Woodchester Endowed Church of England (VA) Primary School

Our church school community seeks to inspire children and adults to love, learn and flourish together so we may become everything God has created us to be.

MINUTES OF ETHOS COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2021 @ 7.00 PM
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

PRESENT: Revd Sarah Haslam (Chair), Mrs Lynn Pennington (Head teacher), Mrs Sally Bull, Mrs Helen Evans, Mrs Natalie Elliott, Mrs Tessa Pemberton

Item no		Action
	The meeting began with a prayer from Revd Haslam	
01.10.21	**Apologies** - none	
02.10.21	**Minutes of the last meeting held on 20th April 2021** Mrs Pennington proposed that the minutes from the meeting held on 20th April 2021 were accepted as a true record. This was seconded Mrs Pemberton. The Chair will sign the minutes at a later date.	**Chair**
03.10.21	**Matters arising:** it was concluded that these were covered by the agenda.	
04.10.21	**Spirituality** – the HT spoke about the training on the INSET day in September, delivered by Debbie Helm from the Diocese and attended by many of the staff and 1 governor. She offered to share the Powerpoint from the day with all governors. The training had presented developments from the windows, mirrors, doors model and incorporated ideas from Rebecca Nye about self, others, the world and beyond. It was emphasised that the general ethos of the school and the curriculum contribute to spiritual development. Staff had been given an opportunity to think about what is already happening to encourage spiritual development: stillness, reflection areas, big questions (especially the use of Picture News in a format suitable for all age groups). DH had unpicked curriculum subjects with Subject Leaders to show how spirituality could be a part of each. The main focus of the training was to provide a language to discuss spirituality. The OWS, Wows and Nows are already represented on the new noticeboard in the old entrance with illustrations from the Year 6 residential and Willow have worked on the idea that all three experiences change us in a mosaic activity. KH is leading on Spirituality, attended Diocese training in June and has completed work with staff. The whole school policy is nearly finished and will be shared at the next meeting. A Governor asked for an explanation of the NOWs. GQ - Has there been an application to use the church's mission budget to support the school or share expenses? A conversation with SH was suggested.	**LP/KH** **SH/LP**

DRAFT

05.10.21	**Feedback from RE visits** Revd Haslam had visited 2 RE lessons, year 4/5 and Year 6, last term and has written up one of them. She had been impressed by both visits. The children were highly responsive. GQ – why was RE not taught by the class teacher? This practice had been criticised by SIAMS in another school. The HT pointed out that Mrs Latham had been the RE lead and was highly knowledgeable but that there was an ongoing discussion over who should teach RE to classes.	**HT and staff**
06.10.21	**Agreeing focus points for this year's monitoring** The HT said that a focus on Strand 2 – Wisdom, Knowledge, Skills – would be useful but that monitoring evidence for any of the strands would be helpful. GQ – Could the monitoring form used by governors offer more support so governors are reminded of what they are looking for? Mrs Bull offered to look at this and to provide a brief summary of the focus of each of the SIAMS strands and a suggestion of what we might look for. The HT proposed dedicating a staff meeting to looking at the strand and deciding where the areas for improvement might be and suggested governors might attend the meeting.	**SB** **HT, Govs and staff**
07.10.21	**Bible text focus week** Covid and Governor ill health meant this had been postponed. The HT pointed out that the children had not experienced joint worship for the last 18 months and needed time to adjust. The week beginning 7th February was chosen with 11th February involving volunteers from the church community. The HT and Revd Haslam will get together before Christmas to consider the content of the week. Mrs Bull, Mrs Evans and Mrs Pemberton will all be available to help. A Working Party meeting was arranged for Tuesday 11th January at 1.30.	**SH/LP**
08.1021	**Timings of future meetings** Evening meetings via Teams suit all best and all can attend.	
09.10.21	**AOB** The Lion Storyteller Bibles have been ordered for Year R and 1 and their presentation will be organised once they have arrived. Someone from the Ethos Committee could attend. A Governor suggested that Bob Hartmann could be approached to present the Bibles. Mrs Elliott will see if he can be invited. Revd Haslam will accept the offer of funding from the PCC. It was suggested that governors bring an OW, WOW or NOW to future meetings. The HT shared an OW.	**HT** **NE**
10.10.21	**Dates of Next Meetings:** **Curriculum, Standards & Comm** – 17th January 2022 at 4pm **Ethos** – 24th January and 13th June 2022 at 7pm **Focus week working party:** Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 1.30 pm **Finance & Resources** – 12 November 2021 at 1.30 pm **FGB** – 7 February 2022 at 7.00 pm **Fundraising Working Party 30th November at 7.30 pm** **The Meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace at 8.10 pm**	

Signed as a true record ……..

Dated ……