



# Minutes of Cromwell Academy Local Governing Committee

held on Wednesday 12 July 2022

8.30 a.m. via Zoom

**Present**

**Governors:**

Richard Laing, (RL), Chair of Governors  
Roger Worgan (RW), Co-opted Governor  
Hannah Connor-James (HCJ), Headteacher & Governor  
David Sykes (DS), Staff Governor

**Clerk:**

Debbie Warner

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>
	Apologies were received and accepted from Rebecca Bierton and Angela Moore. The Clerk confirmed the meeting was quorate.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>
	There were none.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of meeting 12 July 2022</b>
	The minutes of meeting of 12 July 2022 were deemed to be an accurate account of proceedings and signed off by the Chair.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda</b>
	<b>ACTION: RW and REB to liaise over Pupil Premium link governor role.</b> The Headteacher confirmed that an SCR check had been carried out. <b>ACTION: AM to report to governors along with safeguarding audit report.</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Headteacher's Report</b>
	Governors had not seen the report prior to the meeting and there Headteacher therefore presented the report in detail: NOR is now over 200 and governors noted this was a positive trend. FSM, Pupil Premium, BME, EAL and SEND: numbers are all on an upward trend. Covid is still having an impact on numbers, both staff and pupils. Morale continues to be high among staff. Staff feel like they are "under the microscope" with the school being a showcase for other professional and sharing of best practice. A well-being week is planned for the last week of term. The SDP has now been reviewed and is available to governors. The Headteacher showed governors the areas where it had been updated since the last meeting and was pleased to confirm that most areas are green. The Headteacher had been requested by the Trust to finalise a draft of the new SDP which had put added pressure on the staff. <b>Questioning/challenge:</b> <b>A governor noted that the KS2 SATs results were exceptional</b> <b>The Headteacher was pleased to report that there were improvements on all predictions</b> <b>Q: A governor asked how the school compares nationally on higher standards</b> <b>A: The Headteacher informed governors that this will not be known until September</b>

Signed: Date

Date: 22/09/2022

	<p>The Headteacher informed governors that she was delighted with the SATs results of the school. However, comparison with national figures are not yet available. The Headteacher confirmed that writing is still an issue but pupils have performed much better in reading and maths and will hopefully be in line with national. Writing is taking longer to see improvements post Covid.</p> <p>The Headteacher highlighted huge success with Year 6 in terms of progress but erred concern at the bottom end of the cohort but was optimistic of making ground with this Year 5, who will be the next focus cohort. Year 3 and 4 continue to receive input in terms of improvement to progress and a new approach on how assessments are administered will be implemented. Year 4 struggles to show progress. Outcomes in Year 2 are satisfactory but progress is more of a concern. Priority is Year 1 and 2 with behaviour in Year 1 requiring improvement and this will be a focus in the autumn term. Maths continues to be strong. Phonics in Year 1 is also strong. Attendance is steady slight dip in spring term.</p> <p><b>Questioning/challenge:</b></p> <p><b>Q: Is the school still issuing fines for absenteeism?</b>  <b>A: The Headteacher confirmed that the school continues to do this and rigidly applies the school's attendance policy.</b></p> <p>The Headteacher added that Pupil Premium and Child Protection children make up 14% of persistence absence in the school. The Pupil Premium lead will implement a strategy for next year.</p> <p>The Headteacher reported a drop in number of concerns being logged following a safeguarding meeting with staff. No new exclusions to report. One racist incident which was dealt with involving parents and in line with the behaviour policy. Staffing: very well staffed but reaching a point where the school is becoming adult heavy with 1:1 staffing. The Headteacher informed governors that the school field remains waterlogged.</p> <p><b>Questioning/challenge:</b></p> <p><b>Q: A governor asked about keyboards</b>  <b>A: The Headteacher confirmed that the school is working to introduce an overture programme</b></p> <p><b>Q: A governor asked if fining parents for attendance actually works</b>  <b>A: The Headteacher thought it did in some but not all cases. Persistent lateness is one of the main issues.</b></p>
6.	AOB
	<p>The Chair discussed SLA agreement that the school has with the for LA, which provides support for governing bodies. The Chair thought that the school had made only occasional use of training. The Headteacher confirmed that The HAT group are reinstating their networking. Additionally, The National College also offers governing training. Key for Governors and School Leaders is also available for support. It was therefore decided by governors that it was not necessary to continue this. The Chair said to keep it under review.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Clerk to inform the LA that the SLA should not continue for 2022-23</b></p> <p>RW attended a training programme on safeguarding supplied by Hinchbrook School.</p> <p>RL had recently met with Chairs from other primary schools in the Trust and he thought it would be worthwhile for the new Chair to continue with these meetings.</p>
7.	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	<p>The Headteacher advised governors that dates for next year's committee meetings should align with governance meetings of the Trust.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Headteacher to advise dates of meetings for 2022-23.</b></p>

Signed:  Date  
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