

## Minutes of the Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust CSAW Committee Meeting



# Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020, in the Trust Conference Room.

ATTENDING: Michael Bretton Donna Bryant Katie Fitzsimmons [Director of Schools - Diocese of Truro] Mike Heron Paul Hunkin Louise Jones Pam Miller Peter Sharpe Lucy Wandless Karen Teague		MBr DBr KFi MHe PHu LJo PMi PSh LWa KTe
ΔΡΟΙ	OGIES ·	
APOLOGIES:  Jayne Banner Richard Lawrence David Miller Wayne Randle Danny Reed Tony Sanders		JBa RLa DMi WRa DRe TSa
		ACTION
3.	WELCOME AND DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST	
	PMi [Chair] welcomed all those present.  Under <b>Declarations of Pecuniary Interests,</b> no additional declarations were forthcoming at this time.	
4.	MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING	
	The minutes of the meeting of the CSAW Committee on 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2019 were	

### 5. **UPDATE ON MOTIFS** The RE Network Group had met on 21st November 2019. Agenda items had included: Supporting all children's spirituality; interpretations of spiritual development; defining spirituality; the mirror, door, window and candle motifs. It was proposed it would be useful to have a Trust wide definition of spirituality. The working definition of spirituality adopted by Wendron School was that of 'a special connection' and it had been agreed this would be a good definition to share. The school's pupils had created a 'special connection book' and attendees at the meeting were to try this within their own schools. The group had also looked at the Progression in Spirituality document from the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education, which provided a useful model. LJo had then shared this with the other Headteachers. The difficulty had been in marrying up the Spiritual Development aspects of the framework with the motifs, as they did not obviously link together, so considerable reading and discussion had taken place around this. Action: Create a framed sheet to sit on front of the framework to provide an overview of the four motifs and the definition of spirituality as a special connection. Цo KFi agreed the Salisbury framework provided a very strong starting point but that this had to be translated into workable definitions that could be articulated and used in schools. The key would be how this was mapped, as it would need to highlight the connections between learning and self-growth / spirituality in order to show that spirituality was not a stand-alone item but one that flowed through the wider curriculum. LJo was to revisit this and then share the draft document. Цo The next meeting of the Network Group was to take place on the afternoon of 5th March 2020. 6. **SIAMS UPDATE**

KFi asserted the discussion around the definition of spirituality demonstrated nicely the value of the relationship between the Committee, the Network Group and the family of schools within the Trust as it showed the tangible benefits of everyone working together as one unit.

#### SIAMS.

KFi reminded the Committee that all SIAMS inspections went back to one question — How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish? Subsequently, it was vital that all members of the school community were able to articulate both what this vision was and how it played out in reality / impacted on them. This was about not just giving them the language they needed to articulate the vision but also the opportunity to use it, which KFi recognised was a strength in the Trust's Church schools.

Questions schools might also ask themselves included:

- What is meant by flourishing? Schools should enable all to flourish, adults as
  well as pupils, in all their richness. This was partly about outcomes and partly
  about other things, such as growing the different aspects of a child and helping
  them through difficult times, so the school's vision could be seen in action.
- What can be seen from outside? Eg. How are the key messages being conveyed on websites, newsletters, etc? Are policies aligned to the vision stated and how is this practically enacted?
- What can be seen / heard when a visitor enters the space not only during RE lessons and collective worship sessions but at playtime, lunchtime, etc?
- How do schools take the key messages of collective worship and ensure these
  have impact / meaning beyond this slot? Eg. What opportunities for questions
  and reflection are there outside the worship space so that key messages are
  kept live and present to give worship real meaning?

 What should the teaching of RE facilitate? RE teaching should build rounded, equipped pupils who can make sense of the world but who can also make explicit connections around spirituality. Bible passages etc act as a starting point but it is important that pupils are taken beyond this in such a way that they can be confident about the bigger picture - where they sit in the school community, the Trust family, etc.

KFi pointed out it was not compulsory for Self-Evaluation Forms [SEFs] to only be 2 sides in length and that there was some strength in doing a longer SEF. It was vital not to leave anything important out or this could result in loss of evidence and the school not getting the judgement it deserved. It was also good for inspectors to have clear information in advance. KFi was to continue to disseminate documents which exemplified good practice.

All those schools with pending inspections were to have a visit from KFi. KFi was now more involved in the planning of inspections due to personnel changes. Headteachers were asked to let her know if a particular time would be really inappropriate.

# Q: If a school is still rated RI by Ofsted, is this a limiting factor in terms of the SIAMS outcome?

A: No. All schools should be encouraged to think about what they do that sits in the excellence box so this can be put front and centre.

Headteachers were asked if there were any areas in which their staff would appreciate more support. It was affirmed that subject knowledge in Christianity could be strengthened and enhanced by the upcoming Understanding Christianity training sessions. Headteachers also mentioned increasing the confidence of teachers to teach about faith in a broader context and to build connections with other faiths. Eg. How can we can equip teachers with access to resources to do this to best of their ability? It was suggested it might be useful to include a question around children's understanding of this in monitoring visits.

### 7. BREAGE LEARNING WALK UPDATE

Feedback was given on the SIAMS Learning Walk which had taken place at Breage C of E School on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. This had been undertaken by LJo, PHu and PMi with Mrs Jayne Banner [who was to become Acting Headteacher at the school from 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020] and evidence had been gathered relating to the following areas:

- · Vision and Leadership
- Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills
- Character Development: Hope, Aspiration and Courageous Advocacy
- Community and Living Well Together
- Dignity and Respect
- Impact of Collective worship
- Effectiveness of Religious Education.

