

**DECOY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

COMMITTEE

**Full Governing Body**

DATE

**20 May 2024**

<b>GOVERNOR ATTENDANCE</b>										
	<b>Type</b>	<b>End of Term</b>	<b>09/10/23</b>	<b>11/12/3</b>	<b>05/02/24</b>	<b>18/03/24</b>	<b>29/04/24</b>	<b>20/05/24</b>	<b>01/07/24</b>	<b>Date Resigned</b>
SALLY HERBERT	<b>Headteacher</b>	<b>Ex-officio</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
PAUL EVMY	<b>LA</b>	<b>09/10/2026</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
SIMON BARNES	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>09/10/2026</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
BEN TWITTEY	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>06/02/2027</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
SANDRA CARTWRIGHT	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>10/10/2025</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
SCOTT PARNELL	<b>Staff</b>	<b>09/10/2026</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
GILL QUANTRELL	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>04/02/2028</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
VACANT	<b>Co-opted</b>									
KATE EAMES	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>04/10/2024</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
ALEXA GAINSBURY	<b>Co-opted</b>	<b>30/01/2026</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
ANDREW MCKENZIE	<b>Parent</b>	<b>23/09/2025</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>		
NIKI WARNER	<b>Parent</b>	<b>22/05/2026</b>	<b>SP</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
HELEN MURDOCH	<b>Parent</b>	<b>22/05/2026</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
JAMES OSBEN	<b>Parent</b>	<b>09/10/2027</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		
KATE OCHILTREE	<b>Parent</b>	<b>09/10/2027</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>		

RUTH SHOARE	Parent	06/12/2024								15/09/2023
GILL QUANTRELL	Co-opted	08/12/2023	P							08/12/2023

P – Present                      S – Sanctioned  
Z – Zoom attendance          A – Absent                      L – Late arrival

Chaired by	<b>Ben Twitney</b>	Clerked by	<b>Pete Osborne</b>
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**Agenda:**

- FGB 71/2324 To record those who are present, accept any apologies and welcome any visitors
- FGB 72/2324 Declaration of interests
- FGB 73/2324 Division of Agenda
- FGB 74/2324 To agree the Minutes of the last meetings and to discuss any matters arising from the minutes and not on this agenda
- FGB 75/2324 Urgent business brought forward at the discretion of the Chair
- FGB 76/2324 Headteacher’s Report
- FGB 77/2324 Staff Presentation - Computing
- FGB 78/2324 Finance
- FGB 79/2324 Personnel
- FGB 80/2324 Primary Partnership
- FGB 81/2324 Governance
- FGB 82/2324 Committees
- FGB 83/2324 Policies
- FGB 84/2324 Information provided by the Clerk
- FGB 85/2324 Matters for the next agenda
- FGB 86/2324 Date of next meeting

**ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN**

ITEM		BY WHOM	BY WHEN
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74/2324	Minutes to website	Clerk	asap
78a/324	Write letter to SSP	Andrew McKenzie	asap
79a/2324	Include absence benchmarking in the HT report	Sally Herbert	19 June 2024
81b/2324	Add review of the current Values to the next agenda and consider survey questions for stakeholders at the next FGB	Clerk	19 June 2024

FGB 71/2223	To record those who were present, accept apologies and sanction absences where appropriate and welcome any visitors	<p>The meeting commenced at <b>1830</b>.</p> <p>In attendance: Stephen Ball</p> <p>Apologies: Andrew McKenzie and Kate Ochiltree and sanctioned.</p> <p>The quorum for this meeting is 7 governors.</p>	
FGB 72/2324	Declaration of interests. Governors were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests, including the nature and extent of such interests, they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting		<b>None</b>
FGB 73/2324	Division of Agenda		<b>None</b>
FGB 74/2324	To agree the Minutes of the last meetings and to discuss any matters arising from the minutes and not on this agenda	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2024 were agreed and signed.</p> <p>Copy to Headteacher and to be placed on website.</p>	

