



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION – MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

(Company No: 09630999)

LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE – DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY

Monday 20th June 2022 09:30am

Face to face meeting

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(Company No: 09630999)
LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE – DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY
Monday 20th June 2022 9:30am
Face to Face meeting

ATTENDEES:

Head Teacher - Jennifer Duncan

Community Representative – Anne Kelly

Chair – Andrew Stogdale

Parent Representative – Philippa Booth

Staff Representative- Sian Lamb

OTHER ATTENDEES: Clerks – Megan Appleyard

1. Welcome + Introductions

2. Apologies

Parent Representative- Philippa Booth

3. Minutes of the last meeting: matters of fact and for approval

Approved

4. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda

Previous minutes were approved and agreed as a true reflection of the meeting.

5. Headteachers report

JD explained the headteachers report in full detail and gave the key information as follows:

- The academy has offered secondary places to 19 families between Middlesbrough and Redcar.
- JD explained that lots of recruitment has been taking place at Discovery due to the expansion
- JD explained the staffing structure including the existing headteacher will be working at an executive level.
- An Assistant headteacher has been appointed for Discovery Secondary with secondary experience.
- The primary build project is now delayed. Currently the proposed move timescales start from the 31st August.
- Establishment of the Nursery is priority one. This has gone well and is well developed.
- Maths is priority two. This has been going well within the Academy and will be continued as a priority in the next academic year.
- The wider curriculum in the academy is going well.
- JD explained that the children of Discovery Special Academy are tracked using schemes like PIVATS and MAPP.
- 89% of children are currently on track to reach their reading PIVAT target.
- JD told the group Discovery have created Nursery rhyme packs to be sent home as part of the library provision.

- MA to get feedback on the Nursery rhyme packs and if it has helped families, feedback to also be included on the next parent consultation.
- Phonics is going well within the Academy.
- Discovery are very proud of their wider curriculum.
- JD explained that communication will always be a main area of development.
- The Discovery minibus has had a really positive impact on the children and learning.
- Discovery are to get another minibus for the Year 7 and Nursery classes which will be based at the Brambles Farm site.
- Horse Riding has been going really well and will be continued next year
- Swimming will continue for the pupils and this will take place in the Neptune Centre
- Enrichment is a big focus
- JD informed the group Discovery only have 1 pending EHCP for a nursery child
- Autism Spectrum Disorder and Distressed behaviour training is to take place on the upcoming PD days
- Discovery have a significant amount of vulnerable families
- SL now organises coffee mornings and SL informed the group that these have been a huge success
- The pastoral team are building strong relationships with families
- SL to start Early Bird sessions when Discovery move into the new building. This is a programme to support parents and families of children with autism.
- Discovery are looking at the possibility of trying to support families who have trouble with their children's sleep
- JD explained that Discovery are always working on attendance, Discovery's attendance is better than average
- Discovery are working on persistent absences.
- Holidays that have been postponed due to COVID are still taking place.
- 1 child is currently getting tutored at home- this is managed with the Local authority
- JD explained that Discovery are trying to help more families access Disability Social Workers
- JD explained that Discovery are possibly not going to be in expenditure this year due to the Nursery and establishment of year 7, however, outturn is available from the trust.
- The website and safeguarding are compliant
- Discovery's Health and Safety showed two very minor areas of improvements and these have been actioned and completed

6. Update on the Community Garden

Teesside Family Foundation is now helping to get the community garden up and running. A teacher at Discovery is leading with the Business Manager to help with the setup of the community garden.

AK informed the group that Beverly School has asked to visit the Nature's World site. This has been pushed back as AK feels Nature's World is not ready yet.

AK is awaiting sign off from Gaminli. AK was to get in touch after the meeting.

JD to look at availability to meet with AK at Nature's World site.

7. Update on New Build Dates and Timescales

JD explained to the group that the removal company are all booked and planned for the move to the new build site.

JD informed the group the possible date we receive the keys could be the 31st August and this is when the move will begin.

AS asked JD when will the children go back to school, JD informed the group the children could have a possible start date of the 12th September.

Two weeks of summer club will be available this summer to help give some of Discovery families a break through the holidays due to the possible postponed start to the academic year.

8. Secondary Development and Consultation Update

JD explained to the group that the Secondary provision was approved by the RSC in February.

19 places have been offered for September 2022.

JD has been attending regular project meetings in regards to the secondary build and discussions are still going ahead in regards to where the secondary building will be.

9. Any other business

JD asked the group to have a look over the Admissions and Appeals policy for approval.

This was approved with the group

AK asked JD the difference of numbers from now until the September start including the Year 7's, JD explained we are currently have 89 places in school, by September Discovery will have 127 Nursery-Year 7.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

TBC