

**Federation of Beckwithshaw and Kettlesing Felliscliffe Primary Schools and Ripley Endowed Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

**Meeting of the Interim Executive Board held on Monday 28 February at 5.00 p.m. held virtually via Teams.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Robert Ling (RL) – Chair, Anne Vetch (AV), Helen Smith (HS), Sarah Bassitt (SB), Darren Dudman (DD)

**Apologies:** None

**In attendance:**

Amanda Newbold (AN) - Assistant Director Education and Skills, NYCC  
 Karen Butler (KB) – Senior Education Advisor  
 Rachel Richardson (RR) – Bursar, NYCC  
 Chris Walker - Clerk

Governing Body functions:

Ensuring the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined.  
 Ensuring that the Head Teacher performs her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school.  
 Ensuring the sound, proper and efficient use of the school’s financial resources.

		<b>Actions</b>
<b>PART 'A' - PROCEDURAL</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> RL welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced DD and RR to the meeting. All present introduced themselves.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies</b> None	
<b>3</b>	<b>Confidentiality</b> Governors agreed to consider confidentiality as the meeting progressed.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None were noted.	
<b>5</b>	<b>To recruit a headteacher</b> Governors had been sent the latest monitoring reports and revised budgets for each of the three schools in advance of the meeting.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership details which included confirmation that the Sponsor Trust could choose to provide an additional two governors at a future date. School leaders did not have an ex-officio position as with a normal governing body.</li> <li>- The LA would provide representation at every meeting which would include an update on the school’s progress against the Statement of Action (SoA)</li> <li>- The IEBs financial responsibilities which would include the financial monitoring of each of the three schools.</li> <li>- The five SoA Priorities were detailed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership and Management</li> <li>• Curriculum</li> <li>• Reading and Phonics</li> <li>• SEND</li> <li>• Academy Conversion</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Milestones were attached to each priority to enable governors to evaluate progress.</li> <li>- The LA to provide monthly academy sponsorship updates and to provide specialist professional support as and when required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Governors to approve the code of conduct at its next full meeting.</p> <p>At this point there was a confidential discussion which has been recorded in a separate minute.</p>	Clerk
6	<p><b>Academisation Update</b> This was addressed at item 6.</p>	
7	<p><b>Headteacher Report</b> RL reported that he had undertaken a visit to all three schools prior to the meeting and thanked MA and HW for their time. MA and HW provided a verbal update with an understanding that a written report would be provided at future meetings.</p> <p>MA provided governors with background on the three schools including the origins of the involvement of the Priestley Academy Trust. Since October 2021, the LA had agreed a specific remit which focused their support on safeguarding and evaluation. The recent Ofsted inspections had judged that safeguarding was now effective across each of the three schools.</p> <p>There remained a number of significant challenges within the Federation both operational and structural, including staffing, budgets and health and safety issues.</p> <p>A lot of work had been undertaken to revamp the curriculum which had previously used the same model across all three schools.</p> <p>Currently the support provided by Priestley included 1.5 days per week for MA and 2.5 days per week for HW. Additional support was provided for the curriculum.</p>	



	<p>A: Yes though it might be helpful to evaluate the impact of the current staffing structure as a whole.</p> <p>Q: Do you have a school business manager?</p> <p>A: No.</p> <p>Governors noted that the variability of the administrative support had significantly impacted on the capacity across the Federation. Key functions, specifically in financial procedures, had not been actioned and the time of senior leaders had been diverted away from key tasks.</p> <p>Q: What is your view on teaching and learning across the Federation?</p> <p>A: When we arrived staff had not properly invested in the curriculum as it stood. We have provided targeted CPD for staff and provided specific support to develop the curriculum. This has been well-received by staff and we can see that this engagement has impacted on outcomes. We will continue to monitor and develop the quality of education across the Federation.</p> <p>The issue of teacher performance is complex. The staff had not been properly supported previously and whilst unacceptable levels of performance do need to be addressed, the full context should be considered as part of the assessment.</p> <p><b>Parent event at Ripley</b></p> <p>Governors discussed the parent event at Ripley which was due to take place at 6pm on 14 February, after this meeting. Governors had been provided with a series of slides to be used as part of the presentation of the key issues to parents.</p> <p>The meeting was to provide feedback on the Ofsted Report but to also update parents on the current challenges and to answer any questions.</p> <p>AN confirmed that the Diocese would be represented by Richard Noake, Director of Education.</p> <p>Q: Have any pupils left Ripley following the Ofsted Report?</p> <p>A: No</p> <p>AN informed governors that the LA would be supporting the IEB and would continue to undertake all the required actions in the background and update the IEB as and when required.</p> <p>The IEB agreed to arrange dates to meet the parents of the two other schools.</p>	
8	<p><b>To appoint link governors</b></p> <p>Link governors were assigned as follows:</p> <p><b>Teaching and Learning / Curriculum: SB</b>  <b>Leadership and Management: AV</b>  <b>Finance: RL</b>  <b>SEND/ Pupil Premium: HS</b></p>	

	<p><b>Health and Safety/ Premises: DD</b>  <b>Safeguarding: SB/AV</b>  Governors unanimously voted for AV to become the Vice-Chair.</p> <p>Governors agreed to arrange monitoring visits via the schools and to ensure monitoring was linked to the Statement of Action.</p>	
9	<p><b>Meeting Schedule</b>  Governors agreed to undertake meetings both virtually and face to face ensuring that at least once meeting was held at each school. A provisional schedule had been circulated in advance of the meeting and the dates were agreed. The April date to be agreed at a future meeting.</p> <p>MA and HW left the meeting at 2.05pm</p>	
10	<p><b>Leadership</b>  At this point in the meeting governors held a confidential discussion on leadership. A separate minute has been prepared for this item.</p>	
11	<p><b>Correspondence</b>  The Clerk had shared an email from a Beckwithshaw parent with governors in advance of the meeting. Governors considered the issues raised and asked the Clerk to confirm that a parent event would be arranged at the school in the next few weeks and would provide an opportunity to raise any concerns that they might have.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to reply to Beckwithshaw parent.</p>	
12	<p><b>Health and Safety / Safeguarding</b>  No safeguarding concerns to report</p>	
13	<p><b>AOB</b>  None</p>	

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

Signed: (Chair)

Date:

## **Actions from the meeting**

Item	Action	Lead	Deadline
5	Approve code of conduct	Clerk	Next meeting
7	Provide action plans to IEB	MA/HW	Next meeting
7	Provide details of health and safety concerns	MA/HW	Next meeting
11	To reply to Beckwithshaw parent	Clerk	Post meeting
Confidential Minutes	To inform MA of decision from the confidential meeting.	KB	Post meeting