

AUTUMN TERM 2023

TURNFURLONG INFANT SCHOOL

MINUTES of the meeting of the FGB Curriculum Focus meeting of Turnfurlong Infant School held at the school on 23rd November 2023 at 4.30pm.

PRESENT:

Mrs L Arnott

Mrs H Burnett

Mrs S Hounsell

Mrs G Hudson

Mr R Lloyd (Chair)

Mr M Mardawan

Mrs R Ochiltree
(Headteacher)

Mrs K Stewart

APOLOGIES:

Mrs C Austin

Mrs G Emmanuel

Mrs K Henry

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs R Weymouth (Clerk)

ACTION

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked Governors for attending. Apologies were noted and accepted.

Mrs S Hounsell was welcomed to her first meeting as a Governor.

2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no further items for discussion under Any Other Business.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs G Hudson advised she is Vice Chair at Turnfurlong Junior School (TJS), is an employee at the PRU and sits on the Management Committee at the PRU.

4 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Circulated prior to the meeting, Governors reviewed and agreed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th November 2023.

4.1 MATTERS ARISING

The school Admissions Policy would be tabled at the next FGB meeting – 7th December 2023

FGB Agenda

5 CURRICULUM**Student Data**

Circulated prior to the meeting, Governors noted baseline data for Year 1 and 2 and DfE baseline data for Reception. The Headteacher advised;

Year 1

- This cohort had a high Good Level of Development (GLD) in their Reception year and continue in this trajectory.
- Many children are already reaching Expected levels in writing which shows the impact of the school curriculum which is oracy based and supports children's writing.
- Teaching staff have attended moderation sessions with other Aylesbury schools and returned feeling confident about their judgements.
- Maths and Reading data provides a similar picture with children continuing to progress well.
- Pupil Premium (PP) children in Year 1 are also achieving to a high standard.

Year 2

- This cohort had a low GLD at the end of their Reception year and have not been a high attaining year group. Many children did not pass the Phonics test when in Year 1.
- There are some children in the cohort that are above expected in Year 2 and there is a focus on these children to push them forward to Greater Depth (GD).
- There are however more children below expected in more areas than this time last year.

Governors often see this data in the Autumn term and by the end of the year they have caught up. Responding, the Headteacher advised that it is not expected that these children will have a high attainment at the end of Year 2. The school know that teacher judgements are accurate, and the data is a true reflection of the cohort. This is also evident in the Maths data when compared to last year.

- 20% of the cohort are on the SEND Register and the impact of this can be seen in the data.
- The school will be using DfE KS1 SATs papers for year 2, although the data will not be published this will provide the school with

analysis in terms of evaluation for the school and comparing how different groups are performing compared to other local schools.

- Generally, the school's data is always above national averages, but local data provides information on disadvantaged children where the school has had great success. PP children at the school do better than Buckinghamshire, Aylesbury, Aylesbury Vale, and national data and this is the impact of a hands on, language rich curriculum and the quality of Early Years which has been recognised by both the EYFS Adviser visits and by Ofsted.

Reception

- The first data from the Reception cohort will be available for the next meeting but looks promising at 70% GLD. In 2022 this was 60%, in 2021 61%, and in 2019 72%. The school is therefore progressing back to pre-pandemic levels.

Agenda FGB-C

Phonics screening

- In Year 1 some children are already meeting the pass mark threshold.

There are additional staff in place to support Year 2. Are there also staff available to support Year 1 and push them further in their learning?

Responding, the Headteacher advised that extension of learning is classroom based and every Year 1 teacher has a target that children should continue to make good progress from their starting points.

Have the school documented any learnings from what Governors have heard earlier about Year 1 and Year 2? Responding, the Headteacher

advised that in Year 2 the key focus is the progress children have made from their starting points. There is not a concern about quality of teaching which has been confirmed by Ofsted inspection, formal assessments, and observations. This cohort had the most disrupted EYFS years due to the pandemic and this impacted their readiness to start school and their social skills. The mental health of mothers in this group national is also more likely to be impacted by the pandemic.

The staff Governor advised that the Year 2 cohort can be anxious and have issues with socialising and sharing. Research shows that unless they feel safe and secure their minds are not ready to learn and some children are only just getting to this stage. Staff are working hard to give children excellent stepping stones and skills to thrive in Year 3.

Curriculum Update

The Headteacher advised;

- A cross phase meeting was held at The Grange which some teachers attended and was very interesting.
- Moderation in writing has also taken place as discussed earlier in the meeting.
- A parent has approached the school with some ideas for how the school can develop Black History Month next year focusing on culture which is welcomed.
- There is a focus with Liaison Schools on deprivation projects such as Voice21 and Reading for Pleasure.

The Staff Governor advised that she has received training in a new intervention called Calming Cats. The school were one of 12 selected to run a trial. This is a nurture group that is designed to help children with self-regulation aimed at Nursery and Year 1 children which is going well so far. For assisting with the trial, the school receive a grant of £2,000.

Opal outdoor play continues to progress and is a project to improve play time giving children the opportunity to play in a more structured and engaged way including mud play, sand play, a stage, prams, dolls, crates, tyres, and loose parts play.

Educational Trips and Visits

Governors noted the report circulated prior to the meeting.

6 SEF

This item would be discussed at the next meeting.

Agenda - FGB

7 GOVERNOR SUBJECT VISIT REPORTS

Governors noted that Subject Visits had been arranged for the summer term and would be tabled at the next (FGB-C) meeting.

Agenda - FGBC

8 WELLBEING

The Headteacher advised that a staff survey would be conducted in the Spring Term.

Headteacher

Ofsted inspection has been a dominant thought for staff, and it has therefore been great to return to usual school preparations and starting exciting projects such as Opal Play.

9 HEALTH AND SAFETY WALK

This item would be discussed at the next meeting.

Agenda - FGB

10 POLICIES

The following policies were reviews and agreed;

SEND Information Report

Equality Information and Objectives

11 DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

All meetings 4.30pm.

7th Dec 23 - FGB

Spring Term:

1st Feb 24 – FGB-F

7th Mar 24 – FGB-C

21st Mar 24 – FGB

Summer Term:

16th May 24 – FGB-F

5th Jun 24 – FGB-C

27th Jun 24 – FGB

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Headteacher advised that the SENCO has completed the national qualification for Special Educational Needs.

Governors passed their congratulations to the SENCO and thanked her for her continued commitment.

13 CONDUCT OF MEETING

Governors confirmed that the meeting was conducted in an open manner and that all governors were invited to participate and contribute to discussions. It was confirmed that all members of the Governing Board would have access to these minutes *(with the exception of any Restricted Confidential Minutes)*.

The meeting closed at 17.47pm.

Signed Date

CHAIR