

Lowick and Holy Island Cof E First Schools
Meeting Minutes

Curriculum Committee Meeting
5.30pm 25th November 2020 – held virtually

Present: RS, ROR, MC, NG and HS

1. Apologies for Absence	n/a
2. Pecuniary Interests in this Agenda	none
3. Consideration of School Development Plan (previously circulated) Focus: Remote education offer	<p>We considered the objectives within the School Development Plan (SDP) in terms of leadership and quality of education.</p> <p>We discussed our remote education plans and offer. It was noted that the staff had accessed a good amount of training to enable them to use remote education apps efficiently and to help them plan a remote curriculum.</p> <p>It was explained that the children are now using Seesaw and sumdog for their virtual reading log and for their spelling and maths homework to enable them to already be in the habit of logging on to those sites.</p> <p>We discussed other sources of remote learning to assist us such as Classroom Secrets Kids, the Oak Academy and BBC bitesize.</p> <p>We considered the use of live streaming or ‘zooming’ lessons for children self isolating whilst still teaching the other children in class. On discussion of potential safeguarding issues, staff workload and wellbeing it was agreed that we had found the best solution for our particular situation.</p>
4. Recovery curriculum	<p>The school was able to report that despite finding gaps and weaknesses in the children’s learning due to lockdown and missed school time we have had some good successes this term.</p> <p>Our phonics catch up has been particularly successful with children making outstanding progress in their Read Write Inc (RWI) small groups or 1:1 sessions.</p> <p>All the year 2 children have been re-tested using the 2019 phonics check and have passed, some with very high scores.</p> <p>Year 3 children who did not pass in year 1 and missed the re-take last year were also checked and also passed well.</p> <p>Generally, having an extra member of staff is proving invaluable in enabling us to have very small groups in core subjects and personalise learning effectively.</p>

<p>5. Mindfulness / well-being</p>	<p>The other aspect to recovery after lockdown is relating to mindfulness and pupil well-being. The school was able to report that our work using the Thrive Approach has given us a good insight into what each group of children need and strategies and activities used to support pupil development.</p> <p>PHSE has been focused on well-being, relationships and managing feelings. Commando Joe's sessions are extremely popular with the children with very high after school club attendance. This is part of 'character education' to help pupils build resilience, self-awareness, teamwork and confidence.</p> <p>We are still seeking to be outdoors as much as possible to support pupil well-being and mental health.</p>
<p>6. Enrichment, extra-curricular opportunities and external links being made</p>	<p>All our after school clubs are well attended. This term we have offered ball skills, skipping, playground games, Eco-schools and Commando Joe's. (with 3-4 clubs running each week).</p> <p>The school explained how they are filming a nativity performance (largely outdoors) and this will be shared with families when it is completed. It was agreed that this was a good way to ensure we still offered enrichment, opportunities for performing arts and creativity and reaching out to our school community and stakeholders.</p> <p>It was also discussed that we are having virtual collective worship using Google Meet with Sarah Hills (the Vicar of Holy Island) and Sam Quilty (her curate).</p>
<p>7. AOB</p>	<p>It was noted that there has been a new vicar appointed for Lowick and hopefully this person will be in place from the end of January. It was hoped that the new vicar will become involved in the life of the school along with Sarah.</p>
<p>Date of future meetings:</p>	<p>Wednesday 3rd March at 5.30pm (presumably to be held virtually)</p>