MINUTES

of the meeting of the Local Governing Body of Teignmouth Community School, Mill Lane held on Thursday 26 January 2023 at 5 pm in the Headteacher's Office at TCS Mill Lane

Present:		
Name	Title/Role	Initials
Luke Marchant	Acting Headteacher/Staff Governor	LM
Pat Henchie	Co-opted Governor	PH
Mark McCarthy	Co-opted Governor and Chair of Governors	MMc
Samantha Tribble	Parent Governor	ST
Rachel England	Co-Opted Governor	RE
Jackie Jackson	Co-Opted Governor	JJ
Maggie York	Co-Opted Governor and Governor Responsible for SEND	MY
Rachel Hill	Local Governance Officer	LGO
Sarah Dudley	Deputy Headteacher	SD
Apologies:		
Rebecca Haines	Parent Governor	RH
Absent:	Absent:	
None		

Key to acronyms

DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead	IET	Ivy Education Trust
LGB	Local Governing Board	TCS ML	Teignmouth Community School Mill Lane
GH	Governor Hub	T&L	Teaching and Learning
PE	Physical Education	LGB	Local Governing Board
PSHE	Personal, social, health and economic	SENCo	Special Educational Needs Coordinator
RE	Religious education	EY	Early Years
MFL	Modern foreign language	LGO	Local Governance Officer
DT	Design & Technology	PP	Pupil Premium
CPD	Continuing professional development	SIP	School Improvement Plan
SLT	Senior leadership team	RR	Risk Register
ECT	Early career teacher	EAL	English as an Additional Language

The meeting opened at 5 pm. MMc welcomed all present and thanked governors for their time and contribution to the school. Sarah Dudley, Deputy Headteacher was thanked for joining the meeting.

Item	Content	Action
0.1	Update on Teaching and Learning. Sarah Dudley, Deputy Headteacher. Notes of SD's presentation and the booklet titled Teaching and Learning at Mill Lane, Expectations and Guidance, were handed out to governors following the meeting and uploaded by LM to Governor Hub (GH). Progress and plans for the following actions were presented by SD.	
	 Embed current teaching and learning approaches for new staff and ensure all staff are adhering to the guidelines (Tom Sherrington) ECTs and mentors have attended induction training, weekly meetings and Teach First modules. Q: What does ECT stand for? ECT is an early careers teacher. They now have two years training. We have two new members of staff who attend training sessions who are not ECT. A Teaching and Learning Guidelines and Expectations document has been produced. Q: Are the T&L learning guidelines for everyone? Yes. I will leave copies for governors. A new timetable has been rolled out. Previous to this year staff were teaching across topics and as a result certain subjects did not get the in-depth teaching required. This year subjects have a weekly slot. It is quality assured through deep dives. LM added that last year if a child was ill they could miss a topic but with this new system it does not happen. 	

