



Markeaton Primary School, Bromley Street, Derby DE22 1HL

MINUTES
Curriculum Meeting
Thursday 16th May 2019 5.00 pm

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>ACTIONS</u>
01/19	<p><u>Present</u></p> <p>Steph Marshall Power (SMP), Ian Johnson, Headteacher (IJ), Nicki Jenkins (NJ), Jess Hawley (JH), Hannah Pearson, Chair (HP). Attended by: Teresa Smith (TS).</p> <p>Clerk: Billie Welford</p> <p><u>Apologies for Absence</u> – None received.</p>	
02/19	<p><u>Review of Membership</u></p> <p>A Vice Chair is required for the Curriculum Committee. To be put on agenda for next FGB meeting. SMP to ask the two new parent governors if they are interested in this role.</p> <p>Joanne Fleay will have responsibility for Wellbeing. Laura Martin will be FS2 Link/Pupil Premium Governor. Both could be allocated to the Curriculum Committee.</p> <p>A form has been put up on the staffroom noticeboard to try to recruit a new staff governor. A deadline for expressions of interest to be added of 7th July 2019. Applications to be returned to SMP. FGB to ratify any new staff governor before recruitment.</p>	<p>SMP</p> <p>IJ</p>
03/19	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>Governors were asked if they had any interests to declare regarding the content of this meeting. None declared.</p>	
04/19	<p><u>Review of minutes from CURR 28 February 2019</u></p> <p>The minutes had been circulated to staff prior to this meeting.</p> <p>The minutes were accepted by all governors as a true record of the meeting. They were signed and dated by the Chair.</p>	Accepted
05/19	<p><u>Matters arising from minutes CURR 28 February 2019</u></p> <p>Item 6 – HP still to meet with EB for an update on SEND. New date to be set. HP had met with IJ for an update on Safeguarding. Report to follow. HP had met with IJ to discuss the inclusion of WW2 in the KS1 curriculum. There was no report as yet as another meeting is required to discuss further. IJ said that the next inset day is all about Curriculum and he would like to discuss this with staff first.</p>	<p>HP</p> <p>HP</p> <p>HP/IJ</p>

06/19

Science Presentation – Teresa Smith

Staff member, Teresa Smith joined the governing body to present the above. She explained that an aim in the School Development Plan was to enhance provision for investigative science. TS informed governors that there had been a recent talk regarding children creating their own questions. A spinner can be used with the usual who/what/where questions on. Children are encouraged to make up their own questions dependent on what the spinner lands on. This way, they are thinking up the investigation themselves. There is also a strong emphasis on using the correct vocabulary and showing progression.

TS demonstrated the website Explorify which gave examples of topics to investigate and included pictures/videos which children can watch and then ask questions about what they have seen. Other websites were also discussed. SMP asked if TS had used Explorify. TS said that she had only recently been introduced to it at a networking meeting. The use of the website was also without charge. Terrific Scientific was also discussed as this website included lesson plans, resources and ideas. JH confirmed that this was a really useful site.

HP asked what the outcome was with the children. TS said that it had been very positive and progress was clearly being made. She said that children had provided good evidence and that the vocabulary range used was good. Children were also being encouraged to produce their results in different ways, for example showing their evidence in the form of graphs.

TS gave some example investigations that children had been undertaking. Waterproofing a bear – children had to investigate different ways to waterproof it. They tried various ways and then produced the results in different ways. There was a similar investigation with bread – introducing various germs to it and monitoring the reaction of the bread. TS said that this also led to a discussion of how germs are spread and the importance of washing hands thoroughly. JH said that she had used some of the above methods before but staff were aiming for this to become more child-led. IJ said that all year groups were undertaking scientific investigations but all in different ways. For example, Y5 would be using books to record their findings instead of using a template. He said that it was also good when things didn't go to plan during investigations so that children could then begin to ask why. HP asked whether differentiation could be observed during the classes. TS said that various levels of skill were applied at all stages and correct vocabulary was encouraged during the recording of the experiments. SMP recalled undertaking these types of investigations in secondary school and said that it was good to see that it can be introduced at all levels in primary schools.

