

OLDCASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

INSPIRE - MOTIVATE - EDUCATE

Goreu Cam, Cam Cyntaf - The most important step is the first step



Minutes Curriculum 26.9.24

1. **Present** – Heather Holder, Lowri George, Nia Vaughan, Barrie Lewis, Page Baldwin, Ceri Littlewood, Sara Peters, Amanda Moore,.

Apologies – Lynn Walters, Jack Shaw, Damian Faulkner, Ian Williams, Nerys Sales, Angela Minton, James Lewis, Martin Smidman.

2. To confirm the elected chair of the Curriculum Committee for the year 24-25

For Information	To be Actioned/Response
Page Baldwin self nominated and was elected by the curriculum committee for the forthcoming school year.	Agreed by all present

3. Curriculum Update

For Information	To be Actioned
Progression Steps Confirmation of Progression Steps and lead governors. Progression Step 1 - Nursery and Reception, lead - Miss Hodgson, Governors - Page Baldwin, Barrie Lewis, Lowri George. Progression Step 2 - Years 1,2 and 3, lead -Miss Vaughan, Governors - Nerys Sales, Jack Shaw, Lynn Walters, Sara Peters. Progression Step 3 - Year 4,5 and 6, lead - Miss Matthews, Governors - Amanda Moore, Jack Shaw, Page Baldwin, Lowri George. A governor asked if the groups will look at something specific, agreement was made that the chair will meet with the headteacher in the coming weeks and agree what the focus will be for the governor visits, this will be done in conjunction with the SIP. Pupil Deprivation Grant The Headteacher provided the school's Pupil Deprivation Grant Statement for the forthcoming year, this looks specifically at the impact of poverty on the school and the school intentions. It shows the detail of how many children qualify, a statement of intent, activities and costs along with the value of the grant and expected outcomes. The statement is available to view in the school drive. The last part of the report provides a detailed review of last year's activities and the impact made. Curriculum Overview	- Noted - Noted

An in depth overview was provided showing the overarching concept, the theme and the units of work, ideas, skills, values, assessment and the resources. It is broken up into these steps to provide a focused tool overviewing the whole year. Governors had already seen this document in the last FGB meeting, but it was provided again for further information. The headteacher stated that the document is being used by all staff as a tool and it is proving very useful.	Noted
Spelling Some changes have been made to how the school teaches spelling. This has been communicated to parents and is underway. Spelling will be taught intensively every Monday and children will be grouped, the groups will be very flexible and children will be moved between groups as necessary. Spelling seeds will still be used as part of the literacy programme in addition to the new scheme. A governor asked how the groups would work and if children would be aware of how they had been grouped. The Headteacher responded that many of the older children were already aware of their own data as it had been shared with them, this seems to have had a positive effect and it will be made clear that the groups will be very fluid.	Noted
Improvement Partner Our new Improvement Partner will visit next week and it is likely that she will look at all of the above in some detail.	Noted

4. SIP and MER

For Information	To be Actioned/Response
- A copy of the SIP was shared with Governors and is available to view in the school drive. This year's plan has been written under the new inspection framework and is a lengthy document which shows the rationale behind the improvements, how they are expected to be made, the funding requirements, the time frame, how the improvements will be monitored, the success criteria and links with BCBC strategic themes along with national education missions. - There is also a shorter version, which is for parents and for our website, this simpler version provides a shorter overview. - A copy of the MER was shared with Governors and is available to view in the school drive. The document is produced annually and agreed with staff at the beginning of the school year, the document is set up like a calendar of monitoring broken up into weeks and terms linking to inspection areas. Staff find the document to be really useful for planning. - A summary of the evaluation for the year 2023-2024 has been published to the school website and is also available to view on the school drive. This document was shared with Governors in the last FGB meeting.	Noted

5. Governor Visits

For Information	To be Actioned
Page Baldwin will arrange a meeting with Ceri Littlewood in the coming weeks to agree a focus for this term and dates will be communicated to progression step Governors for the term visits.	To be actioned by PB and CL

6. Target Setting

For Information	To be Actioned
While Wales has moved away from fixed targets, the goal remains to ensure that all pupils are making progress from their individual starting points. Setting personalised targets is a tool that helps the school monitor progress effectively. It's not about meeting external benchmarks but ensuring that each pupil is being stretched and challenged to reach their full potential. By having clear goals, the school can better identify areas where pupils may need more support or encouragement, ensuring their progress is steady and tailored to their needs. The school has decided to set targets on particular areas, leading to whole school targets. A table of targets was shared and is available to view in the Governor Drive, looking specifically at % of children making progress in the year, % of children making 6 months progress in the reading or spelling age and the % of children above the benchmark. The focus for all targets is progress, with reading and spelling being monitored through tests. Speaking, listening and writing will continue to be assessed through everyday class progress.	Noted

7. Policies

For Information	To be Actioned/Response
Safeguarding	Agreed and adopted

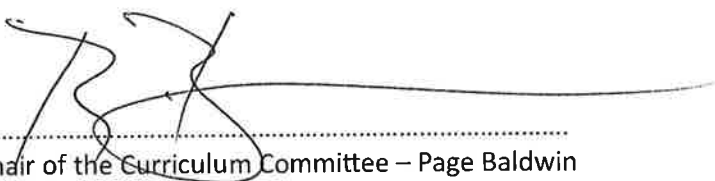
8. AOB

For Information	To be Actioned/Response
A governor asked if there had been much feedback from the summer school reports and if a response had been provided to the parents. The Headteacher responded that yes there had been many positive comments and that as far as she was aware any that needed a response had been actioned. A governor stated that he was aware that one parent has not had a response and could the school look into this. The Headteacher agreed to check and respond as required.	To be actioned by 1/10/24.

The Headteacher advised that Nursery and Reception class reports are likely to change and become termly rather than annually.	
---	--

All documents relating to the meeting were available to view and comment on in the Governor Drive prior to the meeting.

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.


Chair of the Curriculum Committee – Page Baldwin

13/02/2025
Date