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	Q: How do you manage this within the curriculum? Is it rolled out across the school? It depends on the topics. Some subjects are taught every other term, the remainder every term. LM noted that in the past RE was known as a 'Cinderella' subject but due to the new system it is more exploratory and pupils can build on their knowledge. Some of the Tom Sherrington walk-throughs have been used and they are visually clear. Deep dives in reading, maths, humanities, English and science have taken place. Next half term the school is looking at lesson studies. Deep dives are planned in computing and music followed by PE, PSHE and RE, MFL, art and DT.	
	2. Ensure there are robust systems for assessments in foundation subject that identify gaps in learning so that pupils are supported to build up their understanding over time (Ofsted target). Progress so far is that a new timetable has been rolled out. CPD on improving end of unit	
	outcomes has taken place. Staff have begun to use target tracker for foundation subjects. A different assessment system has been developed and the school has looked at retrieval practice. Plans going forward include working on end of unit outcomes and continued support using retrieval practice and target tracker.	
	It had been decided against using a scheme for writing as it was more about improving the teacher's ability to produce a sequence of writing. Transcription sessions are timetabled and the school has bought into Letter-join to improve handwriting. Quality non-fiction tests have been planned in. The Trust has held a moderation writing event which SD attended with knowledge gained being brought back into school. SD has also gained Local Authority moderating skills which require a high standard and is a great asset for the school.	
	Going forward, lesson studies with writing are planned. Teachers will be paired up and meet weekly for a half term with the aim to observe, feedback and create a partnership. This worked well in maths last year. Further writing CPD will take place. There is a need to focus on spelling CPD. A continual review of the curriculum will take place. Q: What is different with target tracker? We assess more foundation subjects and it provides a system.	
	Q: Is there time for teachers to get together as this is so beneficial? We have shaved some of the Wednesday CPD time in order to be able to do this. There is an expectation for subject leads to support other teachers and this is a rich culture in the school. Q: How do you cascade the information to TAs? We include TAs at the Wednesday CPD meetings. It is also about communication and we hold fortnightly meetings with them. There is a	
	TA page in the T&L documents which they helped to create. It isn't statutory to have formal assessments with TAs. Q: Has the anxiety brought about by Covid moved on? Is it a particular year group? Probably a bit of both.	
	Q: With the induction of new staff – is it a feedback cycle? Do staff receive mentoring training? SWIFT provide a day of induction for mentors, then online modules are taken. Q: Are there particular strategies that you are reviewing in relation to greater depth in	
	maths? We are rolling out White Rose and using it in all lessons. We would like to hold a deep dive to look at NCETM teaching, a curriculum prioritisation in primary maths. Questions should be asked in all lessons to ascertain whether pupils are working at greater depth.	
	 Q: Do you use your stronger maths teachers to co-teach? We certainly signpost teachers to observe other teachers where there is a strength. Q: Have you done this with the Trust yet and would you? Yes. LM has taken a lesson and we enable other staff to watch us. 	
	Governors noted that maths is a challenging subject for pupils across Devon and that the Trust is aware of this. It was agreed that maths in Early Years and the transition were important.	
0.2	Update on SEND. Charlotte Gobel. Charlotte Gobel had sent her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting. It was agreed to postpone Charlotte's presentation to the May LGB so that she could share her work in depth. It was agreed to ask Becky Emery to update governors on Early Years at the March meeting. Action: LM to invite.	Agenda items for March and May meetings LM
23/3/1.1	Welcome and Apologies:	

