

LGB Questions for Spring Term Meeting 2015

Questions from Alan Bosley

Persistent Absentees

- **Is the persistent absentee protocol working?**

Absence protocol still working. Current attendance for each class in the school is above 95% except for the speech and language class. The school has recently had a lot of absences due to the cold/flu virus going around. Caroline is working alongside Attendance officer, Carolyn Standen, to continue to implement the protocol.

EWO is using Orchard Vale as an example for other schools who has problems with attendance.

Classroom Extension

- **I am concerned that the Northern Hub might steel attention from these extension plans. It is obvious on sitting in on lessons that space is overworked. Can we have an assurance that the extensions are funded and will go ahead?**

The school would be able to apply for funding for the classroom extensions. We would need to meet the strict criteria. Currently the nursery plans have been submitted to the DFE as part of the CIF bids.

Northern Hub

- **Governors have great interest in this. Can I suggest that we nominate a governor to be the representative when there are meetings / on site planning discussions etc. that are to do with school estate development? We all feel a particular interest in this area and want to see plans turn into concrete.**

See minutes.

Achievements and Standards

- **There are several areas in orange? Areas of ongoing work. Can we discuss progress on these?**

These are pieces of work happening at the moment that have been started and not completed largely due to time scale.

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School Website

- **Congratulations on this - a lot of work. We will no doubt discuss the green / amber / red sections on plans for progress. Photos of staff are helpful for parents / staff / govs recognising who is what. Should govs all have pictures by their names?**

Amy is to arrange a date and time for governors to have a picture taken for the website.

Maths

- **Maths seems to remain an anxiety. Can we have an update on progress please?**

A review of maths across the school is in place and will hopefully support staff to see all the good things happening and will relieve anxiety and take professional development and dialogue forward. The target is always to improve achievement for pupils.

Management Hub

- **Management Hub progress? Outcome from Director's meeting Jan 15th?**

See minutes.

School Profile and Assessments

- **What impact have the changes to the National Curriculum had on the school and how are we managing these? Will the changes affect the schools data outcome?**

The objectives on SPTO do not match the new curriculum and assessment procedures so transfer of pupils records has not been easy.

Teachers have used a best fit approach of triangulated evidence for teacher assessment which is meaning the new assessment levels don't match those previously set. The age standardized testing has supported this and has given us a better indication of where the children are working and now teachers are adapting planning to ensure coverage of the new objectives, trying to fill the gaps.

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- **Using the new RAG system it seems there are still focused areas, particularly in Maths, where we are still at Red. Some strategies have not yet been put in place. What are the issues here? Do we need more support?**

We have asked the PAT for support in this area and this has meant some areas of work have not been started until the review of maths across the school has been completed as it might give us a different areas of work to pursue.

- **Any current issues with Pupil Premium?**

No. Pupil Premium remains a real area of focus for all teachers and we are monitoring this carefully – see PP sheet.
Conferencing children has given us a definite picture of perceptions of school and learning and this has given additional ideas to try. Interventions are being closely monitored to ensure value for money.

Budget

- **Looking at utilities, wondered if we have seen any impact on expenditure now we have the Solar Panels in place?**

Not currently. Ryan Lewis is in the process of updating and ensuring the budget report is more accurate and easier to interpret for HOS and LGB

Senco

- **Does Caroline have enough support in this area and is Annabel Barr helping in school 2 days a week enough?**

This is working well and providing capacity.

Questions from Sue Manley

Website

- **I do have a few ideas of a few different things that maybe could go on the site, eg. Statements from children about different aspects of school life. I also think it could celebrate things a little more that we achieve both academically and other. Also a bit about the grandparent group, this might be of benefit when looking into funding re community etc.**

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Amy has taken over website updates and is working to co-ordinate ideas to improve it.

Management Hub

- **How is the extension coming along? Have we got a definite yes yet and how much are we going to need to raise ourselves?**

See minutes. The financial aspect of the project is a concern as the cost are high and we are no sure if this will make it less attractive for Directors in the light of PAT overall needs.

Questions from Janet Cowie

Maths results in year 3-4

- **I've noted the insecure moderation of maths results for years 3 & 4 last year and the over moderation later by maths lead. I am wondering what bearing this will have on the current year 5 results this year? Are this group being given extra maths teaching to correct this anomaly and give them the best chance of achieving good results?**

The Maths lead (HB) is working closely with Caroline on the way forward for year 5 and planning has changed mapping and gapping the curriculum to the needs of the children.

The new tests have supported the inconsistent moderation and analysis of these will give us a definite picture.

We are addressing the moderation of the current year 3 and 4 in the team using the new tests, the new curriculum objectives and the maths focused support work being done at the moment. DHOS as team leader has supported teacher's skills and knowledge in moderation.