

**EARDISLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**GOVERNORS' MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2024, AT 5 PM**

**Present:**

PW (Chair)	CMa
BK (Headteacher)	SB
CMo (Vice Chair)	AB
SR	

- Apologies** LB, (JC Clerk) **Action**
- Declaration of Interest**  
None.
- Amended Code of Conduct** *Remaining Governors to email Clerk*  
Governors must email the Clerk to state the amended Code of Conduct has been read and understood. All present have either completed this, or it is in progress.
- Election of Chair and Vice Chair** *BK: Staff governor to be appointed*  
PW proposed as Chair by SB, seconded by SR.  
CMo proposed as Vice Chair by SR, seconded by CMa.
- To confirm membership and remit of committees for this academic year** *Committee Membership to be reviewed next meeting to include any new governors*  
Curriculum Committee (previously Ofsted): PW, SB, CMo, CMa.  
SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) Committee (Ethos): PW, MSm, SB.  
Finance Committee: PW, CMo, SB, SR.
- Minutes of last meeting & Matters Arising**  
Minutes of the meeting from 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 had been previously circulated. These were agreed as a true record and signed by Chair as correct. Matters arising -

The school fete was much enjoyed, with FOES' work appreciated. There was a great atmosphere. Having school staff on the bouncy castle really helped to keep it orderly.

FOES' charity shop will operate from 9<sup>th</sup> October.

## 7 **Headteacher's Report (previously circulated)**

The headteacher had circulated her report prior to the meeting. She presented the report to governors, which enabled discussion and questions.

**Staffing** for the year ahead was explained. Governors celebrated the success of the new Crossing Patrol. (SR) expressed concern over the Hereford Times news article that it has said there was 2 years funding. BK had also picked up on this and had a brief chat with Kelly M just before meeting who said there is funding, BK also confirmed that the contract is only for 1 year and if there is no funding there it will not put pressure on the schools revenue budget. It was asked if BK could get it in writing off Kelly M or have copies of what was agreed with each business regarding the funding, as the governors don't want parents to be misled.

### **Admissions –**

Number of pupils currently on roll: 110

Published Admission Number (PAN): 15 (105 for whole school)

Number who have joined the school:

- 13 new Reception children in 2024
- 2 new pupils who have moved into the area or who have elected to move schools

High School destinations of Year 6 leavers was provided. BK is liaising with the headteacher of Lady Hawkins School, with the possibility of a visit from their SENCo to Eardisley.

### **Attendance –**

Attendance at the end of the summer term 2024 was 96%. Attendance continues to be a focus nationally and locally. Governors discussed.

### **Safeguarding –**

Staff training has taken place in person at beginning of term INSET.

The revised policy is in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2024, and with Herefordshire advice.

Speak Out, Stay Safe (NSPCC) is being provided for Beech and Oak classes this term.

Governor question: do you get good quality multi-agency support? Discussed in detail, including options if the quality of support is variable.

*BK to  
contact  
Local  
Authority re  
safeguarding  
supervision*

*All  
governors*

*CMo to*

October 7<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm volunteer safeguarding training in school, governors welcome.

visit PA to  
check  
these

**It is essential that all governors read at least Part 2 of the guidance, The Management of Keeping Children Safe in Education.** All Governors must declare and sign that they have read this section of the guidance at the start of the academic year, by emailing the Clerk to confirm.

The Single Central Record has been updated for the new school year.  
Governors asked what is a Section 128 check and how is it done?

### **SEND –**

The number of children being assessed by the Educational Psychologist (privately purchased for quicker service) was discussed. Governors questioned whether there is funding while assessment is in progress. Generally, the answer is no, although sometimes top up funding can be applied for. Challenges for staff were discussed.

The Behaviour Support Service and team for SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) provide good support. The waiting list for CAMHs (Child and Adolescent Mental Health) is an issue.

Solihull training is highly valued; there are 2 more sessions for staff, and another parent session is planned.

### **Pupil Premium**

School data was provided. Governors asked about the take-up of free school meals by families. Some families register for pupil premium without claiming the meal, so benefitting the child and the school through funding. There may be families eligible that don't register, but efforts are made to register all eligible so that the school can receive maximum possible funding.

BK to add  
SPAG into  
SDP

*No One Goes Cold this Winter* coats are being accessed. Governors discussed this, and agreed it is an excellent initiative.

### **Performance and Standards**

KS2, phonics and early years outcomes were shared. All areas are positive except Spelling Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) which will be a focus for the forthcoming year. Governors asked that this be reflected in the SDP.

Combined Reading, writing and maths is above national. This is the key measure for government. The ISDR (Inspection Data Summary Report) will be out later this term with national comparison data.

A reading meeting for parents of children in Rowan and Willow is being held on 30<sup>th</sup> September at 2.15pm.

A government national curriculum review opened today. Governors are encouraged to have a look. The outcome, later in 2025, will influence our future curriculum planning.

Use of Class Dojo for reception class children's portfolios was discussed; overall this is seen as a positive, especially for staff workload, but governors agreed it is a compromise, as children do like to look at real paper record of their achievements.

### **Premises/Health & Safety**

Governors admired the Beech Class extension.

### **Leadership & Management**

Changes to arrangements for teaching staff performance related pay were discussed.

