit Rake and Rogate sporadically.

Federation Development

As well as the initiatives mentioned above the federation schools have been working together at many levels: our Friends have liaised both about developing new constitutions and are all holding 'home clothes' days and cake sales to support Ukrainian refugees; teachers in Early Years have met regularly to examine their practice,

share expertise and develop their assessment methods; Year 1/2 teachers liaise regularly to plan and evaluate the work their children produce. They have also planned joint trips; office staff liaise regularly and I am delighted they have joined forces to produce a welcome pack for pupils joining the schools.

Locality Development

Compton has now joined Rake and Rogate as part of the Rother Valley locality. This will enable the school to take part in a range of activities including training, support for staff and enhanced opportunities for children. This term we have been part of locality moderation, governor support, headteachers meetings and will join the Rother Valley conference to look at the computing curriculum, SEND and staff wellbeing.

The cost of this, which I feel strongly is money well spent, is £5 per child per year, which is paid from the school budget.

Staff Wellbeing

Morale is high and the staff are working particularly well together and with other staff in the locality.

Additional Premises Information

The school's heating system has caused a huge number of problems since I joined last Easter.

Following a long period of the system being shut down and no maintenance having taken place, when the decision was made to switch it back on a number of problems became clear. The hall heating was not working at all. This was rectified after a number of visits from SSE and it has been working well, until a leak in the system was discovered last week.

The heating system for the original part of the school has also broken down. A new box to control the water pressure in the system was fitted, but the water pressure coming in was not sufficient to run the system. SSE have visited and discovered a major leak in the area opposite the photocopier. Repairing the leak will necessitate the floor being taken up and a length of new piping fitted. The local authority will not pay for this and it will be a temporary measure. Graham Hall, the LA engineer will put the school forward for LA capital project funding, but this is not likely to be until 2024.

Trevor and Paul Berry, the LA Surveyor, undertook an inspection of the flat roofing during the Premises Development Meeting this term. The report states: Visually all roof areas appear tired, this is mainly due to degradation of the coverings from age and weathering caused by exposure to the elements. There is lap shrinkage to the roof system in many areas. The membrane is in state of deterioration, large areas are balding of mineral coverage. Various membrane upstands are not adequately detailed. Some areas of standing water are present, but this is not considered to be a major problem. To date there have been no incidents of water ingress reported, other than through the timber roof lights, which have been repaired, and are currently watertight. Paul Berry will put forward a bid (again capital project funding) for the replacement of the original flat roof and roof lights. Also included will be the timber fascias to the flat roof area and the high-level windows to the hall. The pitched roof to the newer hall appears in good condition; however, it is advised that the school keeps a visual inspection of the areas from ground level to detect any slipped or damaged tiles. There have been several incidents of leaks through the old original roof lights, these have been included within the bid for the replacement flat roof.

SSE carried out the 5 year electrical check – no faults were found and the water heater in the staffroom has been repaired!

I am indebted to Trevor, who continues to test alarms, water and lighting and carries out regular maintenance within school.

David Bertwistle

7th March 2022