FGB 75/2324	Urgent business brought forward at the discretion of the Chair	Thanks. Sally Herbert gave thanks to James Osben who had provided Drama CPD to the staff. An amazing experience for all.	<b>None</b>																																															
FGB 76/2324	Headteacher's Report	<p>a. Headteacher's Report and consider implications, actions raised, and decisions required.</p> <p><b>School Demographics (12.03.24)</b></p> <p>1. <b>School Demographics</b> - Total - 440 pupils</p> <p>Pupils with SEND</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="772 647 1570 783"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>#Pupils</th> <th>% Pupils</th> <th>National</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SEN Support</td> <td>82</td> <td>18.6%</td> <td>13.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EHCP Plan</td> <td>10</td> <td>2.3%</td> <td>2.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Reasons for leaving:</b> 1 Y2 x change of family circumstances required move to closer school, 1 Y6 x relocation (out of area), 1 Y6 x other, 1 x Y2 returned to previous school, 1 x Y2 relocation (Torbay)</p> <p><b>Changes over the academic year (including nursery):</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="757 1042 1758 1380"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Oct '23</th> <th>Dec '23</th> <th>Feb '24</th> <th>Apr '24</th> <th>May '24</th> <th>May '23 (Direct Comparison)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>No. of pupils</td> <td>408</td> <td>416</td> <td>427</td> <td>430</td> <td>440</td> <td>428</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% SEN</td> <td>21.1</td> <td>21.2</td> <td>20.8</td> <td>21.2</td> <td>20.9</td> <td>24.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. of EHCPs</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% FSM</td> <td>17.6</td> <td>17.9</td> <td>18.8</td> <td>19</td> <td>20.1</td> <td>15.9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		#Pupils	% Pupils	National	SEN Support	82	18.6%	13.5%	EHCP Plan	10	2.3%	2.5%		Oct '23	Dec '23	Feb '24	Apr '24	May '24	May '23 (Direct Comparison)	No. of pupils	408	416	427	430	440	428	% SEN	21.1	21.2	20.8	21.2	20.9	24.5	No. of EHCPs	8	9	10	10	11	6	% FSM	17.6	17.9	18.8	19	20.1	15.9	
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		<p><b>SEND and EHCPs</b>  There are six EHCP assessments in process (3 in nursery, Y1, Y4, Y5). If these are all successful, we will have 17 in total (3.9% of the school). In addition, we are at the early stages of EHCP information gathering for two pupils in Year 4, one pupil in Y2 and one pupil in nursery.</p> <p><b>SEND in Nursery</b>  There are 4 high needs children in our nursery who have joined since March. The Complex Needs team is supporting three of these families. These children have some additional funding (approx £600 each per child per term) attached to their support, this does not cover the cost of meeting their needs within nursery.</p> <p><b>Nursery</b>  Numbers currently attending each session were included in the report with a capacity per session of 39.  Total weekly hours:</p> <table data-bbox="757 868 1153 1007"> <tr> <td>Summer 2024</td> <td>1146</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer 2023</td> <td>1157.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer 2022</td> <td>1220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer 2021</td> <td>1044.5</td> </tr> </table> <p>A local nursery unexpectedly closed on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024, several families from this nursery have approached us for places for the summer term.</p> <p><b>Numbers for Reception in September 2024:</b>  58 places have been allocated with a further 1 place expected to be filled. A welcome letter has been sent to all new Reception parents. A 'Welcome to Decoy' meeting for parents and several transition sessions have been timetabled for later this term.</p>	Summer 2024	1146	Summer 2023	1157.5	Summer 2022	1220	Summer 2021	1044.5	
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Summer 2021	1044.5										

**2. Attendance (School data includes Year 1 – Year 6 from September 2023)**

	School	National
Overall absence rate	5.6%	6.3%
Authorised absence rate	4.9%	4.8%
Unauthorised absence rate	0.7%	1.5%

**Changes over the academic year (Y1-Y6):**

	<b>2022-23 (comparison)</b>	<b>Oct '23</b>	<b>De c '23</b>	<b>Ja n '24</b>	<b>Ap r '24</b>	<b>Ma y '24</b>	<b>May '23 (Direct comparison)</b>
Overall Absence %	<b>5.5</b>	5.7	5.3	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.7
Authorised %	<b>4.5</b>	4.8	4.3	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.7
Unauthorised %	<b>1.0</b>	0.9	1	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.9
Persistent %	<b>16</b>	18.8	13.8	14.2	15.7	14.5	16.1

