

BANISTER PRIMARY SCHOOL
MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY

THURSDAY 27th August 2020

9.00 AM

MINUTES

Those Present:

Kate Vincent (Head Teacher)
Peter McBride (Chair)
Vivek Kohli
Dave Hockin
Matthew Turpin
Romana Syed
Marion Clelland
Samantha Clough
Vicky Boothman
Luke Newman
Megan Streb
Cllr Steve Leggett
Peter Davison

Apologies: Richard Congreve
Laura Racioppi

Absent: None.

In attendance:

Katie Pevreal (Clerk)

Notes:

1. Welcome, Present and Apologies

1a. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted (by email) from Richard Congreve and Laura Racioppi.

2. Declaration of Interest

2a. Governors did not declare an interest in any of the agenda items.

3. Minutes and Actions of the previous meeting

3a. The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting. All actions were completed.

4. Plans for Schooling from September

4a. Megan Streb joined the meeting.

4b. It was agreed that the email thread regarding the risk assessment would be included in the minutes (see Appendix 1).

4c. Peter Davison joined the meeting

Q: How will the school protect its culture of inclusivity during this time?

A: The separation of bubbles isn't going to be very different for the majority of children because they will be in their class groups. The main difference is that assemblies will be done by class. The school will emphasise

the message that although bubbles are not mixing everyone is still part of one school. The school will provide guidance and a welcoming atmosphere to all children.

4d. Luke Newman joined the meeting

Q: *How does Banister's risk assessment compare to other schools in Southampton?*

A: *We are not sure, there has been no time for comparison.*

Q: *How does Banister's risk assessment compare to guidance issues by SCC and the DfE?*

A: *SCC provided a standard risk assessment and Banister used this as a starting point. Banister's risk assessment is very similar to the one provided by SCC. The DfE has not released a risk assessment to compare to.*

Q: *How are the staff coping? Do you have any concerns about the wellbeing of staff on the return to school?*

A: *The vast majority of staff have been back in the building since the beginning of June and are used to the measures that the school has in place. There are some anxieties from staff who had been shielding and the school has put in some additional measures for them. Largely staff are keen to come back.*

Q: *Are you aware of any families who are choosing not to send their children back to school?*

A: *We are aware of two families who are shielding. There will also be a delay on some of our pupils returning as they are unable to fly back from Saudi Arabia.*

4e. It was noted that if there are any families who do not wish to return to school, the school would work with them to understand why they are reluctant to return and to help them.

Q: *Will the census date still take place in the first half term?*

A: *Yes. The date has been set for the first week in October.*

Q: *What process is in place for communications with parents?*

A: *All members of SLT will help with this. The system will be similar to the one used in the Summer term and SLT will phone the parents of any children who are not in school.*

4f. It was noted that once the school had identified the impact the lockdown had had on learning, it should be reported back to the FGB. Teachers first priority will be to identify any gaps in learning for each child and make sure that they have a solid understanding of anything they may have missed before moving forward. The school was anticipating a significant need for children who were New to English when lockdown was announced.

4g. The school noted that it was employing teachers who do not have jobs for their NQT year to help teach the gaps in pupils' knowledge due to Covid. The DfE has made approx £30k of 'top-up' funding available to the school.

4h. It was noted that in a previous meeting governors had discussed potentially opening Banister Gates, which could have created a simpler and safer entry and exit for children and parents, and taken some pressure off staff. It is clear that opening the gates would be objected to by the residents of Banister Gardens and trigger a closure notice from the City Planners. It is unfortunate that the selfish behaviour of a few makes life difficult for so many other people, but not worth the trying to fight it at this stage. Consistency and stability is the key for parents and pupils.

4i. Governors discussed the school's decision to have members of SLT as gate minders for the first few weeks of the term. It was agreed that the result of this would be discussed in the following FGB meeting.

Q: *What contact does the school expect to have with the LA from September?*

A: *In the Summer term they were in regular contact with key questions, the school is anticipating a similar level of contact in the Autumn term.*

4j. It was noted that the DfE was still requesting a daily submission of attendance numbers in September which would increase the school's workload significantly.

Q: Are there additional costs involved to reopen the Breakfast Club and the MilkyWay Club.

A: The cost of the additional cleaning requirements is minimal. The price to parents has not changed.

4k. It was noted that the DfE would only provide additional funding in situations where a school would go into deficit as a result of additional Covid related costs. As our finances are in good order, we are unlikely to be able to claim any.

4l. Governors discussed the staggered times for the start and end of the school day. The school told governors they had tried to find similarities in which year groups siblings were in but unfortunately there was no correlation. It was noted that the staggered times made the Breakfast and MilkyWay Clubs more important.

4m. It was noted that Y6 had a school day 45 minutes longer than other year groups, as the school anticipated they would need intense support to catch them up as quickly as possible.

Q: How do the staff in Y6 feel about the extended day?

A: The school will make sure that the staff have extra support from SLT. They will not be working extra hours, but they will be using their directed hours differently.

5. Staffing

5a. The school informed governors that there were three new teachers starting in September, including Mr Smith starting his NQT year. It was noted that one teacher would have a delayed start due to issues with her visa. It was anticipated she would start at the end of September and a supply teacher has been found to cover her absence.

5b. The school had advertised for three LSA positions and were in the process of recruiting. They had received 60 applications.

5c. It was noted that three new lunchtime supervisors would also be starting in September.

6. Any Other Notified Business

6a. It was agreed governors would meet again on 17th September unless there was an emergency.

6b. Governors discussed the use of PPE. The school noted that they would follow the advice from the government about masks as it changed. Face shields would be worn by staff who were working closely with children outside of their bubble. It was up to staff when they felt it was appropriate to use face shields.

6c. DH will circulate the rhythms of the year.

ACTION: DH to circulate rhythms of the year.

6d. Governors briefly discussed the system in place for parents who had to come into the office.

ACTIONS:

Page Number	Minute Number	Action	Person responsible
3	6c	DH to circulate rhythms of the year.	DH