

# HUNSLET CARR PRIMARY SCHOOL LEARNING & TEACHING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 December, 2015 at 4.30 pm

**PRESENT** James Annetts (Chair) Martin Lumb (Head teacher)  
Laura Bairstow Kim Ellis  
Iain Cunningham

**IN ATTENDANCE:** David J Israel - Clerk, Governor Support Service

| 1.0        | <b>APOLOGIES</b>   | <b>ACTION</b> |
|------------|--|---------------|
|            | Apologies were received and accepted from Pamela Reed.   |               |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>TARGET SETTING FOR PROGRESS AND ATTAINMENT</b>  |               |
| 2.1        | The Chair explained that from now formal minutes would be taken for each L&T committee meeting and that meetings would be more regular. Both these changes were important to ensure proper interrogation of the L&T in the school.   |               |
| 2.2        | Laura reported that she had analysed the end of year data from July 2015 and projected ahead for the end of this academic year based on expected progress. She presented this in September to teachers to set their class targets. There was focus too on those children who had not achieved last year to ensure teachers had these pupils in focus.  |               |
| 2.3        | Laura explained that the school was below government targets in reading, maths and writing in key stages one and two. Attaining these minimum targets is also a focus for the class teachers.  |               |
| 2.4        | The Chair asked exactly what was being done to ensure these targets are met? Laura explained one of the methods being used was for twenty pupils in year six, at risk of not attaining level four or making two levels of progress, will be taking part in 3 <sup>rd</sup> Space learning (on line tutoring), with costs covered by pupil premium. Governors would be welcome to see this in action on a Tuesday or a Thursday between 3.30 and 4.15. She also noted that targets for early years and foundation stage would be set at next week's Pupil Progress meeting. |               |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>STANDARDS &amp; PROGRESS</b>  |               |
| 3.1        | Laura presented her commentary on the RAISE Online report. In early years and foundation she noted that the school was achieving ahead of other local schools and in line with Leeds schools generally, though slightly below national standards.  |               |
| 3.2        | In Key Stage one the results were average at 2B and good at 2C and 3C+. The average figures at 2B are down to teaching in one class, which has been identified, and steps are being taken specifically to address this issue this year.  |               |
| 3.3        | The Key Stage two results are just below national average individually in reading, writing and mathematics, but substantially so combined. The key reasons for this are:   |               |

- three children left key stage one whilst still at 2B; and
- four children in mathematics made less than expected in key stage two.

Again, targeted actions are in place to address these issues.

3.4 Current results indicate that there is a mixed level of progress across all the year groups. The staff across the school are aware of the strengths and the areas which need addressing, and teaching is ensuring that the gaps are being closed. This is one of the 4 main priorities of the SDP.

#### **4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP) PRIORITIES AND IMPACT OF STRATEGIES USED**

4.1 Governors noted that, for the first time, they were linked into specific areas of the SDP. Targets have been set which are time specific to allow for challenge and for the chair to report whether or not the SDP is on schedule.

4.2 The School Improvement Adviser (SIA) had reported that that even with leadership capacity issues, the school was still strong and securely good, which the committee agreed was very encouraging. Governors asked if the head was pleased with the report? He felt it was a fair reflection of the meeting and good preparation for an inspection. Martin said Diane was challenging and understood the inherent value of developing and strengthening leadership.

4.3 The Head explained that he had RAG rated the SDP and that he and the Chair would be meeting next week to review this.

4.4 The SDP, without its RAG rating, is now available on the website too.

#### **5.0 NATIONAL CURRICULUM**

5.1 The Head informed the committee that the school had adopted the Essentials Curriculum by Chris Quigley.

5.2 Both sets of key stage staff have reviewed the curriculum and placed learning opportunities across their relevant years in all subjects. Governors asked if the school was still doing theme weeks? They are, and governors were talked through the structure of the new yearly planning format noting topic weeks and the spelling & mathematics focuses from both the national and Essentials curriculum.

5.3 Governors asked if words of the week or book recommendations are still done? Absolutely so the school wishes to engender a love of reading, as evidenced by the recent investment in the library. One example cited was that three times a week, in a circle, teachers read to pupils from books above their level.

5.4 Governors asked if all this work was reducing the gap? The Head said it was, empirically and objectively, especially because of the work of the extra-curricular activities to provide 'childhood

experiences' like strawberry picking and horse riding. However he noted too that the gap needs to be reduced more quickly.

5.5 The school is seeking to create an aspirational curriculum eg career talks from successful former pupils, university visits, students choosing jobs they would like to do and researching what they would need to do to get them etc. The school is also looking into peer mentoring and closer ties with South Leeds Academy, all funded by pupil premium.

## **6.0 MONITOR QUALITY OF TEACHING AND STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED TO IMPROVE THEM**

6.1 Martin spoke to the teaching profile system the school is now using to monitor teacher performance. This allowed teaching quality to be tracked over time as required by OFSTED. In summary, the report showed that teaching was 74% good and 15% outstanding.

6.2 This new method allowed better assessment of teachers and felt that it could also be motivating for student teachers. They are done through peer observations as well as, sometimes, with senior leaders.

6.3 The Chair asked how sure we could be of these results? The Head said there were several signs which showed this system to be working including teachers from other schools planning to come and see the best practice in the school, as well as external monitoring to back up the results.

6.4 The Head explained that he was considering having a mock OFSTED for the school and was meeting a provider of this service in January.

## **7.0 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

7.1 There was no other business not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

## **8.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 8 March at 4.30pm