**Percentage of pupils below 95%, 90% and 85% attendance (Y1-Y6)**

	<b>01.09.23 – 07.05.24</b>		<b>May '23 (Direct comparison)</b>	
	<b>No. of pupils</b>	<b>% of school</b>	<b>No. of pupils</b>	<b>% of school</b>
Below 95% (incl. 90/85%)	138	41	152	40
Below 90% (incl. 85%)	48	14.5	56	15

Below 85%	16	4.8	24	6
		1 day = 0.7	1 day = 0.7	

There is currently 1 pupil on a part time timetables

Support for pupils and families where attendance is below 90%:

		Child Protection or Child in Need	Early Help – Team around the Family (TAF)	School Support School Around the Family (SAF)	SEND support including attendance focus	Medical Support	No support
<b>March 2024</b>	Number of pupils (out of 64)	4	8	9	14	3	13
<b>May 2024</b>	No. of pupils (out of 48 pupils from 40 families)	5	7	10	10	3	13

### 3. Review of School Improvement Priorities

Please **see separate SIP 2023-24 document** for a review of progress made to school priorities. The table below is an overview of the priorities:

#### Key Priorities

1. To raise standards in English across the school and improve outcomes for pupils including key groups (disadvantaged, SEND, Covid Catch up and higher attainers)
2. To raise standards in Maths across the school and improve outcomes for all pupils including key groups (disadvantaged, SEND, Covid Catch up and higher attainers)

3. To raise standards in Phonics across EYFS and KS1 to improve outcomes for pupils including key groups (disadvantaged, SEND, Covid Catch up and higher attainers)
4. To further develop and refine the whole school curriculum to ensure progression of skills and knowledge between and across key stages
5. To develop highly effective and impactful middle and senior leaders
6. To develop staff pedagogical practice to ensure quality first teaching and retention of learning
7. Budget:
  - To increase pupil numbers
  - Signage
  - Website development
  - Developing Community Links
8. Extra-Curricular Activities - All teachers expected to lead at least 1 half term club after school (at least 6 sessions)
9. H&S - Improved parking and road safety around the school
10. Outdoor Environments - To develop outdoor learning and play environments to support inclusion, opportunity and creativity

**4. School Events (Spring Term)**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Year Groups</b>
Maths AIM High maths group at Shiphay Academy	6 x Y5/6 pupils
Badminton Festival (NAC)	Y3 & Y6
Work with Devon Wildlife Trust	Y4
Bicton Gardens Trip	Y2
Clive Pig Roman Day	Y3
Stover Canal History Walk	Y5
Dan the Skipping Man workshops	Whole school

