

MIDFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Notes of a meeting of the Local Advisory Council
held online
on Monday 8th February 2021 starting at 9:30am

Present:

Mrs J Barton Headteacher
Cllr J Ellis Chair and Appointed LACM
Ms A Hughes Appointed LACM
Mr T Cross Appointed LACM
Dr. Shamini Balabaskaran Parent appointed

In attendance:

Mrs Jo Brinkley CEO
Mrs G Sesli Executive Head Teacher
Mr P Le Conte Deputy Head Teacher
Mrs A Simpson Deputy Head Teacher

Clerk: Mrs A Edmunds

1. Welcome and apologies for absence, acceptance of absence and absence

- 1.1. No apologies were received from Mrs T Mebitaghan, appointed LACM.
- 1.2. In future to use peoples work email address to contact for last minute changes to meeting times.

2. Notes of the meeting of 7th December 2020

The notes reflected the meeting accurately and there were no further comments.

3. Catch up success (until Christmas) and catch up plans once school resumes

- 3.1. Widespread catch up for marginal children up to Christmas. Two additional sessions – one during school and one after. Ten children in each class. In retrospect this was possibly too high.
- 3.2. Based on gaps in their learning. Planned to do catch up intervention by teachers in the class.
- 3.3. Been aborted due to lockdown but hope to restart when back.

4. Remote learning and learning in school during lockdown

- 4.1. Now delivering live learning – once a week a live class.
- 4.2. Google meets with children and google classroom. There is no need to print work - it can be done on google classrooms.
- 4.3. Sent out a guide to home learning and practical things to do to support home learning.
- 4.4. Feedback from LAC parent member - Work used to be posted a week in advance but now the work is uploaded the day before along with teacher videos. Preferred having work a week in advance so could tailor daily work to child's mood/ attention.
- 4.5. 70% are fully accessing all work. 20% one or two pieces per day. 5% just doing one or two pieces per week. On the whole the uptake has been reasonably good.
- 4.6. Need to look at more live lessons going forward.
- 4.7. Parents have access to each teacher throughout the day for any questions which can be sent confidentially through the Class Dojo.

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- 4.8. Planning on sending out parent surveys for each year group. Members of the LAC are only one part of the school. Survey would reach out further and could be different per class. Perhaps work with a selection. Where do we go with this when all this is over?
- 4.9. Concerned about families who did not have devices. Couple of families on a waiting list for some old laptops. Would be nice to have half a dozen more. All children should be dealt with shortly. Liaising with teachers and keeping in close contact with families.
- 4.10. Ofstead are due shortly and likely to focus on remote learning.
- 4.11. Could the Trust do more to help speed things up? No everything is in hand.
- 4.12. Feedback from LAC parent member – Remote learning has been great. Amount of work is about right. Get academic work done in the morning. Videos from teachers are great. Live lessons worked well. Nothing but positive feedback.
- 4.13. Focus when children return before Easter on keeping fit.

5. Treehouse update

- 5.1. Cat Brown joined the meeting.
- 5.2. Lockdown saw half the children back in attending school. More space and more teaching.
- 5.3. Sept – Dec – looked at how Treehouse is organised. No longer two separate classes. One class – quality teaching and flowing between the classrooms. Anxiety much lower.
- 5.4. Using Chromebooks in class, no barrier to learning. Gives the children a mix of direct teaching.
- 5.5. Currently 50% attending. Hopefully more uptake after half term.
- 5.6. How as a school are we supporting the families? Talked through with families to try to rationalise rather than catastrophise. Mental health issues struggle to rationalise the situation. Google live every morning at 9:15am was teaching time but evolved to PHSE exercise talking about feelings and explaining things to them. Calling all parents if not making contact on Google classrooms.
- 5.7. Treehouse staff are classed as carers and are higher up on the list for vaccinations.
- 5.8. Current situation has highlighted the need for more space for Treehouse and the Trust should be made aware of this.

6. Wellbeing group update

- 6.1. Survey was sent out in November. Best to get more stakeholders involved from different departments.

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6.2. First meeting last Wednesday went very well. Positive meeting reflecting the roles. Unpicking the survey. Getting feedback from different groups. People have missed each other and brought out the best in each other.

6.3. Has testing made people more confident? Become more normal now and keeping safe.

6.4. No crossing bubbles even with all the snow.

6.5. Risk assessment the Trust put in place has been great.

7. Safeguarding update & Introduction to new SENCO

7.1. Claire Jenkins has been off sick after a riding accident. Previously worked in Nursery but has now re-joined as SENCO.

7.2. Item has been moved to the next meeting.

8. Summary of Trust Board issues

8.1. Devices for all families are in hand and there is no need for intervention by the Trust.

8.2. Highlight the issue of the need for more space in Treehouse.

9. AOB

Confirmed that Mrs B Wedderburn was getting more involved with the Trust and leading training with Pause B (mindfulness) and also setting up holiday clubs. Emphasis on outdoor community clubs with the profit put back into a charitable foundation. Trial week in the summer. Purpose is to provide a service to underprivileged children and working parents.

10. Date of next LAC meeting

9:30am Monday 22nd March 2021. Clerk to send out Webex details.