

**St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
Governing Body
PASTORAL, RE AND SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School Infant Building
Date/Time: 10/10/17 4:00pm**

Present: Fr M. Beattie, Mrs M. Walsh, Mrs R. Hill, Mrs J. Jones, Mrs T. Gentle, Mr G. Manley, Mrs J. Simm

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

		Action by: (insert initials)
1.	Welcome Fr Mark said a welcoming prayer.	
2.	Apologies for Absence Mr A. Joseph	
3.	Declarations of Interests Members of staff declared their interest.	
4.	Election of Chair Mrs Simm nominated Fr Mark for the role of Chair. This was seconded by Mr Manley. No other nominations were received and Fr Mark was elected unopposed.	
5.	Notification of Additional Business None were requested	
6.	Minutes of Previous Meeting The minutes from the pastoral committee meeting on 31 st January 2017 were agreed as accurate.	
7.	Matters arising There were no matters arising that were not covered by the agenda.	

Signed.....Committee Chair

8.	<p>RE Report</p> <p>RE Inspection</p> <p>Governors were informed that the school would be subject to a Section 48 RE inspection on 14th November 2017. Governors asked what the inspection would entail. The inspection would be to ensure that the Catholicity of the school, through its leadership, its lessons, the attainment of the children and the Catholic life of the school follow diocesan guidelines. The inspectors would require all documentation two weeks prior to the inspection date. The inspection is a full inspection of RE, Collective Worship and including the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) elements. Governors discussed the diversity of RSE compared to previous requirements. They asked if the Equality Statement and the policy were detailed enough and if they covered transgender issues. It was explained that the Equality Statement and policy were based on the model from the CES. Governors also volunteered anecdotal evidence from other schools that may support the school during the inspection. Governors asked about the planning of Collective Worship, Governors commented that they felt one of the strengths of the school was the pupils response to collective worship.</p> <p>The inspectors will meet with members of the local clergy and with governors. Governors asked how many would be required to meet with inspectors. They were informed that there was no limit and that all governors were welcome to attend. Mrs Hill and Mrs Simm offered to be available on the day. A governor asked if the governing body would be judged. This was confirmed as the inspection covered all aspects of the school's religious activities including governance. Governors asked if they could be provided with the most up to date documents and information so that they could familiarise themselves with the information. Mrs Walsh will send out the latest Self Evaluation Document (SED). A governor asked if Pupil Premium money was spent on religion. It was confirmed that if a gap was identified then the PP funding would be used to support the pupils in this way. A governor asked if this had happened. It was confirmed that it had.</p> <p>A number of RE policies had been previously circulated. The governors approved the Collective Worship Policy, The RSE policy and the Spiritual, Moral, Social and</p>	MW

	<p>Cultural Development Policy. A discussion took place reviewing the school mission statement. Governors felt that the statement was still relevant to the ethos and mission of the school.</p>	
9.	<p>Safeguarding report</p> <p>Mrs Walsh, Miss Sime, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Hyland and Mr Reilly have attended the detailed LA safeguarding training. All staff have been asked to attend an update following this training. The majority attended a recent session whilst a few of the part time midday staff will have the training at another session shortly.</p> <p>All of the actions from the 175 Safeguarding audit have been completed.</p> <p>The safeguarding report had been circulated previously. Referrals to the Family Support Service have fallen from 9 to 3. This reflects the positive impact Mrs Hyland and Mr Reilly are having on families. It was reported that some of the Looked After Children in school were currently causing a number of issues in school and staff were working hard to resolve those issues with support from the Looked After Children Team.</p>	
10.	<p>SEND report</p> <p>At census there were 125 pupils on the SEND register. This was likely to rise following the baseline assessment of the reception children new to the school. There have been two children receiving support from the sensory service however, one has now left to attend St Vincent's School for Visually Impaired.</p> <p>Each child on the register has a provision map detailing the support provided. This is to be shared with the parents at the parent's meeting.</p> <p>All support staff & TAs are trained at providing early intervention to pupils with additional needs.</p> <p>Mrs Murphy is now leading on the provision of interventions and monitoring the outcomes and effectiveness of the provision.</p> <p>1 child currently spends 2 days per week in a specialist provision. Governors asked what was the benefit of this. It enables the pupil to benefit from much more</p>	

	<p>personalised support and therapy. It is having a noticeable impact on the pupils development.</p> <p>Mrs Walsh is still chair of the local consortia group. The outreach functions once provided by the City Council are now being decommissioned at Christmas. With all relevant outreach support including Educational Psychologist (EP) and Family Support services now fully provided on a buy in basis and ASD support being the next area for devolving. St Oswald's purchased support from an external EP service however, this didn't work out as well as was hoped. Vital reports were delayed and didn't provide all of the detail required. There have been a number of bills put under dispute and a copy of the service terms of contract have been requested.</p> <p>St Oswald's school is to be the fundholder for consortia monies which will involve additional work for the school admin team, Mrs Walsh was bringing this up at Chair of consortia meeting.</p> <p>The LA is to offer support to schools around the procurement of outreach services for children, this was an area of concern, as this was a new process for school. Governors will be kept updated on the circumstances of changes and their impact.</p>	
<p>11. Attendance report</p>	<p>Attendance is a high priority in school. All the systems and policies in school reflect the LA guidance. A governor asked whether holidays were a problem for the school. It was noted that holidays taken in term time were a problem. There had been 88 children who were affected in the last academic year. The EWO was continuing to focus on this area and the reintroduction of fixed penalties was being considered. It was noted that attendance had improved over the last 12 months from 95.2% to 96.3% in the same period. It was felt that the improvement would continue as some particularly hard to engage families had left. The target to reach is still 97%.</p> <p>Persistent absence is still a problem. There are currently 5 families being taken to court and the EWO is working with another 4 to try to avoid court action. This could include referrals to the Family Support Service.</p> <p>The School Improvement Partner has recognised that all that can be done is being done but the figures need to show an improvement.</p>	

<p>12. Policies for ratification</p>	<p>All policies had been previously distributed.</p> <p>The Child Protection Policy and the Allegations against Staff Policy follow LA model. The Code of Conduct and Visitors Leaflet have been reviewed and amended following the safeguarding training.</p> <p>Governors agreed to ratify the policies.</p>	
<p>13. Term dates 2018 - 19</p>	<p>The term dates had been distributed prior to the meeting. There were two options due to the timing of Easter in 2019. As Good Friday falls on 19th April, governors were asked to consider 2 options. Option 1: To shadow the Liverpool City Council model which would mean closing for the week beginning 15th April and giving a half term before Easter of 7 weeks and one after half term of 5 weeks. Option 2: Pupils to be in school during Holy Week which would mean a half term before Easter of 7.5 weeks with 4 weeks following Easter before the half term break in May. Governors considered both options and agreed that as a Catholic School it was preferable to be open for part of Holy Week and agreed on option 2.</p>	
<p>14. Notified business</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>15. Date and Time of Next Meeting</p>	<p>30th January 2018 at 4.30pm in the Junior Building.</p>	