

**St Leonard's Primary Academy**

**Post – Ofsted Parents/Carers Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Questions from the floor:**

Q: Is Julie full time, Katie part time?

A: *The role will be shared; there will always be one of us on site.*

Q: How will you take accountability and is there a timescale? The school needs a level of commitment. Who has final accountability?

A: *CL - from September we will be recruiting for a permanent head teacher.*

*JW – We have worked together for ten years and we are confident that communication and commitment will work.*

*CL – There will be added collaboration and consistency from the whole team, including teaching staff.*

*KC – There will be an executive head, Rhian Cockwell, who is Head Teacher at Oliver Tomkins Primary School.*

*JP – The message will stay.*

Q: What is the plan if no Head is appointed in December, Deputy Head too?

A: *Another school will be involved.*

Q: Is there a handover period?

A: *CL -They will be recruited by the end of September, then there will be a handover.*

Q: Has a teacher been appointed for Year 3/

A: *CL – There will be four interviews over the following week.*

Q: *Will that teacher be introduced to the children?*

A: *CL – that can't be guaranteed. There is another plan if no appointment is made, with several teachers in mind.*

*KC – if no appointment is made this term, it will be made very early in the New Year.*

*JP – there will be continuity with an experienced teacher if necessary.*

Q: Ofsted specified no NQT.

A: *CL – Ofsted have written to school to allow the appointment of an NQT.*

Q: If a teacher is new to the post, is it an additional challenge for Year 3, moving into juniors?

A: *CL/KC – no more important or a greater challenge than any other year.*

Q: Will there be more days of Teacher training?

A: *CL – The TD days will be spread out, 2 days in October and one on the first day of school in September.*

Q: Will the teacher training days affect the consistency of teaching (who will be teaching the children)?

A: *CL/KC School will be closed for children on those days.*

Q: Can TD days be Fridays?

Q: Can they be plotted in advance?

A: *JP – 4<sup>th</sup> November is a TD day for all schools within the Trust.*

*CL/JW Training will be planned as needed; e.g. Moderation takes place during May, which may require some time. As much notice as possible will be given. Most days will be planned in advance but some may need to be confirmed at later dates.*

Q: Will Friday stay the same?

A: *No change.*

Q: Will Governance change within the MAT?

A: *JP – The Board will sit above the Governing Body and will take accountability for budget and standards. The Local Board will oversee and take responsibility for day to day running of the school, with a slightly different composition. Other governors will be recruited if necessary. The MAT directors all have accountability. A Link Director will work with the school. There will be a different route for questions within the Board.*

Q: Does the funding remain the same?

A: *JP – the funding remains the same. The Trust will take a percentage to pay for some services.*

*CL – funding is dependent on the number of children in the school.*

Q: What is the responsibility of the Trust vs the Local Authority?

A: *JP – SEND and Inclusion are the responsibility of the LA. They have statutory responsibility for data and standards. The MAT has responsibility for reaching and maintaining the standards.*

Q: Where does the buck stop?

A: *JP – with the LA.*

Q: Percentage wise how far are we into the Ofsted Action plan and what has been completed?

A: *CL - We are fully engaged with the whole plan; many points don't have a completion date until July 2020.*

*JP – reiterated this statement.*

Q: How are you planning to communicate to parents the external review that took place on 12<sup>th</sup> April?

Can you update the three main points regularly?

Can you update with a clear deadline the Action plan so it is up to date by the end of term next Wednesday?

A: *CL – “I can't guarantee that there would be the time to have it done by then, but that it would be done as soon as possible in line with everything else that is going on”.*

Q: Is there a date for Ofsted revisit?

Q: Is it likely to be before summer in the next academic year?

A: *CL – It would normally take place within 6 months, but because of the change to the framework and the integration within the MAT it is uncertain.*

*JP – For example a Bristol school is still expecting a return, but is six months behind.*

*KC – practice within school will not be changed and we will be ready.*

*JP – practice will be consistent and consolidated; a different scenario from yesterday.....*

Q: What is happening with STEM?

A: *JW – Rob Hogan has been coordinating the offers from parents and a plan will be in place in September.*

*KC – we are keen to work with parents, there will be list of ‘jobs’ that parents will be asked to take part in over the summer and onwards. We aim for full parental involvement.*

Q: How can parents help? Reading, cooking, friendship groups etc?