TS said that her next steps would involve lesson observations to monitor questioning techniques/vocabulary in use. To also monitor whether the experiments are child or teacher-led. Once the SATs are over, some of the left over PP grant money will be used during the Stem days. JH said that the PTFA would be asked for contributions too. TS said that decisions had to be made around what to teach and yearly plans created. TS felt that if teachers were assigned to a year group then this would be easier for assessment. NJ asked what will be measured during the lessons. How would teachers know what progress has been made or what difference the lesson has made to them? TS said that this year's outcomes would be used as a benchmark for the same lessons next year. IJ said that like MAGs, recording results should be kept simple eg. met/not met. Investigative science is judged more on a sliding scale. How good are they as scientists? HP said that this will be seen from observing in class and seeing how children arrive at a conclusion. HP

	<p>said that scientists are often presented as male only during historic events. SMP said that it was good to see that investigative science will also inspire the girls.</p> <p>Governor's thanked TS for a very informative presentation. TS left the meeting at 5.40 pm.</p>	
07/19	<p><u>KS2 SATs Feedback</u></p> <p>Governors asked what the general feeling had been in school during the KS2 SATs. IJ said that after the final test today, he felt that the Y6 children were the calmest. There had been no tantrums or tears.</p> <p>SMP said that 35+ children had come into school for breakfast on Monday at 8.30 am. They loved it. IJ said that there had been 42 today.</p> <p>IJ said that all statutory requirements had been followed e.g. the witnessing/collection.</p> <p>HP asked if many had sat papers out of class. IJ said that various levels of support had been applied for children to sit the exams in a quiet environment with readers etc. However, for children to be able to do this, a reader must be the norm in school. HP asked about scribes? IJ said that there was one child with particularly illegible handwriting for whom this was standard practice in school.</p> <p>IJ said that children were eased into the SATs this year by having SPaG tests on Monday. There had also been a visit from Derby County who, as part of the PE package, gave children preparation on how to cope. JH said that she had spoken to some of the children about maths and they had seemed much more prepared for the problem-solving questions this year.</p> <p>NJ said that the feedback this year seems similar to last year so methods in school must be working. There was some discussion amongst governors about how important it is for children to know their times tables as most of the maths questions are underpinned by them. IJ said that everything was positive and well done to all involved.</p>	
08/19	<p><u>Policies/Documents for Ratification - Circulated</u></p> <p>There was some discussion around the policy schedule document which was not up to date. BW identified the statutory policies and who should ratify them. HP, NJ and SMP will be looking at the schedule and allocating to either committees or FGBs.</p> <p>Also, it was discussed that there should be a signed copy of each ratified policy kept in school. There also needed to be clear identification that a policy had been ratified, when this had taken place and when it would need renewal.</p> <p>BW to send a good example schedule to HP.</p>	<p>NJ, SMP, HP</p> <p>BW</p>
09/19	<p><u>Governor Visits/Training</u></p> <p>Both of the new parent governors had attended induction training but have yet to attend a meeting. They had also visited the school with SMP. Reports to be sent from SMP.</p> <p>NJ had attended a Pupil Premium review meeting. Report to follow. NJ undertaking the Self Review training. Report to follow.</p>	<p>SMP</p> <p>NJ</p>
10/19	<p><u>What difference has this meeting made to our pupils?</u></p> <p>Governors gained a better understanding of investigative science which will enable them to challenge the Senior Leadership Group.</p> <p>Governors have seen the intent and how this will be implemented.</p> <p>The meeting has empowered a Middle Leader to raise standards by</p>	

	presenting to governors. By linking targets in science with equality.	
11/19	<u>Determination of confidentiality of business</u> Nothing identified.	
12/19	<u>Date of next meeting and items to include</u> FGB Business Meeting 18 July 2019 at 5.00 pm. Recruitment of Vice Chair for Curriculum Committee Policy Schedule/Governor Responsibilities Ratification of new Staff Governor if interest expressed.	

Signed _____ Dated _____