		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Doel Football Tournament</td> <td>Selection of pupils from Y5 and Y6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paignton Zoo</td> <td>Y4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>English AIM High group at Shiphay Academy</td> <td>6 x Y3/4 pupils</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Focus Readers Group visit to Waterstones</td> <td>Y4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>World Book Day</td> <td>Whole School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fair Trade Conference (Chudleigh Primary)</td> <td>Eco-Team and School Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science Fair</td> <td>Whole School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Comic Relief</td> <td>Whole School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Devon Fire Service Talk</td> <td>Y2 &amp; Y5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dainton Copse Forest School – tree planting on site</td> <td>SEND and SEMH pupils (whole school)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newton Abbot Museum trip</td> <td>Y1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Performances of A Bee's Life</td> <td>Y4</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Invitations to governors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2<sup>nd</sup> July Reception, KS1 and KS2 sports days</b></li> <li>• <b>17<sup>th</sup> July (2pm and 5.30pm) and 18<sup>th</sup> July (5.30pm) Y6 End of Year show</b></li> <li>• <b>22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July (9.15am) Headteacher Awards assemblies (and Governor Recognition Award?)</b></li> <li>• <b>23<sup>rd</sup> July Y6 graduation followed by a BBQ on the field</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Sandra Cartwright asked the following questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do we know potentially why our numbers are so low in Y2 &amp; Y4 and is it possible to target recruitment to those year groups</b></li> </ul>	Doel Football Tournament	Selection of pupils from Y5 and Y6	Paignton Zoo	Y4	English AIM High group at Shiphay Academy	6 x Y3/4 pupils	Focus Readers Group visit to Waterstones	Y4	World Book Day	Whole School	Fair Trade Conference (Chudleigh Primary)	Eco-Team and School Council	Science Fair	Whole School	Comic Relief	Whole School	Devon Fire Service Talk	Y2 & Y5	Dainton Copse Forest School – tree planting on site	SEND and SEMH pupils (whole school)	Newton Abbot Museum trip	Y1	Performances of A Bee's Life	Y4	
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		<p>specifically (as opposed to general advertising). Year 2 high needs generally. Year 4 2 pupils are high needs. There was a general discussion on years 3 and 4 which are the Covid years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y4 girls are being outperformed by boys. Are they being adversely impacted by the gender imbalance, or is there something else e.g. SEN considerations?</li> <li>• Data for Middle School in general on form provided suggests outcomes are not as good as we would like, and hint at a drop in SAT outcomes in 2026/7. Is this linked to SEN numbers or gender (I note that girls are underperforming boys in all three areas of RWM in both year groups)? Are plans afoot to even up expectations?</li> </ul> <p>Questions were also asked on attendance and fines and reporting to DfE Comparison School/Devon/National. Measures being taken by the school were explained.</p> <p>b. <b>Safeguarding report.</b></p> <p>Dave Lee (DSL) had provided a report which included:  Staff training - 3 members of staff are in the process of completing the online training and one member of staff already has; there have been a few technical delays which have delayed this completion. There is a minimal charge for this so it is more cost effective than carrying out the general refresher training. There is also a short follow up to this training so that new and returning staff have input on a 'Decoy School specific' safeguarding approach: school systems, reporting, recoding, DSL info etc.</p> <p>General safeguarding reminders and information sharing continues to happen on a drip feed basis throughout the school year. Signage around</p>	
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		<p>school has been changed and we have recently updated our safeguarding team and recreated signage to reflect this, a 'question of the fortnight' (used to be a week) which continues to be updated, governor questions to ask staff, information in staff bulletins etc. and an allocated slot in staff meetings to raise safeguarding queries and/or share information if required although this happens in conversations throughout the week anyway. Recently, we have included information around regularly used acronyms in safeguarding, INCEL, the difference between Safeguarding and Child Protection etc.</p> <p><b>Safeguarding Team.</b> We have 4 members of staff in the Safeguarding Team who have all received level 3 training:  Dave Lee (DSL),  Sally Herbert,  Sarah Strong  Cassie Smith (EYFS).  Sonia Worthington (Parenting Solutions) is no longer part of our support due to budgeting constraints but we are still engaging with Sonia who will be supporting some of our families through funding that has been applied for and received through Devon County.  Alex Gurpinar (TA and Parent Support) who is level 5 trained has now begun working with children and families across school, providing vital support; she has also had handover meetings with Sonia Worthington to ensure consistency in the support provided. Alex also attends part of weekly VCM meetings for updates and information sharing around the families that she is involved with.</p> <p>VCMs (Vulnerable Children Meeting) continuing  Held on a weekly basis with a regular focus as appropriate/necessary on families that Alex Gurpinar (Parent Support Worker) is supporting.</p>	
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		<p>Current priorities</p> <p>On-going E-safety awareness continues across school and at home. Parents/Carers continue to receive regular E-safety information and guidance as appropriate during the year. Most recently, we shared with a parents a simple report from Ofcom with information and statistics relating to online usage and media.</p> <p>'What Parents Need to Know Guides' act as a way of helping parents/carers, as well as staff members, deal with issues as they arise.</p> <p>With regard to online monitoring and filtering, we have ensured that we are accessing the best level of monitoring through the Safety Net Go extension. This is currently being added to all of our Chromebooks etc. and is a real step forward in ensuring that monitoring is robust. This system will allow us to see who is accessing which sites, when they have been accessed and sites that someone has attempted to access but have been blocked. This will be kept as a log for each child. Our filtering software remains the same; there are no issues with this but again, we are always looking at ways to further improve our current setup such as a filtering screen for example.</p> <p>Continuing to have weekly checks on the SCR to ensure all staff files are up to date with relevant documentation.</p> <p>Engagement with MASH and other agencies. Contact with social workers, MASH, MARAC, Fearfree (previously known as Fearless and SPLITZ), Children's Centre etc. on-going.</p> <p>Safeguarding Meetings and Vulnerable Children. TAF (Team Around the Family) meetings, CIN (Child in Need) meetings, Core Group meetings</p>	
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		<p>and CP (Child Protection) Review Conferences have all been held since the previous Governor's report.</p> <p>Strategy Meetings - Two since the previous report.</p> <p>Visitors to school. We continue to monitor adults visiting school and use the correct lanyards as appropriate as a way of identifying people who have had DBS checks and those who have not.</p> <p>Other information.</p> <p>Dave met with Sandra and Paul as part of governor visits to school. This specifically focused on the school action plan in relation to safeguarding and conversations with staff. Sandra and Paul have also received some updates since then with regard to how we are progressing with improving our filtering and monitoring systems.</p> <p>The new photo printer for the office as part of the 'Inventry' system for visitors to the school has arrived.</p> <p>We have also reviewed some of our morning routine procedures in relation to the staggered starts to the day when the school gate is still open for children arriving. In the Junior Block (Years 3, 4 and 5) we are stationing an adult at each door with the purpose being that they can monitor children entering and exiting the building during this time and their reasons for doing so. Children can still leave the building to change library books or carry out a task for their class teacher but can be discouraged from going back out to see parents or other siblings etc. This will allow for a more robust system to be in place whilst the school gates are open despite the fact that there is always a member of staff on duty by the gates</p>	
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		<p>when they are opened (on the vast majority of days, this is Sally and Dave).</p> <p><b>PE asked. If Sonia is still working. Only working on an as and when required basis And using the triage team to request funding support for Sonia. New staff member (TA) taking on role and TAFs.</b></p>	
FGB 77/2324	<p>Staff Presentation <b>Computing</b></p>	<p>Stephen Ball provided a presentation on computing covering the curriculum and what computing is. He explained that a subject that at one time was ICT is now Computing which aligns more closely with computer science and is Computational thinking.</p> <p>The computing curriculum has three strands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital literacy</li> <li>• Computer science</li> <li>• Digital Citizenship</li> </ul> <p>There are links clear between Digital Citizenship and PSHE.</p> <p>The slides showed the curriculum overview for each term/class year, but he explained that some of them are too challenging at present in the school. He provided an example of programming for year 1. He followed this with examples of the progression by years. Scott provided input on the range of initiatives provided by year 6 in this subject.</p> <p>Stephen provided a look ahead to the next academic year which hopefully will include Scratch and micro bit and a look at the PRIMM approach.</p> <p>He is also looking at what he could possibly change in the curriculum for next year.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the school's internet connection requires upgrading urgently.</p>	

		<p><b>Governors asked if the subject is popular among the pupils and when last canvased it was popular. Stephen said that at primary level there is not a great divide between boys and girls but at secondary level this may not be the same as the industry is male dominated. When asked Stephen admitted that he would like to sit down with a particular year group and concentrate on one area (6 weeks work).</b></p> <p><b>A further question was asked on the amount of time that pupils spend on computing and Scott provided an answer which included how computing is linked across a range of subjects.</b></p>	
FGB 78/2324	Finance	<p>a. Update on the budget. Part 4 HT report. SSP response. <b>Email from Sarah Creedy our LA Finance Officer (received 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024):</b>  <i>The Schools Support Panel have agreed it is acceptable for the school to make an email request for the Licensed Deficit.</i>  <i>They have also agreed to the school setting a deficit budget and if the EHCP do not come to fruition, then the school must take the necessary steps to clear the deficit by March 2026 at the latest.</i></p> <p><b>Action:</b> email from the governors to be sent to FIPS for the licensed deficit for 2023-24. Andrew McKenzie has agreed to produce the letter.</p> <p>b. Review pupil numbers and implications. 59 starters in September. PAN to remain unchanged.</p>	<b>Andrew McKenzie</b>
FGB 79/2324	Personnel	<p>a. Report on Staff attendance showing percentages and other numerical data. A governor asked what “Other sickness” refers to. Sally advised that 3 members of staff have been off with ailments which wouldn’t come into any of the categories. Governors asked if the sickness information could, be benchmarked and Sally will produce this for her next report</p> <p>b. Other personnel matters. <b>None</b></p>	<b>Sally Herbert</b>
FGB 80/2324	Primary Partnership	<p>a. Update on the primary partnership  Primary Partnership Headteacher and Governors Meeting held on 30 April 2024. There were HTs and Chairs attending from all schools with the</p>	b.