Having taken part in the daily worship session and dropped into lessons, the Committee members were pleased to observe:

- It was clearly evident this was a Church school
- The cross curricular links to spirituality
- Real engagement on the part of pupils
- A very happy environment and staff who were happy to talk about spirituality.

Work was now being done on stripping back displays and tightening focus as it had been recognised that, while these provided a lot of evidence, it was important to avoid overstimulation, as this could have negative effect on the information children were able to take in. Displays were to be built as a progression and in a way that was pertinent to the various stages of the pupils' learning.

DBr pointed out that superb examples of this could now be seen across the Trust.

**Next visit.** It was agreed the next visit would focus on the teaching of RE and pupils' books. DBr and KFi were to undertake this visit.

### 8. PLANNING OF NEXT VISITS TO SCHOOLS

**Follow up on assessment of RE.** This would comprise part of a broader price of work on the curriculum and its monitoring / assessment.

**Planning of worship so visitors add to the established focus.** For key messages to have the maximum impact, it would be useful to plan worship in such a way that all those leading it adhered to the established focus.

**Review of materials to be used.** Copies of a series of documents from the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education were shared with Committee members: A Quick RE Self Evaluation; A Quick Collective Worship Self Evaluation; Self-Evaluation Walk Through School. It was felt that using these for some visits, and at other times the SIAMS Learning Walk document, would broaden the focus of visits and provide a wider body of evidence.

KFi informed the Committee that, on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, she was to visit Cury C of E School for the morning.

Headteachers were asked what they would like the focus of their school visits to be and which dates would be suitable for visits to take place on. Arrangements were agreed as follows:

**Wendron C of E School Visit.** PMi and LJo were to visit on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020, from 9.00am. The focus for this visit would be the pick-up points from the last SIAMS report and the A Quick RE Self Evaluation / A Quick Collective Worship Self Evaluation documents would be used instead of the usual SIAMS Learning Walk document.

**Grade Ruan C of E School Visit.** LWa and PSh were to visit on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020, during the afternoon session. The focus for this visit would be the Self-Evaluation Walk Through School document instead of the usual SIAMS Learning Walk document.

**Cury C of E School Visit.** PHu and MBr were to visit on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020, from 9.00am. The focus for this visit would be the pick-up points from KFi's meeting.

### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Google meeting for Worship Leaders. Due to the practicalities involved in bringing all worship leaders etc together in a physical space, it had been proposed this be done via a Google meeting. In the first instance, DBr was to have a trial meeting with Headteachers to explore codes and so on. A proper meeting would then be set up between two of the Church Schools – namely, Cury and Grade Ruan.

**Service for Children and Young People.** A special service for children and young people was to take place on April 18<sup>th</sup> 2020, from 2.00pm, at Truro Cathedral. This would be open to all schools, not just Church schools, and schools could participate in a variety of ways both before and during the event. Details of this were shared with the Committee and were to be shared with all Headteachers at a Heads' Group meeting the following day.

**Retirement.** PSh advised fellow Committee members he would be retiring and moving away from Cornwall by the end of August 2020 so the April meeting of the Committee would be his final one. He acknowledged it had been a joy to be part of the Trust and its schools. Colleagues agreed he would be sorely missed by both the Committee and all those schools to which he had so graciously given his time and support.

**Headteacher Vacancy.** It would be necessary to externally advertise the Headteacher vacancy at Breage C of E School very shortly. DBr was to talk with KFi regarding the Diocesan aspect of this and asked Members of the Committee if they would be part of the process. The provisional dates for this were 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. It was thought this could include a carousel of activities on 27<sup>th</sup> and interviews on 28<sup>th</sup> February but the schedule was yet to be finalised.

**Flourishing.** To bring the meeting to a close, Headteachers were asked for examples of flourishing within their schools that had not been shared previously, as well as creative ways in which to engage all pupils and also parents.

	<ul> <li>The tangible excitement of TAs over the progress a group of children had made as a result of intervention work around phonics to support the children's next steps in their learning journey.</li> <li>A programme set up for staff members to hear children read who were not read with at home, which had resulted in children having both the vocabulary to talk about their new-found aspirations and the confidence they could achieve these things.</li> <li>The change in attitude to learning, an increased level of engagement and children pushing themselves further as a result of the school's values being made very explicit.</li> <li>A child taking part in a church service who would not have spoken before due to all the children having something to do and supporting one another.</li> <li>Seeing a child with challenging behaviour respond in a caring, attentive way when another child was injured – which, in turn, resulted in positive recognition from other children, staff, parents, etc.</li> <li>Pupils writing personal invites to encourage their parents to join them for a church service.</li> <li>Using the church outside of church services to gently encourage more parents in. Eg. Taking children to look at the building, artwork, etc and inviting parents to chaperone; Green Church gardening projects, etc.</li> <li>Creating a 'reflection station' for Remembrance Day. Names on the 'Roll of Honour' Board had been researched and links made to current families, places where children currently lived and so on to give them a real meaning.</li> <li>It was proposed this be an agenda item at every meeting of the Committee so these examples could be celebrated in their own right and provide motivation to further enhance flourishing in all schools.</li> </ul>	
10.	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	
10.		
	The next meeting of the Trust CSAW Committee will take place on <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b> , from 9.30am, in the MAT Conference Room.	

Chair's Signature		Date _	
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