### **Future Proofing**

SIAMS Self-Evaluation is being undertaken for a likely inspection in 2025-6. Preparation is a big focus (see later agenda item), and considers global courageous advocacy (brave kindness) as well as other areas.

*Global Neighbours Award* information was given.

The recent *Hands Up for the Planet* event with Oak and Beech Classes was described. It focused on global thinking about water.

Open Days are planned, including a Forest School session. A governor asked whether these could be extended to include younger children ie families thinking ahead about school choice. A joint session with Bizzy Lizzies was also suggested.

*BK to look into this*

### 8 **SDP/SEF (School Development Plan / School Self-Evaluation Form)**

BK talked governors through the evaluation of the 2023/4 SEF and then the revised 2024/5 SEF, with governors commenting throughout. It was agreed that the school is in a good place, and that systems can be refined and embedded in the year ahead.

Governors asked BK about the shift in gender balance in the school and it was discussed how this affects provision. A governor had recently spent some time in Rowan Class and reported how impressive the children had been.

### 9 **SIAMS SEF**

BK talked the governors through the drafted SIAMS SEF. All agreed there is a very good story to tell and thanked BK for her hard work and forethought in writing a SEF for others to build on through the next eighteen months or so.

Discussion focused upon the way in which the SIAMS inspection would not provide a grade, or a one-word judgement, but would be differently demanding, and that we need to start evaluating now for the next academic year. The inspection will centre on theologically-rooted vision, and we will be asked what we do with that vision, ie what does *loving one another* look like in school? How does it enhance what we do?

Collective Worship (a legal requirement) will be inspected. Governors were alerted to the detailed collective worship schedule circulated with the papers for this meeting.

*BK to share letter from Diocese following inspection*

*BK to continue working on the SIAMS SEF; more examples and quotations*

RE teaching at Eardisley is excellent, and we should emphasize this, even though the SIAMS schedule for Voluntary Controlled schools does not ask for a full evaluation (unlike in Voluntary Aided schools).

Spirituality is an important area too, and this links directly to our work on wellbeing.

Courageous advocacy is our next step, moving into the global dimension.

PW asked whether the school's Armed Forces Covenant could enhance this advocacy, and all agreed.

The Ethos Committee will oversee SIAMS preparation on behalf of governors.

*BK to consider including Armed Forces Covenant in SIAMS SEF*

10 **Curriculum Reports/Governor Reporting Cycle**

The governor monitoring cycle was amended and agreed. If possible, the subjects of curriculum reports to governors will align with the subjects of governor monitoring visits.

*BK change OFSTED to curriculum*

11 **Policies for Discussion/Approval**

The revised Safeguarding Policy was agreed. BK had already worked on the policy with the Local Authority, CMO and CMA.

*CMo to check for one detail*

12 **Reports from Committees and Link visits: Governor Visits Cycle**

None have met since the June governor meeting.

13 **Finance**

The extension to Beech class came in more or less on budget. Governors were impressed at this and at the speed of the work.

14 **Well Being Charter**

CMA reported that the main changes from 2023 to 2024 are:

**Staff wellbeing and perception of stress:** more members of staff say they are feeling closer to other people.

**Staff wellbeing at your school:** many more people say the leadership team takes active steps to support staff mental wellbeing, but fewer respondents say they are aware of a mental health policy.

**Staff knowledge and confidence in relation to children's mental health and wellbeing issues:** a higher proportion of staff say that teachers are given appropriate support to identify health issues in children and more members of staff say they know how to help children with mental health issues.

A few members of staff still say they are not knowledgeable about a *wide range* of mental health issues, and like last year, several members of staff say they are not confident in talking *to parents and carers* about the mental health and wellbeing of children.

*CMA to ask JC how many were sent out so response rate can be calculated*

*BK (and CMA?) to share outcomes with staff*

*CMA to send link to flexible working document*

Discussion followed. Governors would like to work on eliciting more responses to next year's survey. to BK

Have new members of staff received a wellbeing card?

*BK*  
wellbeing  
card to  
new staff

The benefits of Solihull training and restorative justice training are apparent. Teaching assistants and governors could be invited to join the training.

One member of staff had expressed to a governor how much they appreciated having their birthday off work. Governors agreed that they will remain committed to this practice.

15 **Highways Issues**

*Governors*  
to email  
councillors

Twenty mile per hour zone: this proposal seems to have lapsed. Governors were encouraged to email Cllr Philip Price, copying in Cllr Jonathan Lester (our local councillor is Robert Highfield). We could ask for an update on the implementation policy because the safety of residents, parents and children is at risk. Also, governors were interested in possible section 106 money from housing development. Could this pay for the traffic calming measures?

*BK* to check  
duration of  
crossing  
patrol  
contract and  
to check we  
have  
thanked  
local  
businesses

School parking issues were also discussed.

School crossing patrol: see earlier.

16 **Health & Safety**

The Health and Safety Annual Planner and Report had been circulated with the meeting papers. Governors said they have read them and agreed that all is up to date.

17 **AOB**  
none

18 **Items for next Agenda**  
None mentioned

**Dates of Meetings for Coming Year**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 5 pm  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 5pm  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 5pm  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 5pm  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 5pm  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 5pm

Meeting closed at 7.20 pm