		<p>exception of the chairs from Denbury, Chudleigh and Bradley Barton Schools.</p> <p>The HT from Denbury School provided the background to the partnership and the HT from Abbotskerswell School provided an update on the draft MoU.</p> <p>Each <b>governor shared their school's current position, current challenges and what their school and governing body would hope to gain from a governor network group within the Partnership.</b></p> <p>Ben Twitney had attended the meeting and said:</p> <p><b>Decoy</b></p> <p>Strengths – large board 16 governors. Large school and lovely school grounds. SEND provision and positive community reputation. Dedicated and experienced staff. Good Ofsted. Willingness and openness to work in partnership. Positive pupil numbers into Reception in September.</p> <p>Challenges – finances and setting a balanced budget. Reduced staffing means that there are fewer interventions in place, and it is becoming increasingly hard to meet the needs of all pupils.</p> <p>Partnership opportunities – It will be good for governors to be part of a partnership network.</p> <p><b>The impact of the Primary Partnership on School Improvement so far:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support within the headteacher group</li> <li>• Opportunities to reach out to each other for advice, support, guidance, resource, opportunities etc.</li> <li>• Trust, honesty and respect across the group</li> <li>• Sub-group: SEND, business management, Maths, English,</li> <li>• Moderation</li> <li>• School visits</li> <li>• Sharing best practice</li> <li>• Coaching and mentoring across schools</li> <li>• Bespoke support for individual school needs</li> </ul>	
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		<p>The headteacher group wants to relaunch more formally to build on what is already working well</p> <p><b>There was a discussion on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>What</b> accountability to governors would the governors want from head teachers?</li> <li>• What opportunities could this governor network ground bring?</li> <li>• Funding the Partnership for CPD opportunities – suggestion of £500 per school</li> <li>• Standing item on Headteacher reports to governors.</li> <li>• A combined report on behalf of the headteacher group to the governing boards of each school – so all governors get the same information</li> <li>• A financial commitment to the group with accountability built into that so that the group can work more effectively and develop the work of the group to a higher level – Where does this money get placed? One school to maintain partnership account? How much is this financial commitment?</li> <li>• Time scales built into accountability – termly/annual reporting?</li> <li>• Headteachers reporting to the governors’ group – one headteacher to attend the PP governor partnership meeting to support with communication between the groups and feedback from heads to governors and governors to heads.</li> <li>• Shared priority for 2024-25 across the PP e.g. assessment in the wider community?</li> <li>• Headteacher group directing the work of the sub-groups – the heads hold them to account and then, in turn, the governors hold the heads to account</li> <li>• Common threads/themes across schools for partnership working</li> </ul>	
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FGB 81/2324	Governance	<p>Governors considered the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Progress against the governance section of the SIP (self- evaluation and impact on school improvement) and to agree the evidence to support the board objectives for the year</li> <li>b. Consider convening a separate meeting of Governors and others to develop strategy, vision, curriculum or other strategic elements of school improvement. <b>Agreed not to convene a separate meeting but look at aspects in an FGB meeting starting with the current Values and looking at the survey questions for stakeholders at the next FGB</b></li> <li>c. Governor recognition for pupils. Niki Warner said that wording had been agreed and we should now go ahead for this year. There have been some suggestions from the pupils and Sally has a possible nomination. <b>It was agreed that presentations would be made this year for two pupils. Presentations to be made at assemblies on 22 and 23 July 2024 (9.15 on each day). Nii Warner to order the awards.</b></li> <li>d. Feedback from Governor training. Simon attended the SoS webinar and</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Sally Herbert/Niki Warner</p>

