



Head teacher: Rosalind Owen Telephone: 01865 241476
 Email: office.3216@st-michaels-oxf.oxon.sch.uk

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Virtual Meeting of the Full
 Governing Body
 Wednesday 27th May 2020 at 7pm**

Due to COVID 19 virus, virtual meetings will be held for the foreseeable future.

The meeting opened at 7pm

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>Present: Catherine Archard (Associate Member) The Rev. Elaine Bardwell (EB) (Foundation), Chair Chris Brewer (CB) (Local Authority), Vice Chair Hal Drakesmith (HD) (Foundation) Lynden Guiver (LG) (Foundation) William Hogg (WH) (Parent) Freda Hughes (FH) (Foundation) Simon Jones (SJ) (Co-opted) Tara Lynch (TL) (Parent) Rosalind Owen (RO) Head Teacher George Southcombe (GS) (Foundation)</p> <p>In attendance Kay Devine (KD) (Finance Manager), (Judy East (JE) LA Clerk</p>	
1.	<p>Welcome, apologies and quorum EB welcomed everyone, thanking Governors for giving up their time knowing the need is urgent, and opened the meeting at 7 pm. The Clerk was thanked for turning around the Minutes of the last meeting and CB for providing the Agenda.</p> <p>An apology for absence was received and accepted from Barbara Smith (Foundation). Lydia Robinson (Foundation) is on maternity leave. Judith Davies (Staff).</p> <p>The meeting was quorate.</p>	

2.	<p>Declaration of any urgent business Noted that a temporary maternity leave teacher has been recruited for next year. RO said this is a good appointment. The teacher has worked as a supply teacher in Reception this year and will be teaching Y5 for 3 days a week from September</p>	
3.	<p>Declaration of business/pecuniary/other interests in agenda items None declared. The Register of Interests in on the website.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2020 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May were deferred to the next meeting. Meanwhile, RO will put on Governor Hub.</p>	<p>RO/ Next Agenda item</p>
5.	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes of 14th May 2020 Deferred to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Next Agenda item</p>
6.	<p>June 2020 Re-Opening of School (i) <u>Current advice from Government</u>: Noted that Boris Johnson has said there are 5 tests to be met – (i) that the NHS can cope (ii) a fall in the death rate (iii) rate of infection going down (iv) enough PPE and test capacity (v) no risk of another peak</p> <p>CB commented that the death rate today was 412 so it couldn't be said that there is a sustained decrease. HD added that no country has seen a second peak, although that is not to say there will not be one. Matt Hancock today was clear that schools are expecting to re-open on Monday, but parents can choose whether to send their children.</p> <p>Q. <i>Do we know how many might come in?</i> A. We polled the parents – 18 said yes for Reception, but some were qualified. Y1 had 17 responses saying yes. There were 10 positive responses for Y6. Overall, there were 30 Reception responses, 27 Y1 responses, and 25 Y6 responses.</p> <p>Y1 and Reception classes will be split into two groups of 15, but as we don't have the sufficient staff, Y6 will capped at 15. RO will not require anyone in medically vulnerable categories to come back to work. EB agreed, adding that school wants to make sure staff who have to be at home don't feel bad about it and said there is need to reassure them. There is need to minimize risk to all staff. Noted that teaching unions are not happy with the situation. RO will share the Risk Assessment with staff tomorrow. EB pointed out that we are dealing with an unknown. HD added that Track & Trace should be in place.</p> <p>RO explained that the idea of having 'Bubbles' is that each child is in</p>	<p>RO</p>

