



RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION
Executive Headteacher: Mrs C Tommey

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Minutes of a Governors' meeting held on **Thursday 25th June 2020**
Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Carolyn Tommey	Headteacher
Caroline Whitehead	Chair & Foundation Governor
Rev. Caroline Walker	Foundation Governor
Richard Clayphan	Vice Chair & Co-opted Governor
George Muxworthy	Co-opted Governor
Andrew Carr	Co-opted Governor
Kirsty Tozer	Co-opted Governor
Philip Miller	Co-opted Governor, Chair of Finance and Buildings Committee
Iestyn Lewis	Parent Governor
Kim Slade	Staff Governor
Andrew Carr	Co-opted Governor
Bill Jackson	Foundation Governor
Sam Nicol	Clerk

Confidential agenda items are identified and highlighted in red.

Item No.	Item	Action
1.	Prayers, Welcome and Introductions, Apologies and Pecuniary Interests Apologies accepted from: Siobhan Thompson, Graham Slingo, Caroline Walker Pecuniary Interests: Bill Jackson, Staff member	
2.	Minutes of the Governors' meeting held on 14th May 2020 and 10th June 2020 will be presented at the July meeting	
3.	<u>School Re-opening - changes to provision for week commencing 13th July</u> The Headteacher circulated a pre-read briefing note on the proposed expansion of provision to include Y4, summer holiday provision and reopening in September 2020 plans. The Headteacher informed governors that the DfE guidance was changing almost daily. The Headteacher's briefing note takes into account the most recent guidance on expanding provision for other year groups. Currently there are 3 bubbles at Norton St Philip and two bubbles at Rode. The children currently attending are all happy and thriving. The new guidance encourages schools with capacity to invite more children back to	

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	<p>school and this has been happening at both sites where capacity allows. The original plan was to finish the term for Reception and Year 1 bubbles on 10th July providing more capacity to invite the Year 4 children back to school to support their wellbeing and transition to their next school. However, the DfE and Somerset LA guidance that came out this week makes it very clear that schools must continue the provision already started and must not stop that provision prematurely.</p> <p>Next week will see Rode expand to three bubbles and in the final week, the federation will continue with all the existing provision but add an additional bubble at Rode in the hall for 15 Year 4 pupils with Zoe Manifold including a final farewell with all the Year 4s on the Wednesday. On Wednesdays, Rode school is closed except for emergency care for Key Worker or vulnerable children. Parents of children in these eligible groups are choosing not to use the emergency provision on Wednesdays, providing an opportunity for staff to organise a leavers' celebration for the Year 4s on the final Wednesday.</p> <p>As the expansion proposal is outside the government's current guidance, governors must approve the proposal.</p> <p>The Chair noted the lack of understanding from the Government of the local three-tier education system where the Year 4 children need support with transition to their next school. The Chair considered it important for the Year 4s to have the opportunity to finish this chapter of their lives and education before they start a new school in September and for that to happen at Rode School.</p> <p>Governors responded to the proposal positively, considering it be a very good idea, that it is important to bring the Year 4s back together and that the increased provision should be at Rode School. Governors felt strongly that this approach would support the wellbeing of Year 4 children.</p> <p>The Headteacher confirmed the last day of term would be Thursday 16th July with Friday 17th and Monday 20th July as pre-planned inset days.</p> <p>The Chair of Governors recommended to support staff wellbeing and in recognition of all the work undertaken by staff during the last few months, all staff should take a month off from Monday 20th July to 20th August. The Headteacher supported this proposal again in recognition of the outstanding work of staff since March.</p> <p>GM noted that arrangements for the new Reception intake would need to be in place as parents are already asking for details.</p> <p>The Chair proposed for approval the arrangements documented in the briefing note for week commencing 13th July, the proposal was seconded by RC and agreed unanimously by governors. No abstentions or votes against the proposal.</p>	
4.	<p>Correspondence: The Clerk is circulating all Governor Services correspondence by email to all governors as soon as it is received.</p>	
5.	<p>Date of next virtual meeting: 8th July 2020 at 6pm</p>	

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