		provided some information ON THAT.	
FGB 82/2324	Committees	<p>The minutes of the following committee and the Governor Reports listed:</p> <p>a. Business Management Committee (22 April 2024). No questions were asked.</p> <p>b. Governor Visit Reports:</p> <p>1. SEND. No questions were asked.</p> <p><b>Recommendations from Visit:</b>  Continue to monitor the SENDCo's workload and wellbeing  Discuss how parental involvement is developing and its successes  Monitor aspects of EP and Sp&amp;L provision , including the support given by the virtual school link  Arrange a discussion with our Family Support Advisor</p> <p>2. Science. A governor asked how Science is assessed and Sally said against the unit objectives.</p> <p><b>Recommendations from Visit:</b>  To continue to build on the delivery of the science curriculum that engenders in pupils an understanding of science and the investigative scientific process.  Develop scientific rigour and questioning minds.  Continue to use age-appropriate scientific terminology.  Develop an understanding that our scientific knowledge is arrived at by accumulated investigation and hypothesis.</p> <p>3. Safeguarding. A governor asked who does dip tests. Sally said yes her and Dave Lee. No other questions were asked.</p> <p><b>Recommendations from Visit:</b>  Is an auditing routine now in place for checking staff files and children's S/G files?  Are our filtering &amp; monitoring systems/routines now as good as they can be?  Is the new process for self-declaration of a criminal record in place? How is it working?</p>	

		<p>Is DL receiving safeguarding question feedback? How useful is this in assessing effectiveness of drip feeding information?</p> <p>4. Geography. No questions were asked.</p> <p><b>Recommendations from Visit:</b> Gain clarity regarding the use of “flaps” and roll them out. They look like a really useful resource for both teachers and children and set out the learning expectations really clearly. Use on the website seems like a great idea especially if they were available for all subject areas.</p>	
FGB 83/2324	Policies	<p>The following policy/documents was approved/ratified/Adopted:</p> <p>a. Policy for Setting the Standards of Acceptable Behaviour (Staff Conduct Policy). <b>Adopted</b></p>	
FGB 84/2324	Information provided by the Clerk	<p>The training programme for the Autumn Term should be available shortly after the half term break together with the next issue of Governance Today</p>	
FGB 85/2324	Matters for the next agenda	<p>The following matters were agreed for the next agenda.</p> <p><b>HT Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive headteacher’s report and consider implications, actions raised and decisions required</li> <li>• Safeguarding update</li> </ul> <p><b>Governance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree election procedure &amp; term of office for the chair &amp; vice-chair</li> <li>• Agree membership, terms of reference &amp; levels of delegation for committees/lead roles</li> <li>• Confirm Chairs of Committees</li> <li>• Discuss and affirm the school vision statement</li> <li>• Ratify proposed staffing structure for the following year</li> <li>• Review impact of governor/clerk training activities on governing board effectiveness</li> <li>• Review progress school has made, recognise and celebrate</li> </ul>	

		<b>Committees</b> • LW Committee report	
FGB 86/2324	Date of next meeting	<b>Monday 22 July 2024 at 1830</b>	

The meeting closed at **2042**

**Signed as a true record**

Signed <b>B Twitney</b>	Date: <b>22 July 2024</b>
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### **Primary Partnership Project**

The primary schools involved are:

1. Abbotskerswell Primary School
2. The Grove School (Totnes)
3. Kingskerswell C of E Primary School
4. Denbury Primary School\*
5. Bishopsteignton Primary School
6. Bradley Barton Primary School
7. Decoy Community Primary School\*
8. Canada Hill Primary School\*
9. Chudleigh C of E Primary School\*
10. Highweek Primary School
11. Haytor View School.