

**St Oswald's Primary School
Governing Body**

**MINUTES OF STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School - Infant Building
Date/Time: 01/03/18 4:30pm**

Present: G. Manley, M. Walsh, J. Jones, T Hegarty

Also present G. Murphy, C. Sime, I Strom (Clerking)

No.	Item	Action by: (insert initials)
1.	Welcome The chair welcomed the members of the committee.	
2.	Apologies for Absence T Gentle.	
3.	Declarations of Interests The members of staff noted their interests.	
4.	Notification of Additional Business None requested.	
5.	Minutes of previous meeting Agreed as accurate and signed by the chair.	
6.	Matters arising A governor asked if term time holidays was still an issue. – It is still a factor in poor attendance but is being addressed and the policy is being regularly communicated to parents. A governor asked how the change in year group teachers was going now that it was half way through the academic year. – All teachers seem to	

Signed.....Committee Chair

	<p>have settled in well and there are real improvements showing in Reception which will be detailed later in the meeting.</p> <p>A governor asked how the IT link with Mossfits was progressing. – Unfortunately, Mossfits had a call from Ofsted, so the visit to the school was postponed but a new date has been scheduled.</p> <p>A governor asked how the RSE policy implementation was progressing – It is progressing well and a RSE theme week has been planned for later in the term.</p>	
7.	<p>Ofsted</p> <p>Mrs Walsh informed governors that the school was now in the Ofsted window. The School Improvement Partner (SIP) Mary Regan has confirmed this. As we are a new school that has not been previously inspected it will be a 2-day (section 5) inspection. The SIP has been in to meet with SLT. She noted that the governors were very well informed of any issues. As the school opened in January 2016, So far there is only one full year of data (May 2016 data would only have been part year). This would be difficult to show trends in the new school. Data from the current year will be looked at as a more important indicator of standards. Governors would be expected to know the strengths of the school and also identify areas where the school could improve and understand the plan for addressing these areas. Mrs Walsh shared some key paperwork that might be useful for governors.</p>	
8.	<p>Verified Data from 16-17</p> <p>Governors were presented with the current Analyse School Performance (ASP) data. Governors were shown how to look at the information provided and particularly the way that the information was broken down into groups, eg disadvantaged. It was noted that pupils make good progress across the school and leave in year 6 with comparable results with NA. Disadvantaged pupils also made above average progress in reading with an average point score of 104.4. which is 3.0 above national. Progress in maths is lower than national for our deprived children but the average point score is 101.8 above national. In addition we had two outliers who had very large negative progress scores which skewed the data. Without the two outliers progress in maths would be -0.9 which is</p>	

	<p>above national of -0.6.</p> <p>A governor asked if any of the groups showed as being outside the expected range of results. Mrs Walsh explained that there were significant outliers in the data who were reference on the front cover of the inspection data summary. For internal analysis they could be taken out of averages and the outlying results would be studied in more detail to see a truer picture for the cohort. Data for KS1 & EYFS were recognised as below national in all measures. It was recognised that prior to the amalgamation the biggest issues identified had been around standards' in EYFS and KS1. Governors and leaders had focussed on these areas from the outset and it was reported that good progress was being made in these with current data. The results in these areas are likely to be considerably improved from last year.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>SIP report including EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6 Update and School Standards</p> <p>The School Improvement Partner (SIP) visited the school in the week previous to the meeting but the report had not been received. A governor asked what the main points of the report are likely to be. Mrs Walsh responded that the report is likely to note that the school is on track for many of the targets set. During discussions she was very complimentary on the progress in EYFS. She also commented that this was also a priority area for Liverpool and this would mean that the LA are providing support to all large schools so that they can have the maximum impact on GLD. Governors commented on how the Nursery & Reception environment had improved.</p> <p>EYFS</p> <p>Mrs Murphy talked the meeting through the data previously distributed. The percentage of children who are at the level that they should be is pleasing. In Reception, the children are being tracked carefully to see which areas of learning may prevent GLD, these gaps are being planned to be closed by opportunities for the children to develop the necessary skills. A governor asked if the assessments were moderated. Mrs Walsh explained that they were moderated internally throughout the year group as well as part of the West Derby Learning Network (WDLN) where 8 to 10 schools meet to moderate work across</p>	

the network. **A governor asked how long this took.** It is a concise and targeted meeting which takes around an hour each time.

Phonics

The pass rate for phonics in Year 1 is predicted to be over 80%. The staff have been working hard to make good progress in this area. The disadvantaged are doing well. There is still likely to be a gap between the disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged in school but the disadvantaged pass rate for St Oswald's could be over the national average for non-disadvantaged pupils.

Year 2

Currently on track to meet targets and discussions have been held with the SIP on whether to increase targets. This will be looked at again as part of the next review around Easter. It was noted that the disadvantaged pupils were doing very well against the targets set for them.

