



WATERBEACH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 6.30pm
held at the school

MINUTES

Governors present: Martin Brown (MB, Chair); Jane Green (JG, Head); John Hall (JH); Jessica Lechner (JL); Anne Morten (AM); Natalie Rogers (NR); Mark Smith (MSm); Lisa Wakley-Davis (LWD), Nicola Webb (NW)

Also Present:

Helen Andrews (HA, Clerk)
Lynsey Ogilvie (LO, Deputy Headteacher)

Agenda Item	
1.	<p>Welcome & Apologies</p> <p>The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all to the last Children's Committee meeting of the academic year.</p> <p>The meeting was quorate and fully attended.</p>
2.	<p>Declaration of Interests in Items on the Agenda:</p> <p>No declaration of interests in items on the agenda were declared.</p>
3.	<p>Phonics Presentation – LO</p> <p>An overview of phonics as an SDP priority was provided during the meeting. Examples of "grab n' go" packs were shared for governors to review during the meeting. Approx. £20k of funding has been spent on books, an additional order for KS2 books has recently been submitted. Children are looking after the new books, only one has needed to be placed this academic year.</p> <p>Challenge: A governor asked, in terms of expense, what will be the ongoing costs?</p> <p>There will be an annual subscription for Little Wandle including a per pupil fee. This subscription provides all the training and resources required.</p> <p>LO explained that TA time has been ultimately responsible for the positive impact made on embedding the scheme across the school. Without the amount of support staff capacity required, the momentum in impact will not be possible.</p>

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Children with EHCPs were prioritised first, phonics are the next focus, with general support being prioritised thereafter. Currently, the school is playing catchup with phonics interventions across the school. This amount of capacity will not be required permanently once gaps have been closed.

LO referred to the government requirements for choosing a phonics teaching programme – link here. Little Wandle is a validated scheme which provides all the resources required by the teaching staff to support the teaching of phonics in school. The scheme does rely on staff time. New staff, including those going into KS2, will receive the full 6hrs of initial training.

Challenge: A governor asked, where does that 6 hours come from?
From training days and as part of an induction program. Any new teacher that starts before September 2024 will receive paid time to receive training before they start the new year.

The Ofsted English Education Report – summary conclusions – link [here](#). The recommendations from the report have been shared in staff meetings, particularly around the development of fluency and spelling into KS2.

Governors reviewed the resources provided by the Little Wandle scheme – the children love them. Children have access to a wide range of texts to provide reading opportunities in all interests. Children are engaged with reading and are reading with more expression than ever before. Reading remains a focus for all teachers across the school. Rapid catchup has been used extensively in KS2 to plug gaps.

Challenge: A governor asked, are there any plans to share the benefits of adding expression to reading at home?
There is much debate about how to engage parents. Reading to children for pleasure is something that should be encouraged.

Every child in EY and KS1 has 3 individual opportunities to read a week with a member of staff.

Challenge: A governor asked, do you make use of parent volunteers still?
One of the volunteers is using Little Wandle to support reading with the children.

Challenge: A governor asked within the Little Wandle package, does this include volunteers? It must take a lot of time for them to complete!
The school would rely on volunteers to complete that in their own time. The existing subscription has no limit. Volunteers have been targeted based on their availability. Children are not taken out of reading/phonics lessons in the

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morning; the bulk of volunteer reading takes place in the afternoons. Governors understood the practicalities of quality control of how volunteers utilise their understanding of Little Wandle techniques.

Little Wandle has allowed for the early identification of SEND in KS1. Governors learnt of the SEND programme available via the subscription.

Challenge: A governor asked, does that identify phonics-specific challenges? It has helped to identify working memory problems which has allowed further assessment to explore the underlying cause.

LO explained the online data tracking available through the Little Wandle platform. Half-termly assessments take place.

Phonics – 80% of Year 1 children achieved their phonics screening check in line with the county average. 3 should have passed but did not perform on the day. 9 children on SEND Register. 13 children have been identified for catchups in Year 2.

40% of Year 2 retakes achieved their phonics reassessment. 18 are not on track and will need keep ups in Year 3. 6 children from this cohort are on the SEND Register.

Challenge: A governor asked, do the keep-ups take place the following half term?

Yes, re-assessment usually takes place the half-term after. Keep ups are held either in groups, or 1:1, or in breakfast groups. Keep-ups are sessions used to plug the gaps created in previous academic years. Catch-up sessions plug in-year knowledge.

Governors reviewed the internal assessment data which showed the impact of the implementation of the Little Wandle scheme. A copy of LO's presentation will be shared with governors after the meeting.

In house monitoring has taken place all year in a variety of forms and will be ongoing into the new academic year. External monitoring has been received by Myland Hub who have been very supportive and have shared positive feedback about the implementation of the scheme. Their support will continue for another year and comes free of charge – funding was acquired through the support of the Hub to support the implementation of Little Wandle in school.

Challenge: A governor asked if the new Headteacher was familiar with Little Wandle.

