

# **Meeting of the Governing Body 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 6.00 pm**

**chaired by Vinod Wagjiani**

The governors held their meeting at the school. School staff ensured that all necessary papers were made available to every governor prior to the meeting.

## **brief summary of key matters discussed:**

### **Presentation by Pupil Voice**

Two representatives of Pupil Voice gave the governors a presentation on what the group had achieved over the last year. Pupil Voice have been involved in a number of events over the year. Including raising over £3000 for charities, helping at school events, updating the pupil SEF and SIP and keeping their classes informed of what is happening. Pupil Voice have also been listening to their classes' ideas and discussing the ideas at their meetings. They are looking at organising a trip to the Houses of Parliament in the autumn term. They have enjoyed being part of Pupil Voice and are pleased with what they have achieved. They were warmly thanked by the governors.

### **Headteacher's update**

The full Head Teacher's report was provided to the governors prior to the meeting and Governors had the opportunity to ask any questions.

ND and JD had a good meeting with the building surveyor Paul Berry. He said Leechpool was a well maintained school. They will be monitoring the flat roofs over KS1 and KS2 playground. Planned improvements by the LA would be from 2028 if needed.

CB, JD and DC will be completing the Health and Safety walk on Friday 7 July.

ND has discussed the low writing attainment data with the EYFS teachers. This cohort was a challenging group during their time in the nursery.

### **Academisation**

ND to share documentation concerning academisation; she asked governors to read the papers over the summer and add any questions to a spreadsheet to be set up on Sharepoint. The principal and a governor from Collyer's will attend the September meeting to discuss and answer questions. The academy would probably comprise 10 – 15 schools. It would, she stated, be a unique academy as it will be set up on a local level for local schools.

If a school has a debit when they join the academy, the debit stays with the LA and they will join with a clean slate. If we joined the academy we would ring fence our funds for projects at Leechpool.

The governors are keen that Leechpool doesn't lose its identity as a result of these potential changes and expressed concern that there wouldn't be a choice in Horsham for families. How would Special Needs and Disadvantaged children's needs be looked after within the academy, for example?

ND has been asked to attend a meeting with County to participate in a project that will look at how to provide positive outcomes for disadvantaged children. The LA is keen for Leechpool to share what the school achieves for disadvantage children against the provision provided in other schools. Ofsted rated Leechpool as outstanding in this area with exceptional practice.

## **Caterpillar Manager's Report**

Representatives of the County Education Authority conducted a monitoring visit earlier in the day. This is routinely undertaken twice a year. KS believed that the visit went well.

## **Health and Safety**

CB, JD and DC will be completing the Health and Safety walk around the school 7<sup>th</sup> July.

MK and DC are continuing their training on all matters to do for Health and Safety

DC has dealt with some cases of wasps and mice around the school. The teachers are aware where the traps have been placed.

## **Equality Monitoring Report**

EC will send the report to the clerk once completed. The report will be shared with governors.

## **Any Other Business**

The County Education Authority have advised that Linda Willmott's nomination for appointment as a Local Authority Governor for Leechpool has been accepted.

The clerk advised the Governors to think about whether anyone is interested in being Chair or Vice Chair in September. VW's 2-year term as being chair finishes in September.

Diary dates: Thursday 6 July Sports Awards years 3/4 at 6pm -7pm and years 5/6 at 7pm – 8pm; Friday 7 July – Big Run; Thursday 13 July Open Evening 5pm – 7pm; Wednesday 19 July Coffee Morning 9am – 9.45am; Thursday 20 July Music Gala 5pm – 7pm.

District Sports - Leechpool had a gold award winner in the throwing event and 2 silver award winners at distance running..

ND has received a letter from Jeremy Quinn (MP for Horsham, Paymaster General and Minister in the Cabinet Office) congratulating the school on their Ofsted result and ND on her Bronze Headteacher of the Year Award.

VW thanked children, staff, and governors for all their hard work during the year and a great Ofsted result.

DB thanked the governors for his leaving present, very much appreciated. He will continue to monitor the school website.

## **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Governing Body will take place on 12<sup>h</sup> September 2023 at 6.30pm

Details of the members of the school's Governing Body can be found at <https://www.leechpoolprimaryschool.co.uk/governor-profiles>

Parents with children currently at the school are welcome to contact governors with questions or general feedback. Please note that parents should always contact the school directly with any concerns.

### **Initials of governors and any other individuals 'in attendance' at this meeting are as follows:**

ND – Nicola Davenport – Head Teacher

KB – Katie Beange – Parent Governor and Joint lead for SEN/Disadvantaged Children

JB – John Bentley – formerly LA Governor and Deputy Chair, now a co-opted Governor

CB – Carrie Bost – Lead for Health and Safety

EC – Emma Coomber – Joint Lead for Safeguarding

SC – Sarah Cullern – Enrichment Leader, subject leader for Modern Foreign Languages, Lead for Well Being

JD – Jim Dean – Lead for PE and Sports & Health and Safety Compliance

JD – Jayne Dowell – Clerk to the Governors

VW – Vinod Wagjiani – Chair of Governors Child Protection and Safeguarding, Lead for Internet Safety

LW – Linda Willmott – Local Authority Governor

KS – Kate Summerhayes - Caterpillar Nursery and Afterschool Manager **(in attendance)**

EP – Emma Payne – Assistant Headteacher nad Inclusion and Achievement SENCO with responsibility for all aspects of SEND and Inclusion **(in attendance)**

**Apologies for absence:**

JA – John Adams – Joint Lead for Finance

KJ – Katie Jesse – Joint Lead for Finance

MDM – Maria DiMartino – Parent Governor, Deputy Chair Governors, and Governor, Leechpool Caterpillar Nursery and After-School Club