Year 6

Miss Sime talked governors through the report previously distributed. She highlighted some groups and the particular challenges and circumstances they faced. It was predicted that the SEN and disadvantaged pupils would meet or exceed their targets. Information on high attainers had been analysed and it was expected that they would surpass last years cohort. Once again, the targets were being revisited during the next review to see whether they should be extended. Some individual pupils have already had their personal targets revised.

Writing has been a focus this year. The DfE have listened to national feedback with regards to testing for writing and have clarified expectations. Staff are now able to work towards what is required and can teach with more confidence. Children are allowed one significant weakness, meaning that if for example a child's handwriting is poor it will not prevent ARE.

It is likely that year 6 will be moderated this year and staff are preparing for a visit.

Miss Sime reported that the SLT are very confident that the SATS results would be an improvement on last

	<p>year's results, even though this has been a challenging group. It is possible that up to 5 pupils may be disapplied for one or more of the SATS tests.</p> <p>Governors asked why this would be the case. It would be if a pupil was not working at the level of the test and of reaching the required standard. An example could be a pupil who had recently come to the country and their English skills were minimal. It is possible that the pupil may only be disapplied from English related tests but could access the mathematics ones.</p> <p>Governors asked if parents were consulted over the disapplication of their child. It was confirmed that parents were consulted from an early stage.</p>	
10.	<p>School Development Plan (SDP) Update</p> <p>The SDP update had been previously circulated. Mrs Walsh highlighted some key areas.</p> <p>Computing – Following the disappointing audit, a new team led by Miss Kirwan has been put into place. The Knowsley CLC scheme of work has been introduced and is working well. The most recent Performance Management observation was based on a computing lesson so the subject is being monitored in a number of ways. E-Safety is a big issue and has been a high priority recently. This included workshops for parents that were well attended. A governor asked what sort of questions parents asked. It is often for recommendations on what apps they should be aware of and which were recommended and appropriate.</p> <p>EYFS – Good progress is being made as discussed elsewhere in the meeting.</p> <p>Interventions – Mrs Murphy has responsibility for interventions. A key area is monitoring of outcomes and progress against starting points. The new policy to be ratified at this meeting will help the process.</p> <p>Governor Action Plan – It was agreed that Mr Hegarty would put this together and bring it to the next appropriate meeting.</p>	TH
11.	<p>Curriculum reports</p> <p>SLT – There is currently a priority for the SLT. They are looking at redesigning the curriculum to allow some subjects to be covered in greater depth by concentrating the time spent on them into terms rather</p>	

	<p>than spreading it out over a year. This is in the early stages of planning and when there is more detail, there will be consultation with governors and parents about major changes, although some work to move towards the system may be done earlier.</p> <p>EYFS – New support staff have settled in well. There is a focus on improving outside education. Changes in the environment, including the removal of some internal doors in the reception classes, allows for a better flow of resources, many of which are portable and can be used inside and outside. We are working with the Joseph Lappin Centre to provide a gardening element for the EYFS setting including setting up a vegetable and herb patch.</p> <p>CSI week – Mrs Gentle provided a written report previously circulated. Each year group had set up its own mystery to be solved using investigative techniques. Police attended assemblies to help set up the scenarios and then again at the conclusion of the week. All subject areas were covered during the investigations. The children loved the activities, although one or two needed reminding that it was not a real crime. SLT were very impressed with the work that the staff put into their planning to ensure that the CSI involved as many curriculum areas as possible and led to fabulous work.</p> <p>Mr Murray had previously circulated a science report which gave governors information about standards across the school. He wrote about some of the exciting scientific challenges that the children were experiencing and on the STEM week that is planned for later in the year.</p>	
12.	<p>Intervention Policy</p> <p>The policy had been previously circulated. Governors welcomed the recognition that the teacher was the primary adult and would lead interventions, directing other staff. A governor asked how teachers were monitored on their use of TAs. It was explained that year heads would lead in their year groups and they would discuss this with SLT. TA skills had been audited and certain support staff were trained for specific intervention. A governor asked how often this was done. It is part of the annual performance appraisal</p> <p>The policy was agreed.</p>	

13.	<p>Extra curricular clubs</p> <p>A list of clubs being held this term was distributed prior to the meeting. Governors asked what the impact of the building work had been on extra curricular clubs. The impact was mainly on space, in particular in the hall. It was noted that the school had experimented with a paid option for after school club by inviting MD Productions to provide two sessions, one in each building. This had proved very popular and could have sold out another session.</p>	
14.	<p>CPD</p> <p>The CPD report, previously circulated, was noted</p>	
15.	<p>Notified Business</p> <p>None.</p>	
	<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS</p> <p>1st May 2018 at 4.30pm in the Infant Building</p>	