

BANISTER PRIMARY SCHOOL
MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY

THURSDAY 24th September 2020

9.00 AM

MINUTES

Those Present:

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

Apologies: Luke Newman

Absent: None.

In attendance:

Katie Pevreall (Clerk)

Notes:

1. Welcome, Present and Apologies

1a. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Luke Newman.

2. Declaration of Interest

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

3. Co options

3a. Governors discussed the end of Luke Newman's term as a Trust governor. It was unanimously agreed that he would be co-opted for another four years.

4. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

4a. The board unanimously agreed to elect Peter McBride as Chair and Megan Streb as Vice Chair.

4b. It was noted that Matthew Turpin's term was coming to an end in October and that he was no longer eligible to take a place on the board as a parental governor. It was unanimously agreed that he would be co-opted.

5. Sub Committees and Individual Roles

5a. The subcommittee membership was agreed as follows:

GP: Megan Streb, Vivek Kohli, Steve Leggett, Vicky Bootham, Peter McBride

TLC: Peter Davison, Marion Clelland, Laura Racioppi, Matthew Turpin, Sam Clough, Romana Syed, Peter McBride

HTPM: Megan Streb, Sam Clough, Matthew Turpin, Peter McBride

6. Minutes and Actions of the previous meeting

6a. The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting. All actions were completed.

7. Register of Business Interest

7a. It was noted that only one governor had completed the register of business interest. All other governors declared any interests and it was agreed the clerk would fill in the details.

ACTION: KP to complete register of business interest.

8. Review of New Routine and Risk Assessment

8a. The board was informed that the return to school was going well and the school had made a few minor changes to who greeted parents and pupils on the gate.

8b. It was noted that feedback from parents was really positive although they understandably had many questions about how long the changes were likely to go on for. Parents had also been very cooperative.

8c. The board was informed that instances of lateness had largely reduced. The school felt that offering breakfast club was helping.

Q: What is the next step for the school?

A: The school will continue to make minor adjustments as necessary. The children have become accustomed to the new routine and the school has started to allow some visitors in, for example for teachers for peripatetic lessons.

8d. It was noted that the school was not anticipating being able to function as normal this academic year.

8e. Governors were informed that children were missing their friends in other classes. The school was doing everything they could to allow these children to communicate without being stood together.

8f. Access to tests was not proving a problem for the school in terms of needing tests for staff and their households. Some children had failed to access tests and as such had to isolate for two weeks. The numbers of those having to be tested were relatively small.

8g. Attendance was steadily rising and the school anticipated that they would soon be heading towards 95% attendance.

8h. It was expected that the majority of pupils who had been in Saudi Arabia would return to school by mid October.

8i. Governors were informed that over the following week the school would have 20 new children starting with quite a number of them being new to the country. They are spread across all year groups.

Q: Has specific guidance been issued for the children who are new to the school?

A: No they will follow the same guidance as all other children. If they are coming from another school, providing they are not waiting for the results of a test, they will not need to isolate.

Q: Is the school providing children who are isolating with work to do at home?

A: Yes. It is important that the school draws a distinction between those who are isolating and those who are ill. If a child is ill they will not be given work to do at home.

8j. All homework had been moved onto SeeSaw. The school was surveying parents to ascertain which households had fewer devices than children who needed to use them.

Q: Does the school have tablets or laptops to give out to households that need them?

A: Yes the school has a small number of laptops that were returned by Y6s at the end of the summer term. All children who received devices during lockdown and who still attend Banister have retained them. The school is prepared to acquire more devices if necessary.

Q: How is the school preparing for the eventuality of a second lockdown?

A: The school is well placed for this. We are encouraging teachers to include videos so that those who are learning from home aren't missing out on content.

Q: Are you looking at providing video call classes or interventions for Y5 and Y6?

A: We have additional software for Y5 and Y6 that includes video content. We can set them work individually or in small groups so that we can target specific gaps in learning. The school feels that if classes were held via video call teachers would do this from the school rather than from their homes.

8k. Southampton University Student Hub will be offering 1:1 and group tutoring to Banister children from November onwards. The tutoring is being driven by the school's priorities which will be targeted towards the upper end of the school. It will be carried out via zoom in the evenings with parents present. Womble Bond Dickinson will also recommence their reading volunteering via zoom during the school day.

8l. The school had informed residents of Banister Gardens that they were looking at the School Street Scheme to make Banister Gardens a car free zone for school drop-off and pick-up. The correspondence from the residents can be found in the Dropbox. David Hockin had spoken to the planning officer who had been positive and hopes to be talking to the School Street scheme organiser next week.

8. Correspondence

There was no further correspondence to discuss.

9. Key Targets 2020-21

9a. The board was informed that the SIP included a COVID section, a PSHE section and a Catch-Up Section. The school had just completed the baselines for all year groups aside from YR. There was no theme across the school and as such planning would be carried out on a year group basis.

Q: Is the gap in knowledge bigger this year than after a normal summer holiday?

A: Yes. The memory of previous teaching is not as good as it usually is. Y1s have struggled with the transition and phonics in Y1 and Y2 are not at the stage we would normally expect.

Q: Do you have any key targets related to staff?

A: Wellbeing will be wellbeing for all - including staff.

9b. The staff are coping well with the return to school. SLT is supporting teachers by removing as much stress as possible so that teachers can focus on teaching.

Q: When will the governors be able to see the SEF?

A: The SEF is almost complete aside from the internal school data which will be added after census day. It will be ready for TLC on 9th October.

10. School Improvement Plan Monitoring

10a. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the first TLC meeting of the year.

11. Any Other Notified Business

11a. One governor brought a consultation to the board's attention. The consultation was for ten extra places at two of the special schools in the city. It was agreed that governors could comment individually and that the school would also issue a formal response in support.

11b. Governors were updated on the COVID situation in the city.

11c. Governors were informed that they were now able to access online training on the NGA website. The Chair agreed to share the link via email.

ACTION: PM to share NGA link.

11d. It was agreed that the next FGB meeting would take place on 22nd October. The clerk would add all the agreed dates for the committee meetings to the rhythms of the year.

ACTION: KP to add committee dates to Rhythms of the Year.

ACTIONS:

Page no.	Item	Action	Person Responsible
2	7a	KP to complete register of business interest	KP
4	11c	PM to share NGA link	PM
4	11d	KP to add committee dates to Rhythms of the Year	KP