Action: LM write a paragraph about Governors for the Newsletter. Declarations of Interest: None declared. Proposed new staff Governor, Andrew Webber: The Chair advised that following a full nomination process staff have appointed Andrew Webber as the non-teaching Staff Governor, Andrew Webber as the non-teaching Staff Governor. AW introduced himself and gave a brief summary of his experience to date. His current role is to look after the business element of the school. Q: Have you been involved in governance before? No. The Chair asked AW to step outside the meeting room. It was proposed/seconded PH/RE for AW's appointment to be considered, upon full recommendation from the LGB, at the Trust Board meeting on 21.02.23. Governors agreed that AW's knowledge of school and the wider community would be invaluable. AW was invited back into the meeting and invited to stay for the remainder as a guest. The Chair advised that AW would not be able to be involved in finance or risk management decisions of the local governing body due to his business interest. AW would be able to make contributions in these areas but add nothing that influenced the decision of the board. Review progress against Governance Improvement Plan (GIP): The GIP had been RAG rated by the Chair for progress to date. The Chair asked for any questions or suggestions and thoughts on best practice to manage the cycle of business and hearing of the staff and parent voice. LM noted that governor visits have given good feedback for staff and provide ongoing quality assurance. Q: It would be helpful if a governor could meet parents when they are invited in. Is this possible? Action: LM to ask staff for dates of events so that he can dovetail this with invitations to parents and governors. Q: Could the cycle of business include a strand to develop the relationship between parents and the wider community who are part of the school? AW added that the school was currently looking at community engagement. LM noted that this will be developed furthe	tem	Content	Action
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Action: MMc to note that election of a new Chair could be a potential issue.			
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Item	Content	Action
	It was noted that all Governors have now registered with Governor Hub. PH was experiencing	
00/0/0 4	interaction issues with documents due to her tablet.	
23/3/2.1	Matters Arising from meeting held 17.11.22:	
	The LGO has uploaded general reference documents to Governor Hub. Governors to advise the LGO if there are other key desuments they would like to be upleaded.	
	 advise the LGO if there are other key documents they would like to be uploaded. The LGO has produced a skills matrix audit. There are gap areas around accountability 	
	and strategic leadership. The Chair proposed that the LGB invite Jon Newman to present	
	to the Board on school funding and budget management with an ongoing action to	
	discuss this at school level. MMc encouraged an action for all governors to link	All
	through to areas on the matrix to review recommended NGA resources.	
	MY to liaise with SEND link governor, Polly Cox, at Exeter Road. This has not yet been	1437
	actioned. Action: MY to contact Polly Cox.	MY
	RE has undertaken a learning walk around Behaviour and policy.	
	Updates to fire safety and site security policies. LM has spoken to Katy Quin. The Health Sefety Reliev is now sweed at Trust level. The Fire Reliev has become a precedure.	
	& Safety Policy is now owned at Trust level. The Fire Policy has become a procedure	
23/3/2.2	and the Site Security Policy should be reviewed at school level. AGREED that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the last meeting.	
23/3/3	Chair's Update:	
	MMc advised that he had attended the Chairs' committee meeting on 15 December and raised	
	noted issues from the previous LGB meeting.	
	Items fed back from Trust as follows:	
	Staffing and energy costs remain a significant risk. There is some additional funding	
	support for primaries but the Trust is looking for windfall or potential savings within year.	
	There are Trust-wide concerns around attendance and exclusions. Strategies for these	
	concerns are activities that could reduce the number of exclusions.	
	Staff safe on CPOMS has been launched. LM advised that it had been updated at school	
	level. It was mainly a tool for himself and AW to log capability, conduct or any other	
	concerns with staff. AW noted that it also pulls in training and gaps can be monitored. MMc noted that it has a potential use for staff wellbeing.	
	The Chair asked for any comments.	
	Q: Regarding the cost of living and energy. Can we make the buildings more efficient?	
	MMc advised that this had not been discussed at the meeting. It was still an intention of the Trust	
	who were working with external consultants. AW noted that staff have been made more conscious	
	of energy saving around school.	
	Q: Could the school advertise about how the Community Larder could help families since	
	the rise of energy, fuel and rent costs in conjunction with income remaining static? Action	
	JJ to email to LM about this. LM added that the school is noticing a trend in concerns raised by	JJ/LM
	children about tensions at home. AW noted that staff were aware of affordable trip planning and	
	spreading the cost for parents who were struggling.	
23/3/4	Headteacher's Report/Update:	
	MMc advised that the Headteacher's report had been available for all Governors to read on GH	
	and asked for any questions.	
	Teaching and Learning:	
	The school is seeing positive progress with the curriculum. The parents survey had been well	
	supported with 71 returned. Responses had been overwhelmingly positive with 99% of parents	
	saying they would recommend the school to others. 99% were happy with the curriculum. One	
	aspect of this is that communication with parents is improving and the school would like to build	
	on it further. A question raised by parents was how could they do more to support the children.	
	As a result of this, the Safeguarding Lead has started workshops for parents to attend, in	
	conjunction with a coffee morning. The school is promoting trips and experiences and subsiding transport costs and is being marketed as open for children post-covid. Staff are seeing progress	
	in core subjects. Teachers are being supported when necessary and the school is embedding	
	new approaches for new staff. Behaviour and attitudes are developing with children engaging	
	well. The pupil voice is strong.	
	Behaviour:	
	Seventy-two per cent of negative behaviour came from 10 students. The SLT has worked closely	
	with staff on this and co-ordinated with the SENCo and Safeguarding Lead. Early help has been	