	<p>a group with up to 15 children and 2 staff. There are some shared areas eg toilets. If a child or adult should test positive for Covid-19, then RO said she would contact Public Health England and follow their advice.</p> <p>Q. <i>What happens if a family member has a child who has tested positive?</i> A. The family would need to follow current advice and isolate.</p> <p>RO reported that she has split the playground so the youngest children have a full-time designated play area, and each other group has a separate play area at break times</p> <p>Q. <i>What about flushing toilets, i.e. the seat should be put down after flushing....</i> A. Children’s toilets don’t have toilet seats.</p> <p>Q. <i>What happens at the school gate if parents stop for a chat?</i> A. The expectation and instruction is that people maintain social distancing. There will be a window for children to arrive in the morning and afternoon and people will be expected to exit the school site quickly.</p> <p>Q. <i>Could we open the gate onto the field?</i> A. Yes, a good idea for the majority of classes. Pre-School, group using Y1 classroom and Year 6 could use car park gate. We will use signage and RO will let parents know and emphasise the 2m rule.</p> <p>EB pointed out there is some space in Y6 – there is capacity for 15, but only 10 will be attending. RO said that she anticipated that more children would come in as parents became more confident. Distance Learning will continue. EB noted the comment on p.29 of the Risk Assessment that “some parents had refused” and suggested changing the wording to “declined”: RO will look at this.</p> <p>Q. <i>Will Key Worker children remain a separate class?</i> A. The children in Reception, Y1 and Y6 will come back into their normal classes. If we re-open on the 2nd June they will have been 10 days out of school – it would be cruel not to put them with their normal classmates. There would be no point in opening if we can’t do something different and better than they have at home. IT support has been asked to suggest what resources could be made available to families with limited IT equipment at home.</p> <p>CA mentioned that a teacher had asked if Governors are aware of the independent SAGE data that suggests if you wait until 15th June (to re-open) chances of a child becoming infected are halved and death is halved as well. CB commented that OCC had not made a statement in favour or against schools re-opening. The Risk Assessment had not been</p>	RO
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checked by OCC.

CA said that teachers will check the RA closely tomorrow, but it was noted there has been no guidance from the Government/DfE yet for Governors. **CB** confirmed that Governors are responsible for decisions in school, so this puts them in a difficult position.

HD noted that catering providers will need to do a full clean of the kitchen and will not provide food until 8th June. School lunches will be in the form of packed lunches. FSM families will continue to get vouchers.

Q. How much pressure is there to open in that week?

A. The plan is to open for the specified classes on the 2nd June.

Q. Would there be any benefit in phasing it, i.e. starting with Y6, rather than going straight in for the extra year groups?

A. This could be possible, but most other local schools are planning to open up to all 3 classes, so we should fall in with them.

Q. Is there any mileage in giving yourselves a bit longer?

A. **EB** suggested that there could be an excuse for waiting a week if the kitchen is unavailable.

Social distancing: **CA** noted "To the best of our ability...." is key. Children are not going to sit at a table all day – staff are unlikely to be able to ensure that every child remains 2m apart all day, every day; teachers can come up with more static activities but children will be moving around to a degree, and it would be impossible for the youngest children. Safety of staff was pointed out but it was noted that having 2 adults per group would make a big difference, allowing for children to be in smaller groups.

In discussion **CA** said that staggering the year groups coming in would give more lee-way. **CB** added that if **RO** and all the teachers think it's the best way for classes to come back he would be happy to support. **SJ** commented that there is only room for 1 Y6 class and if more parents want to send their children back, what happens? **RO** replied that the school response would be that there aren't enough staff.

In conclusion, and having looked very carefully at the Risk Assessment, Governors agreed it was a good working document and gave their support for school re-opening further whilst noting that they are not in a position to formally approve at the moment. Governors acknowledged and appreciated the work that had been done in a very short time.

RO pointed out that although the school might re-open, it may need to close again, but she wanted to give children the best education possible. In the meantime on-line learning will continue for all year groups. **EB** added that younger children, in particular, need consistency.

	<p>(iii) <u>Distance Learning</u> :</p> <p>Q. <i>What are the plans for distance learning for the next half term?</i></p> <p>A. Google Classroom is set up and we will be looking to see what it offers and whether we can put something more out. All the time we are looking at how we can make the offer better, but teachers will be very stretched when they are back in school. 3 teachers working at home will manage all distance learning.</p>	
7.	<p>Academic Year 2020/21 Planning</p> <p>Noted that this cannot be moved very far ahead at the current time. GS said it would be useful to survey parents before end of term about what resources they have and in their homes for remote learning: RO will take forward. RO reported that things were already starting to be put together for the new Reception parents and Y6 teachers are preparing transfer documents for children moving on to secondary school. There are enough teachers and TAs if school is full in September. RO said that plans may change with government advice, no advice has been received about summer opening, for example.</p> <p>EB pointed out that some teachers have had little holiday and it is not true that children haven't learned anything over the past few months. EB undertook to write on behalf of Governors to staff to thank them for all their work during this difficult time</p>	<p>RO</p> <p>EB</p>
8.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 2nd July at 7 pm.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm