

# THORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Minutes of Governors School Effectiveness Committee Meeting

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

### *Present*

Anne Clayton	AJC	
Jo Fillmore	JF	
Colin Hammond	CH	Chair of Governors
Paula Jeremaes	PJ	Assistant Head (Associate Member)
Manoj Subudhi	MS	
Kate Trethewy	KTr	Headteacher
Natalie Oxer	NO	By Invitation
Terry Edwards	TE	Clerk to Committee

### *Absent*

Item of Business	Points Discussed	Decisions/ Recommendations	Action Points/Dates
1. Apologies	Apologies were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles Knudsen</li> <li>• Lisa Lloyd</li> </ul>		
2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	CH asked for nominations for Chair. Lisa Lloyd was nominated as Chair for the academic year, pending Lisa's agreement in her absence. It was agreed not to nominate a vice-Chair at this time	<b>The committee nominated Lisa Lloyd as Chair</b>	
3. Declaration of Interest	There was no declaration of interest		
4. Minutes of the last meeting Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	The minutes of the last meeting Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 were agreed Matters Arising: Governors asked how the new Leadership Roles were working in school. KTr responded that staff were working well with their new roles and meet regularly to iron out any issues that crop up.	<b>The minutes of the last meeting Thursday 29<sup>h</sup> June 2017 were agreed.</b>	
5. Terms of Reference	The Terms of Reference were agreed for the year with no amendments except that the committee have agreed not to appoint a Vice-Chair for the academic year 2017-18	<b>The Terms of Reference were agreed for 2017-18</b>	
6. School Standards	Natalie Oxer presented the committee with a booklet of the Standards overview from the last academic year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The booklet showed data taken on two assessment points over the previous year, identifying the expected standard, greater depth, average point score in each class. At the end of the academic year the progress from December to June is shown with a breakdown of EAL, SEN and pupil Premium children for maths, Reading, Writing and Early Years.</li> <li>• Maths attainment is a strength across school with 81% of the current Year 6 on track to meet the expected standard at the end of the year.</li> <li>• Pupil Premium is not where it needs to be as a whole</li> </ul> Governors asked for clarification on the meaning of Greater Depth.		

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Continued	<p>It was explained that it is sometimes called the higher standard and is a very challenging set of expectations that you would reasonably expect a smaller proportion of children to achieve.</p> <p>Maths – Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attainment across school shows good improvements in every year group , ranging from 1% increase to 64%. The average increase is 25%. Attainment at greater depth has increased (except in Y3). Attainment between boys and girls in broadly in line. Pupil Premium children in some year groups, (Y2, Y5, Y6) are not attaining expected standard in line with non- pupil premium children</li> <li>• EA explained that the SEN children are Red and the SEN children have difficulty achieving. Governors looked at the RAG rating and the areas marked Red at the beginning of the year but looked at the progress and expectation as the year progressed, noting that progress moved to greens and purples identifying very good progress</li> <li>• September assessments were based on the new curriculum</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked, what is being done different. NO responded that during the last 18 months, new equipment and resources have been purchased to reflect the new curriculum</p> <p><u>Reading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress across school is generally good, attainment is not so good</li> <li>• Children are struggling with the language and understanding</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked if the children were only reading at school. NO presented the governors with the information on the average percentage of children who are reading at home, recorded in their Reading Record Book.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 classes met the expectation of 75% nights – consideration is needed about whether the expectation of reading 11/14 nights is realistic. 9/14 nights would set a target of 64%.</li> <li>• A Reading room has been set up to support children.</li> <li>• Monitoring takes place on a fortnightly basis by Phase leaders</li> <li>• Reception record nights in line with the rest of the school</li> </ul>		