Item	Content	Action
Item	offered to families. Devon Education withdrew educational psychologies funding in the autumn	Action
	term, advising it would be delayed to late Spring. It is now not being allocated for the rest of the	
	year. The school has children with a huge range of needs and is now having to support families	
	and the children as best it can. It is hoped that as a Trust the school can get some linking support.	
	Attendance:	
	The school had a large number of persistent absentees however, attendance has improved this	
	term and a multi-strand approach is being undertaken. There is the accountability aspect; the	
	school is holding attendance meetings in a diagnostic way and categorised those with a serious	
	barrier. The core SLT are putting into place actions to help the child. The school also involves	
	staff who interact with the children daily and has led CPD with TAs on attendance who have put	LM
	in actions accordingly.	Agenda
	Action LM to update on persistent absentees at the next LGB meeting.	item
	Q: Can you include some persistent absentee monitoring within the HT report? Yes, this is	
	possible.	
	Q: Is there a way of tracking patterns? Yes, this is achieved through tracking and the	
	attendance certificate.	
	Q: Do you track lates? Yes, we send warning late letters. We also have arrangements with	
	parents for support. Breakfast club has helped.	
	Q: Does persistent lateness match behaviour in Years 1,2 and 4? Not necessarily. There is	
	one overlap and we have spoken with the parents.	
	Q: Is there a link between safeguarding and persistent absence? When children drop below	
	a certain level it a case for concern. Two children require early help.	
	EAL:	
	Charlotte Gobel, the Acting SENCo is now co-ordinating EAL. Numbers are at nine and were	
	three or four at the start of the year.	
	Q: Can these pupils communicate in English? It is mixed. Welcome packs have been made	
	up and the school has had them translated.	
	Governors agreed that these families might not have much in way of possessions. There was	
	also the trauma of migration and loneliness due to communication barriers.	
	PH suggested the school spent time getting the child's life story. Once the story is told it is	
	amazing how other children react to it.	
	Q: Do these children have sponsors? The parents of the children who have joined have host	
	families who can translate quite well.	
	Q: Is the EAL covering additional support needs? The EAL's role is more about tracking. We are currently refining processes for eg the fire alarm. This is new territory for the school but	
	exciting to see it grow. MMc added EAL is more complex than a language issue.	
	Action: Chair to flag up at the next Chairs' meeting the increasing uptake in EAL and the	Chair
	sometimes more complex needs around this.	Citali
	Q: are you able to budget for EAL? We received a small amount for Ukrainian families joining	
	us but this stopped after the first influx of children. Nurturing groups takes time and resources.	
	SEND:	
	SEND has continued to develop with robust targets and the school is looking at patterns of trends	
	met. Rigorous checking has been added so that children receive the provision they deserve.	
	Pupil numbers:	
	In December 2022 East Teign Nursery closed. TCSML's Nursery has now grown from 30 to 42	
	children. A new member of staff joined in January 2023 and the school has a fully qualified teacher	
	for the whole week. Due to this growth we are looking at how we can expand the Nursery further.	
	We are seeing children earlier who might need help and we are looking at wrap around care and	
	working out the logistics and budgets for this. We have a model ready which could be trialled in	
	the summer. It will make a great difference to single mothers. It is also fundamental in terms of	
	growth for the school. Financially for parents we are not for profit.	
	Q: Would you open during holidays? No, due to staffing	
	Q: Have you thought about holiday clubs? We have been approached about this and it is an	
	area we would like to explore.	
	It was noted that the governing board was supportive of holiday-based provision.	Noted
	Rebranding of the school:	
	The consultation to parents has gone out. Children have been asked to design a logo and a	
	website company is going to make up a professional version of their designs. Pupils have talked	
	with staff about what their logos represent, many of which had either a lighthouse or boat imagery,	
	with the lighthouse being the preferred option. The designs will be presented to parents. Following	

this the school can look at school uniform with an aim to start in September 2023. The budget is currently being developed. We have started the uniform transition already. Ties are now not part of the uniform. White polo necks are now included. The jumper is still expensive. Q: Could the school give the logo to parents to sew or iron onto shirts themselves? We need to ensure we consult with governors all along the way. Logo designs and uniforms might not occur within the cycle of meetings. All governors were asked to come in to keep abreast of the situation. A Trust wide staff wellbeing survey has taken place. There has been a suggestion for a governor to attend a pupil progress meeting to observe how the school uses data. Q: Could this be open to more than one governor? Action: LM to send out dates of progress meetings. LM re-iterated strongly that pupingress meetings were not a forum to discuss individuals. 23/3/5 SIP/SEF: Review progress against SIP with a focus on actions relating to curriculum implementation and intent. The Chair noted that governors had received a T&L review within agenda item 0.1 above.	t e t f f LM
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Thanks were extended to JJ for her December Visit Report which had been uploaded to Governo	
Hub. Q: Did you (JJ) have any issues which weren't answered from your visit? No. There were no further questions	
There were no further questions. 23/3/6 Feedback from Committee meetings and Link Governor Reports:	
23/3/6.1 Performance and Assessment:	
MMc advised that he had compiled a summary, now uploaded to Governor Hub, drawn fror discussion with LM around data.	ו
Q: At what point do you look at comparisons with regional and national data? LM replied. In terms of national data, Early Years and Years 2 and 6 are publicised annually. Data	a
is not publicised mid-year. The school can look at targets and tracking to see if they are on line to exceed national data and previous years data. The attainment aspect is more about the	Э
progress of children, which the school also focuses on.	
23/3/6.2 SEND and Pupil Premium: MY updated governors verbally. MY had met with LM to discuss foci. Children are targeted and	d
support needs were identified. Intervention is continuous. The largest percentage of lower attendance lies with PP children and multi-strand interventions are taking place to improve this 112 PP children are on free school meals.	r
MY asked for any questions.	
Q: Is the PP funding effectively spent? Yes. I am confident that the money is used well and the school identifies those who need the support.	
Q: Are there plans for monitoring in the coming term? I would like to meet with Charlotte Gobel to discuss this.)
ACTION: MY to arrange monitoring visit with Charlotte Gobel. 23/3/6.3 Finance/People/Premises:	
Action MMc to approach Jon Newman and request that he presents to the local governing board in at their March or May meeting. ACTION: ST, MMc, LM, AW to meet and review budget and finances to date	д ММс
23/3/6.4 Safeguarding:	+
RE was thanked for her report which was taken as read, and asked for any key points.	
RE advised that she had reviewed the Behaviour Policy. The practice captures the vision but the policy reads more procedurally.	€
Q: Is it an action at the next review of the Behaviour Policy to consider capturing the vision within it? The Chair confirmed that it was the Head Teacher's remit to write policy.	7
Q: Does including the vision strengthen the policy? LM suggested the ethos could be included within the rationale.	€
Q: Within new guidelines for governors it supports governors taking an active role? Doe this need to be stated within the policy? LM replied that in terms of statutory requirements this	
was not captured in behaviour. MMc noted that with regards to pathways from extensions to exclusions, being able to evidence the interventions was valuable.	

