

	<p>Diana Robinson has been a Deputy Headteacher in an area with a mixed population and would bring experience in education and management.</p> <p>DECISION: The Governors voted to appoint Bob Dalrymple and Diana Robinson as Co-opted Governors in accordance with the Standing Orders.</p>	
<p>16/22 16/22.1</p>	<p>Multi-Academy Trust. <u>Background</u></p> <p>The Headteacher reminded Governors that last year they had investigated the possibility of forming a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) with other primary schools in Whitby, however this had been refused by the DfE as it was felt that such a MAT would not contain have enough Good schools. Since that time the primaries had each investigated other possible options and combinations.</p> <p>The Headteacher and the Chair both felt that the educational landscape mean that becoming an academy is almost inevitable and that West Cliff would be better to do so own its own initiative and its own terms rather than being forced into an unsuitable match.</p> <p>16/22.2 <u>MAT Proposal</u></p> <p>As a result of discussions there was now a group of local schools who were looking to form their own MAT. This group comprises Castleton, Glaisdale, Lealholm, Airy Hill, Malton Primary and West Cliff.</p> <p><u>The Governors asked</u> how well the ethos of these schools would fit together, the Head and the Chair felt that this would create a strong MAT with a good balance as Castleton and Glaisdale were very strong 'conventional' schools, whereas West Cliff and Malton are both more innovative. The plan for the MAT would be to try to harness and share the best aspects of each of the schools.</p> <p><u>The Governors asked</u> about the structure this MAT would take, the Head explained that the Board would be made up of the Chairs of Governors from each of the schools but that this principle is that as much power as possible will be devolved to the individual schools so that they retain their identities and so the operation of the schools should remain as it is. Another principle of the MAT is that it should be restricted to primary schools.</p> <p>The Governors discussed this and agreed that it was important for the strategic direction of the school that they are pro-active in exploring academy options.</p> <p>The Governors agreed that the proposed MAT would be strong and had lots of possible advantages. The Governors understood that the next step would be to submit a formal application to the DfE; this would start the process but does not commit the school to the MAT.</p>	<p><i>Strategic Direction</i></p> <p><i>Strategic Direction</i></p>

	DECISION: The Governors voted to submit the application for the proposed MAT to the Department for Education.	CZT
16/23	<p>Headteacher Report The Headteacher reported to Governors on progress against the Ofsted Action Points.</p> <p><u>1. Consistently outstanding teaching.</u> This was largely being addressed by CPD which was delivered variously through the Esk Valley Alliance, in-house and by subjects. <u>The Governors asked</u> about the evidence of progress, the Headteacher confirmed that the in-year data shows accelerated progress and that this is being supported by learning walks and book judgements.</p> <p><u>2. New methods for spelling, punctuation and grammar.</u> There had been further training and there were now daily grammar lessons across Key Stage 1 and 2.</p> <p><u>3. Pupil handwriting.</u> The Headteacher explained that there was now more emphasis on presentation with clear expectations on staff and pupils and with a protocol for pencil / pen use. The book scrutinies show that there is now much more attention to detail.</p> <p><u>4. Use of time and learning resources.</u> This had been a comment about a specific lesson rather than a general issue, however teachers are clear on the need for preparation and Teaching Assistants are clear on their place in the learning process.</p>	<i>Holding to account</i>
16/24	Nursery Update	
16/24.1	<p><u>Staffing</u> The Headteacher reported that there had been some small setbacks and complications in terms of the staffing for the nursery but that this has now been resolved. The Headteacher explained that she believes that it is important that there is an experienced nursery teacher to launch the project and get all the systems and training in place.</p>	
16/24.2	<p><u>Premises</u> The Headteacher and Chair have met with the nursery to negotiate a value for the chattels that they would like to retain, this has been more difficult and strained than had been hoped. The Governors agreed that it was important to remember that any funds spent on these items would come from school funds. The Governors would support the Headteacher on her decisions regarding the chattels.</p>	
16/25	Holidays and INSET dates	
	The Governors noted that last year the INSET training days had been put together to allow parents to take the pupils away for a week during usual	

	<p>term-time. <u>The Governors asked</u> if this had had any impact, the Headteacher explained that it did not seem to have improved attendance although it did mean that some pupils had the opportunity to travel abroad which they might not otherwise have done.</p> <p><u>The Governors asked</u> when holiday absences tended to occur, the Headteacher confirmed they were mainly in September and also around the October half-term. The Headteacher explained that children are given a pack of work to take with them.</p> <p>The Governors discussed whether to repeat the plan of putting the INSET days together. The Governors felt that putting some of them together to create a long-weekend might be a better option.</p> <p>DECISION: The Headteacher will write to parents and invite their opinions on options for the the INSET days. The Governors agreed that the final decision on the exact dates should be taken by the Headteacher and that they would support her decision.</p>	<p><i>Holding to account</i></p> <p><i>Holding to account</i></p> <p>CZT</p>
16/26	<p>Policy Reviews <u>Sex and Relationships Education Policy.</u></p> <p>The Governors discussed the Sex and Relationships Education Policy together with the covering letter for parents.</p> <p>The Governors also considered the optional video and whether they would like it to be shown in the school.</p> <p><u>The Governors asked</u> whether the fact that it was produced in Ireland and so had a different age of consent was highlighted to the children, the Headteacher confirmed that this was the case.</p> <p><u>The Governors asked</u> how contraception and relationships are dealt with as they are not in the video, the Headteacher explained that this is only one video and the preceding videos cover the context of relationships and that the teacher outlines contraception in the class discussions. The Headteacher noted that the video series was not perfect but was the best available and was an improvement over the previous series which had been used.</p> <p>DECISION: The Governors approved the Sex and Relationships Education Policy and covering letter and approved the video to be shown to pupils.</p>	<p><i>Holding to account</i></p> <p><i>Holding to account</i></p>
16/27 16/27.1	<p>Governor Training and visits <u>Finance Training</u></p> <p>DJ reported back to Governors on the Finance Training that she had received. DJ noted that it might be worthwhile to have the training replicated in-school, this would benefit the new Co-opted Governors and could be opened up to other Whitby schools. The Governors agreed with</p>	

	<p>this suggestion.</p>	
16/27.2	<p><u>SMSC Learning Walk</u> SC went with Mr Grason on the 8th February on a SMSC learning walk. SC used the checklist for SMSC and found that the children were asking and were able to answer big questions. SC was impressed by the peer-mentoring and the focus of the pupils. SC had also examined the big books that were in the classrooms and was pleased to note that the SLT had been through them to check that the comments by the teachers were grammatically correct – this demonstrated the attention to detail in the school.</p>	
16/27.3	<p><u>Governing Body Review</u> DJ reported that as part of her National Leader of Governance work she has been to trained to review the operation of Governing Bodies in other schools. DJ felt that it would be a useful exercise for both her and the school if she could conduct a review of West Cliff as if she was unfamiliar with the school. The Governors agreed that this was a good suggestion and would allow them to assess their strengths and weaknesses.</p>	DJ
16/28	<p>Any other Urgent Business None</p>	
16/29	<p>Future Meeting Dates Wed 13th April Mon 9th May Mon 6th June Mon 27th June (Possibly Mon 18th July)</p>	

Actions:

- Submit the MAT application to the Department for Education (CZT)**
- Write to parents re INSET dates (CZT)**