

**Minutes Of Governors Emergency Full Governing Body Meeting
held on Monday 4th January 2021, 11.00am via Zoom**

Present:

Simon Smith	Headteacher	SS
Richard Dodson (Vice Chair)	Foundation Governor	RD
Sue Pakes (Chair)	Foundation Governor	SP
Ben Bailey	Parent Governor	BB
Nick Harris	Staff Governor	NH
Emma House	Foundation Governor	EH
Lisa Raison	Parent Governor	LR
Joy Edwards	Foundation Governor	JE
Allison White	Staff Governor	AW
Bev Coleberd	Foundation Governor	BC
Liza Caddy	Parent Governor	LC

Apologies were received and accepted from:

Rev Fiona Beale	Foundation Governor	FB
Rev David Baldwin	Foundation Governor Ex Officio	DB
Andrew Kindness	Local Authority Governor	AK

In Attendance:

Karen Lovering	Clerk	KL
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	<u>Opening Prayer</u>	
21/001	<u>Apologies & Welcome</u> The Chair verified that everyone was alone and apologies were accepted as above.	
21/002	<u>Staff Shortages</u> The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed her thanks to all Governors for attending this meeting at such short notice. The Head reported that over the weekend the reopening of schools have changed with the Unions now involved in this. Some members of staff who do not feel it is safe to come into school under Health and Safety Regulation 44 have signed the Union letter. The Headteachers Union have said they must respect their views and DFE and Dorset Council have said to try to and keep open the schools if at all possible. This morning the Headteacher had a meeting with staff who were in school and a meeting with the NEU representative. He feels that there are 2 options – close the school to all except vulnerable and keyworker children from tomorrow or keep open the whole school except Corfe class because of the difficulty in social distancing and shortage of staff with this class. It was considered to split the class into 2 providing half a week teaching to each group, however, due to number of keyworker and vulnerable children this is not an option. The new option would be to keep Corfe open to keyworker and vulnerable children only with online/packs for the children not being able to attend. The Headteacher advises opening the school to all pupils apart from Corfe class which will go to on-line teaching if the pupils aren't vulnerable or key worker children. The Chair thanked staff for their superb support and opened the floor to proposals.	

Signed.....Date.....

	<p>One governor asked How do we ensure that the school is safe due to the new variant of the disease being more transmittable? The Head responded that safety in the school is paramount. The infection rates are rising but Dorset is still low in comparison to the rest of the country. It is the capacity of hospitals that Dorset Healthcare are worried about and that the new variant is more virulent in transmission but not symptoms. Teachers/TA in close contact with children will wear face masks, KS1 will cancel school uniform as we need to keep classrooms well ventilated and children will need to wear warm clothing. Chesil will split into two using hall as at the moment we have no hot meals due to staffing issues. KS2 pupils are happy with social distancing and masks will be worn by staff if working closely with children. We will be upping levels of our risk assessment.</p> <p>A Governor asked That although we social distance in schools the parents are not social distancing at the school gates, how can we improve this? The Head will implore them to social distance at the school gate and a Governor suggested that parents be asked to wear masks when bringing children in or out of school. This will be incorporated into the letter to parents.</p> <p>Another Governor asked Would it be better to wear Shields instead of cloth masks? The Head replied that face shields aren't very effective but clear masks are much better and an order will be placed for staff.</p> <p>Governors enquired about Children not bringing in bags, not to wear school uniform? It was decided that the teaching staff would discuss this in school. It was subsequently discussed and decided that all children will come in to school in non-school uniform.</p> <p>One Governor asked If the ice cream man could be requested to not come at school leaving time or maybe go somewhere else eg village hall. The Head will follow this up with the PTFA.</p> <p>The Chair enquired with the Support Staff Governor how they are feeling. She read out a letter from a support staff employee, and reported that this is an emotional decision for support staff to make as some of them are at a vulnerable age.</p> <p>The Headteacher reported that at the moment we do not have a member of staff in for hot school meals. Since the meeting this has now been resolved and we do have hot school meals for all children who have ordered one or are pupil premium.</p> <p>A Governor asked What happens if there is an outcry about Corfe class parents who aren't coming in. The Head will respond with the risk assessment and that staffing cannot open Corfe to all pupils but will provide on-line learning. This will affect about 14 children. A letter will be sent out asap.</p> <p>Governors asked If we have had any correspondence from parents not sending children in to school? The school has received 2 messages of parents not willing to send their child in and one wishing to send their children in. The letter will be sent out via email this afternoon and a text to Corfe parents to contact the school.</p> <p>The Head thanked Governors for making this meeting and staff coming in to school. He also reported that only 2 schools in collaboration are shutting.</p>	<p>SS</p> <p>SS</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>SS</p>
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Signed.....Date.....

	All Governors are in agreement to send letter out to parents including Corfe class arrangements.	SS/KL
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The meeting closed at 11.30am.

PARRETT & AXE SCHOOL

Signed.....Date.....