Item	Content	Action
	Q: As part of the cycle of business could the SENCo and SEND link governor review	
	behaviour so that trends can be identified early?	
	Action: MMc to include within the cycle of business that a link governor provide a strategic view of behaviour within a term.	ММс
	view of periaviour within a term.	
	LM advised that during the suspension process a written log is now kept and thanked RE for this	
	suggestion.	
	MMc advised that the safer recruitment training has been collectively met by governors. AW noted the expectation is that every three years governors complete a refresher course.	
	RE advised that during her visit online recruitment had been discussed. RE suggested it would	
	be useful for a governor to witness the processes in place from advertisement to recruitment from	
	a safeguarding and T&L perspective. Q: Is there any quality assurance from the Trust? LM replied. Yes, both internally and	
	externally. The Trust undertakes spot checks to ensure that the process is adhered to, as do the	
	Auditors.	
	RE noted that the safer recruitment procedure did not represent the document itself and that it	
	might be worth considering the Trust policy.	
	RE noted that she could not find information about safeguarding provision around school	
	trips and breakfast club and asked if could she add it to her next visit?	
	MMc advised that this information should be within the Outdoor Education Visits and Off-site	
	Activities policy and reviewed by the policy review link governor. BH had undertaken this role but	
	with her resignation from the board this link post is now unfilled. MMc suggested that if RE could	
	review school trips and breakfast club from a safeguarding perspective within her cycle of visits,	
	it would be helpful.	
	O: I M are you confident enfoquerding is covered sufficiently within the curriculum? Year	
	Q: LM are you confident safeguarding is covered sufficiently within the curriculum? Year 2 pupils have confidence in their new teacher. We also use some of the catch-up tutor funding to	
	boost children. The Year 4 group are working well with their teacher too. We need to ensure that	
	Year 5 has quality teaching. As the curriculum embeds less intervention is required.	
	Early Years	
	PH gave a verbal update on Early Years. PH will review staff consistency and visit to see how	
23/3/7	curriculum plans are being used. PH has attended EY CPD. Safeguarding:	
23/3//7.1	Safeguarding Report: Review progress against recommendations. This has been covered	
	within 6.4 above.	
23/3/7.2	Behaviour:	
	Monitor in school half termly behaviour data, including type, frequency and group. Consider action	
	plan, if required. RE to have undertaken a learning walk around behaviour and policy (action from	
	meeting 11.22)	
	This has been covered within 6.4 above.	
23/3/8	Policies & Procedures:	
23/3/8.1	Fire Safety:	
	LM advised that Fire Safety is now a whole school procedure. Governors approved the Fire Safety	LGO
	procedure. LGO to upload to school website. Site Security:	
	Site Security: Site Security is a school policy.	
	Action LM to upload to Governor Hub for approval at the March LGB meeting.	LM
	Health & Safety:	
	Health & Safety is an IET Policy and for TCSML reference.	
23/3/8.2	Admission Statements and Policy 2024-25	
	Admissions 2024-25. LM has completed the policy and DCC form and returned to GW as TGO.	
	Governors recommended the Admission Statements and Policy 2024-25 to Trust Board for final	
	approval on 21.02.23	
	Governors were made aware of the following information from County following the consultation:	
	CONSUMATION.	l .

Item	Content	Action
	 There is no proposal to change the catchment schools recognised for transport purposes with the introduction in 2024 of a catchment area for Matford Brook Academy. 	
23/3/8.3	Policies for Next Meeting: Medical and Site Security.	
23/3/9	Governor Visits and Training: Governor visits have been covered within agenda item 6 above. No training has been undertaken.	
	Date of Next Meeting: 16.03.23, 5pm	
	The meeting closed at 19.20	