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Continued	<p>Governors asked if parents have been involved in talking to them about Destination Reader. Staff want to have time to embed their understanding of Destination Reader before inviting parents in to school.</p> <p>Governors asked if children would benefit from having access to a kindle to read on. KTr reported that perhaps it is something to trial and will be considered</p> <p>Governors asked if children are still having 1:1 support for Reading. NO said children receive reading support from volunteers and TAs in school</p> <p>Governors asked if there are sufficient reading books in the library. KTr has reported that a bid has been made to increase the number of books available.</p> <p>Governors asked if the books continue to be used from year to year. NO explained that books would be re-used in the relevant year groups.</p> <p><u>Oxford Reading Tree data</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children achieving the expected standards in ORT stages has increased in most cohorts. Nearly all year groups have increased the number of children on track, compared to the end of last year for the same year eg Reception 16-17 achieved 54% compared to Reception 15-16 27%.</li> <li>• Reception need to continue to build on this</li> <li>• Standards Phase Leaders are checking for quality and consistency in each year group.</li> </ul> <p><u>Writing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing across school remains a concern.. The government have now introduced a 'best fit model', further moderation support is needed especially in how to identify greater depth. A Writing moderation staff meeting has been planned. Literacy leaders meet to ensure consistency.</li> </ul>		

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Continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are distinct differences between boys and girls with boys attaining much lower than girls. This will be addressed and monitored through Raising Standards meetings.</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked if teachers are strict in their marking and KTr replied that teachers felt they may have been a bit harsh and the DFE have a more relaxed model of marking looking at the 'best fit model'</p> <p><u>Pupil Premium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The attainment of Pupil Premium children is discussed at Raising Standards meetings as well as identifying potential barriers to learning eg, uniform, self esteem etc.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reception</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reception data is showing improvement with an increase of 12% on last year's GLD and an acknowledgement that Autumn births generally do better than the Spring/Summer term births</li> <li>Staff felt that the targets were challenging but were enthusiastic about them</li> <li>KTr reported that Thorpe needs to look to be in 5% of national targets</li> </ul> <p><u>Pupil Premium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupil Premium children do not attain as well as non-pupil premium children</li> <li>Y5 going into Y6 is a concern for Pupil Premium children, children are targeted and identified as high profile children needing support</li> </ul>		
7. Pupil Premium	<p><u>Pupil Premium Report – PJ</u></p> <p>Paula presented the committee with two reports – Impact Report from last year and the Strategy Report for 2017-18.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact report shows funding, impact and data</li> <li>Attainment is better at Greater depth in all year groups</li> <li>Good teaching and learning has a massive impact on pupil premium children</li> <li>The Thorpe Expectations, the Rights Respecting School, a shared ethos of nurturing children and supporting children in their changing environment are all tools to support Pupil Premium children</li> </ul>		

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Continued	<p>Governors asked if there will be an opportunity to share good practice when the school converts to a MAT. This was confirmed</p> <p>School will have a pupil Premium review with a current Ofsted inspector to look at what is being done well and areas for development.</p> <p><u>2017-18 Report - PJ</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New layout following meeting with Adviser</li> <li>• Barriers to educational achievement have been identified and children have been RAG rated on certain criteria</li> <li>• Trends have been identified and support groups have been sent up to help children with low self-esteem and support resilience groups</li> <li>• Parents of Pupil Premium children have been written to and asked to consider if they would like to access ties, uniform, breakfast club for their child. Out of 82 parents, there was a 60% response.</li> <li>• Parents had asked for support with Breakfast Club and costs of educational visits. Breakfast club has changed with more variety in the breakfast offered with additional games, support with Homework and Reading</li> <li>• Pupil Premium children have an increased focus on Reading, Writing and Maths to narrow the gap</li> <li>• The report showed a breakdown of how funds are spent using TA support and focussed meeting with teaching assistants and access to attend a Forest Schools programme at Jack Hunt School</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked for an explanation of Forest School. PJ explained that the programme focusses on nurturing and literacy. The programme is ready to be expanded into primary schools and will start in January focussing on some children for 2-3 hours per week. The Behaviour Support Leader will accompany children and measure impact.</p>		

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Continued	<p>Governors asked about the gap between Y4 and Y5, if the year groups can be split? The committee discussed how school are dealing with challenging behaviours in some areas of school and the strategies that have been put in place.</p> <p>PJ responded that Privilege Time has been re-introduced in year 6 with a different format.</p> <p>Governors asked how have the children adopted to not having a break in the afternoon. KTr replied that some children are struggling and strategies are being introduced.</p> <p>Governors asked how will impact be measured. PJ reported that a pupil Premium review is planned for December and March 2018 to check the school strategy is 'Fit for Purpose'.</p> <p>PJ and NO met with Pupil Premium parents on parents evening and felt this had a positive impact in building relations with parents.</p>		
8. AOB	There was no AOB		

Meeting Closed at 8.10 pm