

THE GOVERNING BODY OF CROWLEES CE (VC) JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Body held at 2:00 pm via Zoom on Tuesday, 16 June 2020

PRESENT

Reverend H Butler (Chair), Reverend H Baker, Mr P Byrne, Mrs R Corcoran, Mrs F Goldthorpe, Mr J Hudson, Mr N McKeown, Mrs M Shilton, Mr A Walker, Mr C Wilding, Mrs K Woods (Head teacher), Mrs R Wrathmell

In Attendance

Mrs A F Jewell (Minute Clerk)

Mrs S Gomersall (School Business Manager)

166. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Mr M Lord (consent), Mr D Smith (consent) and Mrs J Taylor (consent).

There were no declarations of interest.

167. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following item was notified to be brought up under any other business: -

- Letter from parent
- Staff appointment

168. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

Mrs Gomersall reported the following:

DELETED SEE MINUTE NUMBER 179

Thanks were conveyed by Governors to Mrs Gomersall for all her hard work in obtaining the replacement modular buildings.

The Chair thanked Mrs Gomersall for her comprehensive report.

Mrs Gomersall left the meeting

169. REPRESENTATION

Governors noted the following matter of representation:

- (a) Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
Rev H Butler	Co-opted	18.07.2020

170. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2020

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2020 be approved as a correct record by the Chair and signed at a later meeting.

171. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

172. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no items to report.

173. UPDATE ON SCHOOL PROVISION DURING PANDEMIC

The Head Teacher reported that the school has provided care for key worker children since lockdown began. The numbers were originally 50 pupils, these have now risen to 91 and are rising by the day. The school has always catered for vulnerable children and children of key workers. The phased return has worked well so far. Reception were introduced the previous week, to be followed by Y1 from 22 June. The children have been put into 'bubbles' of 10 and are then taught in these bubbles in one classroom by one teacher who stays with them the entire time. Children play out separately and there are staggered starts, play times and lunchtimes.

The school is very aware of Y6 and want to do something for them, particularly with transition issues. Unfortunately, more parents are asking if they can send their child back to school and one cohort is taking up 4 classrooms. At the moment the school cannot accommodate Y6 but have a plan in place towards the end of the term to bring them back in groups and want to do something meaningful for them before the end of term. This depends on how much the numbers for Y1 and Reception go up by. Every staff member who can work is in school.

Contact with children at home has been increased, although demand is high on teachers currently. The Head Teacher conveyed her thanks to the cleaning staff who have gone above and beyond and the situation could not have been managed without them as every item touched by the children is cleaned three times a day every day. The LA have not been particularly supportive with regards to supplying extra cleaning items so the school have had to buy their own.

There will not be any formal provision for children during the summer holiday as staff need a break. There will be some resources provided for parents to access if they wish. Communication from parents has been varied – a lot of parents have sent their thanks to the school and staff for the work they have sent through, and others have said they don't want any more. School continues to provide weekly lessons in most curriculum areas for all children, and bespoke lessons for SEND and some vulnerable children as appropriate. The school cannot offer a bespoke service for all but will continue communication during the summer term so that the new classes can get to know their new teachers. The school does not know what will be happening in September and are awaiting Government guidance on this.

- Q: If the 2 metre distance is reduced to 1 metre, will this make a difference?**
A: Probably not. In terms of could we allow more children back it probably wouldn't make a difference for us as we have run out of classrooms and don't have the space – we are currently already using every teacher we have available. We have also had to split the outdoor space up into zones and this all has to be monitored by the same person.
- Q: Are you allowed to look at other properties to provide the resource?**
A: No, it was announced yesterday that any space that isn't a school space cannot be used.
- Q: Could we keep the current portacabins and use those?**
A: Unfortunately not as they already take up half of the playground and we would not have enough space. Also, the reason we have managed to get replacements is the condition of the current building. We cannot develop our learning until we have received further guidance. Our biggest issue will be staffing capacity and we will need to ensure what we do is effective and manageable and meets Government guidance.

The Head Teacher confirmed that the biggest priority when they return to school will be the wellbeing of children. Pressure will be on to teach children twice as much and twice as fast.

Meetings have been held for new parents of children coming into Reception for 8-10 people at a time and then repeated throughout the day five further times. It was important to see the new parents face to face. What cannot happen is visits for new pupils – information has been sent home instead. A slightly longer settling in period will be arranged in September and extra support will be in place.

174. SPECIAL NEEDS

Governors were informed that SEND has carried on as normal. Risk assessments have been completed for all SEND pupils. Quite a number of home visits have been completed and information and resources have been shared. The school is looking at transition for the SEND pupils as well as some from Y6 who are moving onto high school. Quite a few meetings have been held for this. There will be some significant SEND issues coming from Nurseries this year, and at least three SEND pupils will be coming into Reception.

175. SAFEGUARDING

The Head Teacher reported that nothing has changed with regards to safeguarding protocols and procedures. The school is still continuing with wellbeing meetings and telephone calls and outside agencies are still seeing pupils over the phone and face to face. TAF meetings and school counsellor phone class have also continued.

176. GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

The Chair reported that she has called in briefly to review the risk assessments. Mr Hudson had also reviewed the risk assessments and made some pertinent amendments.

177. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Letter from Parent

The Chair read out a letter that had been received from a parent of a pupil at the school which praised the high quality of work that had been set and the quality of wider support that had been offered. This had proved an invaluable link for their child and has provided structure for them. The information had been current and prompt and not just related to school work. The Head Teacher confirmed that many positive comments had been received from parents and the school has changed and tweaked resources that have been offered according to feedback received from parents. The Chair noted that the staff should be proud of the efforts that they have gone to to provide resources for pupils.

b) Staff Appointment

The Head Teacher advised that an RQT has been appointed to cover maternity leave from September. The school had received over 60 applications for the position and were pleased with the shortlist. Candidates were invited to view the school and interviews were of a very high quality. The SLT felt that the new teacher has enormous potential and will fit in well with the school.

178. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Governing Body be held at 7.00 pm
On Wednesday, 23 September 2020 (AGM).

Pastoral Committee – date to be arranged before the end of the summer term

179. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That minute number 168 be excluded from the copy to be made available at the School, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting closed at 3:10 pm