A: *CL - the ‘big things’ need to be addressed as priority.*

*KC – extracurricular activities are important, but the immediate focus will be on teaching and learning.*

Q: What is the biggest change the children will notice; will there be change in teaching?

A: *KC – The children will move along quickly, with age appropriate learning. It will not be ‘more’ but more effective.*

Q: What do you mean by learning environments?

A: *Resources, the outside areas, laptops, interactive whiteboards, classroom organisation and storage etc.*

Q: Do the children know about the changes?

A: *CL – the Governors have instigated a ‘Pupil Voice’, where a cross section of children have voiced their opinions and wishes. eg the Trim Trail.*

Q: Where is the extra funding coming from?

Does funding change with DBAT?

A: *JP - There will be access to a range of other grants, capital bids etc.*

*CL – Contingency funds are being used.*

Q: Will the MAT receive funds from the D of E? Does each school have to bid for its own money?

A: *JP – Each school will have its own cost code. Next year DBAT will have a ‘pot’.*

Q: Can we contact local businesses for voluntary help?

A: *Jokey comments about wet paint!*

Q: The message is positive moving forward, thank you. How will we know where school is, will we have to wait for Ofsted?

A: *JP – There will be a statement of progress and an indication of next steps three times annually. There will be thirteen other schools to work and collaborate with; we will be able to access their strengths and expertise.*

Q: Ofsted remarked on more talented children not being 'pushed'.  
Is there anything in place to identify these children and move them forward?

A: *KC – There will be lots of monitoring in school that will address these issues.*

Q: I don't understand benchmarking. How can we get on board with how to know where our child is?

A: *KC – the teachers will work with parents, share discussions and look at work, books etc.*

Q: Are you confident that this will be correct procedure.

A: *JP – Working within a wider group of schools will be of benefit and aid moderation.*

Q: The report is very poor. It doesn't tell me about my child, they are all very similar. I would like to know what is relevant to my child.

A: *CL/KC – The reports have been considered and samples have been studied from other schools. It was decided that St Leonard's give more details than other schools.*

Q: That is misleading; we were led to believe that there would be a change.

A: *CL/KC/JW – moving forward it will change, comments will be taken on board.*

Q: Benchmarking how has it been moderated and was it a specific exercise to achieve the data?

A: *KC – gave an explanation, they looked at the curriculum targets, children's work and specific year curriculum measures. Puma and Pira have been used as an indication.*

Q: Is there a way of looking at potential as well as achievement?

Will some of this filter into mainstream education and will there be mechanisms in place to access this?

A: *KC/JW Interventions and assessments will play a major part in determining future learning.*

Q: Sport in this school is neglected. Will there be more teams, other than football? Other schools have daily sports clubs led by teachers.

A: *KC – Planning for teaching will have to be the focus for staff members. Extra-curricular activities would be welcome but not the immediate priority.*

Q: Parents would be willing to pay for Sports Clubs.

There must be other providers who would be happy to come.

A: *NM – these have been used with varying degrees of success in the past. Availability of suitable space can be an issue.*

Q: Will there be a question about the use of 'Big A' in the future?

A: *No change in the immediate future.*

Q: Online portals for Maths and English are used in other schools.

A: *KC – there is a need for careful budgeting and costing. These will be considered and correct decisions taken when relevant.*

Q: How will MAT (DBAT) communicate with parents?

A: *JP – with regular letters and emails, the first in September. There will be online access to view the wider picture.*

Q: Will there be changes to the homework structure?

A: *There will be consideration of homework strategies.*

Q: Please will you introduce the three new governors?

A: *DH – County School Improvement Manager for Hampshire “I know we are on the way up”.*

*EM – Chair of Governors at another Swindon school. “I have known the school for years, we have started on a journey – things are happening”!*

*JM – Vice Chair and member of several governing bodies of Swindon schools. “I can see the continuity between KC and JW, they are making a difference”.*

*EM/JM – “We were blown away by the children’s kindness, thoughtfulness and representations during Pupil Voice”.*

**Parent: “Thank you to all the staff for not running away and for all the work you have done”!**