



**Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership  
Local Governing Body Virtual – Critchill School  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Meeting open 18.00 close 19.15**

**Present:**

Sophie Addison  
Amy Osborne  
Andy Jones  
Sue Barton  
Kate Frost  
Kathryn Gurr  
Michelle Smith  
Ben Flanagan  
Jon Hoare  
Hayley Cobb

**In attendance**

Claire Gordon

1. Apologies	Action
Simon Mills sent apologies.	
<b>2. Declarations of Business Interest</b>	
No updates required.	
<b>3. Minutes</b>	
The minutes were of a true record and will be signed by the chair.	
<b>4. Headteachers Report/SIP</b>	
<p>The HT noted key points and invited questions.</p> <p>Q - Re number on roll; what does EAL stand for? Also 1 LADO referral? A – EAL stands for English as additional language. LADO is the Local Authority Designated Officer, we have made 1 referral which is ongoing and the Chair of Governors is also supporting us with this.</p> <p>Q - Why has attendance dropped in term two? How does this compare to the National average? What is PA (partial absence?) A – We have generally had many young people unwell, ranging from cases of Step A to Impetigo. PA stands for persistent absence this is when a student falls below the threshold which is set at 90%. Termly attendance analysis is carried out and assessed by SLT.</p> <p>Q - What classifies a pupil as a 'Child In Need'? How is education effected and what role does the school have in supporting them? A – A child who is a child in need (CIN) will have complex needs, an assessment will be carried out by a social worker who will then deem a child a CIN. The child will have multi agency support along with a social worker and</p>	

possibly respite. CIN meetings will be held regularly at the school, parents and professionals from multi agencies will also be in attendance.

Q - Why are there continuing high levels of staff absence? Are we short staffed?

A – This ranges from long term sick, retirement, and resignations due to career changes. We are continuing to push on TA recruitment this continues to be challenging.

Q - Looking at the Code of Conduct for parents, do we keep any statistics or records of any actions taken in that regard? It would be good to get a sense of trending, both year on year and intra-year?

A – The parent code of conduct has been shared with governors due to feedback we have received from a recent staff wellbeing survey where staff members have reported parents speaking to them in a rude manner.

Following on from this a governor referred to the 'complaints and parents views' section on the HT report being blank and asked if there was anything to add? A – The HT advised whilst she has a number of difficult conversations with parents we have not received any complaints that follow the formal complaints policy.

We have shared with parents something called Parent Ofsted View, this is a website where parents can give feedback about their child's school that will be looked at by Ofsted. To date we haven't received any parent feedback.

There was also a conversation between governors regarding the role of parent governor. The Chair noted that if anyone felt they needed to discuss this further that they could contact him directly anytime.

Q - Why does that first page show 2021-21 absence numbers – is that for comparison with current year? A – Yes, it's for comparative purposes, you will find the current year on the HT report.

Q -In Working Futures, are the Live Music & Yoga projects ongoing, or were they one-offs? A – The yoga is ongoing however, the Live Music has come to an end but there will be an opportunity for young people to attend some follow up sessions.

Q – Why is it year on year applications for a P16 placement? A – The LA will only provide a place if the school are able to provide continuous sustained progress. Each year we have to provide a pathway tracker for each individual the LA will then re-consult with us.

Q – What further work are we doing with the more complex learners in regards to their pathway? A – This is one of our biggest challenges, JH the AHT is working with Colleges to see what their offer is. There is undoubtedly a huge gap, services are seriously underfunded with limited offers. We continue to work on this.

Q - What was the outcome of the QA review of maps by SLT? A – These haven't taken place yet, we will feedback in term 4's meeting.

## 5. Safeguarding

There was a discussion regarding a recent incident that involved school transport provided by the LA.

<b>6. Finance</b>		
<p>Q - Management Accounts – I appreciate that Leadership costs are now split out, should that be further refined to show the proportion of time the Exec Head is investing in MAT activities?</p> <p>A - It was agreed at the start of 21/22 that the Trust SEN provision would be run from Critchill, due to the SEN expertise. These costs have been separated within the Critchill budget so that they are easily trackable.</p> <p>The Trust SEN network offer for 23/24 is currently being rewritten, with agreement to be confirmed on how each staff that makes up the offer will be funded. This is likely to change from 21/22, but has not yet been confirmed.</p> <p>Q – A governor asked if there were any plans to replace the SBM? A – At this stage no, we are receiving input from Paul who is the Trusts Management Accountant for trust SEND schools. We also receive HR/Finance support from the Trusts central team.</p>		
<b>7. H&amp;S</b>		
A recent audit has taken place with some action points that are being looked at by the caretaker.		
<b>8. External Visits</b>		
We don't currently have any Cat B/C visits to be agreed. EV audit booked to place on 07.03.23.		
<b>9. Monitoring</b>		
Term 3 date to be arranged between Kate & Sue.		
<b>10. AOB</b>		
<p><u>Ofsted</u> - The HT drew governor's attention to the Ofsted folder within the LGB meeting folder, we have uploaded some governor prompt sheets with the type of questions that Ofsted may ask. Please take some time to look at these. If you would like to meet with Sophie please get in touch.</p> <p><u>Teacher strikes</u> – Teachers have informed the HT that they plan to strike for 1 day in March there is no plans at this stage to close the school our priority is to stay open. Parents will be kept fully updated as and when we have further clarity.</p>		
<b>11. Dates of future meetings</b>		
01.03.23 trust central meeting		Clerk to confirm details

SUMMARY OF ONGOING ACTIONS			
Date	Action	Who	Open/Closed
25.01.23	Clerk to confirm details of Trust central meeting	CG	OPEN

Signed..... *order Jm*  
Position..... *Chief*  
Date..... *10 5/23*