NL understands the rigour of Little Wandle, but it was not known if he has worked in a school who uses the scheme. LO explained that there are

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	<p>Headteacher specific resources that he can access to become familiar with the scheme if he is not already.</p> <p>Challenge: A governor asked, how much are feeder preschools involved in Little Wandle? Governors learnt that one local preschool has bought into the scheme and understood that cost and staffing capacity are inhibitors to other settings following course.</p> <p>Governors thanked LO for her update and response to governor challenge.</p> <p>LO left the meeting at 7.28pm.</p>
4.	<p>Minutes of Previous Children’s Committee Meeting, 22nd May 2024 The minutes of the Children’s Committee meeting, dated 22nd May 2024, were submitted, and will be signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.</p>
5.	<p>Matters arising and actions Members of the committee confirm there were no matters arising from the previous meeting. The actions from the last meeting were reviewed:</p> <p>6.0 (from previous meeting) JG will update the vulnerable cohorts report with the overlapping PP/SEND data and share after the meeting. On the data report provided for this meeting.</p> <p>10.0 (from previous meeting) A PPF Report will be shared for review at the next meeting. On agenda.</p> <p>11.2 JL and the INCo will meet to review the details of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Policy before the end of term. JL met with HS last week. Completed, closed.</p>
5.	<p>SATs and Progress Data NR left the meeting at 7.29pm.</p> <p>A data report was shared with governors ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>Foundation stage - GLD is 72% which is an increase from previous cohort data (61.7%). Three children are not included in this data as they are not eligible for statutory assessment. Leopards 79% Tiger 67% Panthers 69% All prime areas are all above 84% Reading comprehension- 86.6% Word reading 80.5% Maths data is 78% Number 82% for Number Patterns consistent with previous years data. Phonics – 79%</p>

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	<p>Governors reviewed the unvalidated SATs results from Year 6 assessment. Results are in line with national averages. To gain an understanding of this cohort and to provide context to the data, JG provided governors with an anonymised high-level summary of the learners. JG identified maths as a priority area from the new academic year. Governors discussed the Year 4 multiplication check – a statutory assessment which requires 100% pass rate.</p> <p>The weakness in spelling across the school was discussed by governors at the meeting and will be a priority for leaders in the new year.</p>
6.	<p>Discussion on SDP 2023-24 A copy of the SDP shared at the FGB meeting, dated 11th July 2024, was shared ahead of the meeting.</p>
7.	<p>Discuss Committee Priorities 2023-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore – therapeutic thinking behaviours Governors received a presentation and a policy to review. • Prepare – Maths Calculation Policy Governor received a presentation and remains a focus for governor monitoring moving forward. • Deliver – phonics Governors have closely monitored the implementation of Little Wandle and welcomed seeing the evidence from the data reviewed at this meeting. • Sustain – vocab development Governors visited school and captured pupil voice. • Sustain – marking & feedback Governors conducted a book look at a recent meeting. <p>In conclusion – evidence from committee meeting minutes will show that the committee has kept a close eye on its priorities throughout the year. Governors challenged whether this style of monitoring was sufficient.</p> <p>Governors look forward to reviewing committee priorities for the new year at the next meeting.</p>
8.	<p>PPF Update (SI) JG and HS have already completed a full handover. Arbor will be implemented from the new year and will bring everything together in one system – there is a crossover between SEND and Pupil Premium. PP has been spent carefully and considerately. Data shows that children in this cohort are making progress.</p>

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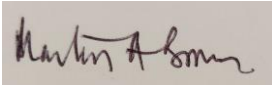


	<p>JG has suggested that the new Headteacher becomes involved with the next PP monitoring visit in preparation for the next Ofsted inspection.</p> <p>Key points discussed were: The majority of persistent absence comes from the PP cohort. There is correlation between the number of My Concern logs in year groups compared to the PP cohort for those groups.</p>
9.	<p>Policy Review (SI) There were no policies for review at this meeting.</p>
10.	<p>Safeguarding (SI) There was no update provided since the last FGB meeting.</p>
11.	<p>Committee Related Monitoring No reports.</p>
12.	<p>Any Other Business Governors acknowledged this meeting as the last for the current Headteacher.</p> <p>There were no other strategic items of any other business raised at the meeting.</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.</p>
13.	<p>Date and time of next meeting The next Children’s Committee meeting will be 18th September 2024, 6.30pm at the school.</p>

Actions from the meeting, 17th July 2024

	Action	Owner	Deadline
	There were no actions from this meeting.		

Governor Meeting Dates 2024-2025

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Date	Meeting		Topic
Autumn			
18th Sept 24	Children's	Autumn 1	
2nd Oct 24	Resources	Autumn 1	
16th Oct 24	FGB	Autumn 1	Data Review (incl SEF)
6th Nov 24	Resources	Autumn 2	
13th Nov 24	Children's	Autumn 2	
11th Dec 24	FGB	Autumn 2	
Spring			
8th Jan 25	Resources	Spring 1	Review SFVS
15th Jan 25	Children's	Spring 1	
5th Feb 2025	FGB	Spring 1	SDP Focus and SFVS approval
12th Mar 25	Resources	Spring 2	
26th Mar 25	Children's	Spring 2	
Summer			
23rd Apr 25	Resources	Summer 1	Budget Scrutiny
7th May 25	FGB	Budget	Budget Approval
21st May 25	Children's	Summer 1	
4th June 25	FGB	Summer 1	
25th June 25	Resources	Summer 2	
16th Jul 25	Children's	Summer 2	Review of SATs data
9th Jul 25	FGB	Summer 2	Business Meeting
All meetings fall on a Wednesday evening.			

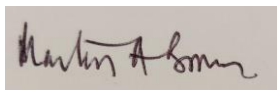
Governor Training & Development

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Governors for Schools - [click here](#)

NGA Learning Link – [click here](#)

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