



The Fields Nursery School, Galfrid Road, Cambridge, CB5 8ND

Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Body
Tuesday 23rd March 2021 at 6.30pm

<u>Present:</u>	Mrs Gloria Reed	GR	Chair of Governors
	Dr Valerie Ashton	VA	Co-opted Governor
	Ms Florence Blagden	FB	Co-opted Governor
	Mrs Ruth Holman	RH	Acting Head
	Dr Luisa Pedro	LP	Parent Governor
	Ms Sarah Moynihan	SM	Co-opted Governor
	Mr Simon Sykes	SS	Co-opted Governor
	Ms Carmile Trancoso-Gordon	CTG	Parent Governor
	Rev Dr Roger Williams	RW	Co-opted Governor
	Mrs Dawn Willis	DW	Co-opted Governor
	Mrs Rebecca Wylie	RWy	Co-opted Governor

In Attendance: Mrs Gwyneth Barton GB Clerk

1. Welcome

GR chaired and welcomed Governors to this virtual meeting of the Governing Body. The meeting was quorate.

2. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Ann Abineri (AA). GR passed on AA's best wishes to Governors.

3. Declaration of Interests

There were no new declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of 9th February 2021

The minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on 9th February 2021 were confirmed as a correct record. All matters arising were covered on the agenda.

5. Acting Head's Report

RH updated Governors on a number of issues:

Coronavirus

Staff and children were returning to the nursery following the Government's reopening of schools. The returning staff included those who had been ill with COVID, all of whom had recovered or were recovering.



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Child and Family Hub

RH was due to meet the following day with Pam Setterfield, Children's Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding for the Child and Family Hub.

Cherry rooms

Discussions were continuing with Hazel Belchamber and the local authority's SEND service about possible SEND use of the vacated Cherry rooms. This could include the use of two rooms by the Castle School as classrooms for their early years pupils and use of one room by a multi-disciplinary team assessing early years pupils with SEND. A written proposal had been prepared and was due to be considered by the local authority's Strategic Governance Board later in the week.

Governors welcomed this proposal as a very positive use for the vacated Cherry rooms and thanked all those who were working towards it.

Easter activities

RH reported that the Easter raffle had raised £455. Prizes had been donated by local businesses and staff had dressed up as the Easter bunny to sell tickets to parents. The Easter bunny would be returning later in the week for an egg hunt. Governors thanked staff for their efforts and commended the good morale.

6. Committee Reports

Safeguarding

The minutes of the Safeguarding meeting held on 9th March 2021 were received.

7. Federation

GR and RH updated Governors on progress towards The Fields joining the Cambridge Nursery Federation on 1st April 2021.

Feedback on consultation

The statutory consultation with staff on the federation proposals had ended. One written response had been received, from the NEU. The questions raised in this response and the proposed answers to the questions had been circulated with the agenda. It was agreed unanimously to approve the answers, subject to the correction of two typographical errors in question 6. RH would send the answers to staff and GR would also be writing to them.



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Proposal for Instrument of Government

Governors considered the proposal for the Instrument of Government for the Governing Body of the Cambridge Nursery Federation. It was agreed unanimously to approve the following composition of the new combined Governing Body:

	Combined Governing Body
Ex officio	1 Head
Staff	1 elected
Local authority	1 appointed
Parent (2-year term)	1 elected
Co-opted	11 co-opted (of which up to 3 could be members of staff. The total number of co-opted governors who are also eligible to be elected as staff governors, so when counted with the elected staff governor and headteacher, must not exceed one third of the total membership of the Governing Body)
<i>Total</i>	<i>15</i>

VA and CTG had expressed interest in serving on the new Governing Body. GR confirmed that she had forwarded their contact details to Chris Willis Pickup, Co-Chair of the Cambridge Nursery Federation. GR invited any other Governors who might also be interested in joining the new Governing Body to contact her.

Decision

It was agreed unanimously to federate with the Cambridge Nursery Federation, the Instrument of Government to come into force on 1st April 2021.

GR asked GB to draft the minutes of this meeting and circulate them to all Governors with a comment deadline of 12.00pm on 24th March 2021, then to forward the final version to Anna-Marie Cooper at the local authority to enable the legal steps to federation to be confirmed.

GR thanked Governors for all of their contributions during the challenging times leading to federation. Governors paid tribute to GR as Chair and thanked her for her hard work and commitment.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm.

Signed:

Date: