

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FOREST ALLIANCE OF NURSERY SCHOOLS
(FANS) CHILDREN'S LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2025 AT 4.30 P.M. VIRTUALLY**

Present: Sally Davey (Chair)-Co-opted Governor
Helen Currie-Head Teacher
Abrar Malik-Co-opted Governor and Chair of GB
Lindsay Read-Staff Governor and DHT

Clerk to the Committee: Caroline Russell

Summary of agreements and actions:

Minute reference	Formal agreements and/or actions identified	Named person(s) for action(s) identified	Completion date
4	Policy Review-Policies agreed and recommended for ratification to FGB -Equalities Objectives: Consider in summer term. -Educational Visits: Include risk assessments including re injury.	FGB HC HC/LR	Ongoing As soon as possible
9	Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 12 June 2025-4.30 p.m. GS pl. send link and 'save the date' notice.	Schools/ Governor Services	12-06-2025

- 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** All were welcomed to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence and the meeting was quorate with 4 governors present.
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest in any of the following agenda items.
- 3. MINUTES:**
 - 3.1. Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 17 October 2024: These were received and accepted, considered signed, a copy to be retained on Governor Hub and by the School.
 - 3.2. Matter Arising:
 - 3.2.1. Revision of 5 Year Development Plan: This has been done.
- 4. POLICY REVIEW:**
 - 4.1. Behaviour Learning Policy Statement: Updates are in the policy noting a need to Simplify the language used to equate to a reading age of 12.6 years to make the policy accessible to a wider range of people. There has been no change to the content.
 - 4.2. Caring for Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children: This has been updated and now includes a statement of ethos.
 - 4.3. Equality Objectives Including Visions and Values: HT noted that there is an Annual Report on equalities objectives but also a termly report to governors which includes

references to equality objectives which are based on the 5 pillars of well being.

ACTION: Consider in summer term.

4.4. Educational Visits Policy: This concerns visits to local places of interest and further afield. The federation's educational visits coordinator is now LR who has had Evolve training.

ACTION: Include risk assessments including re injuries.

4.5. Getting Along Together: Noted as unchanged.

4.6. My Concern: Safeguarding: The language used has been simplified where possible but updated in relation to admissions and deferments in order to be specific and explicit and supportive of the federation in responding to the varied communities which it serves.

4.7. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE): The language used was commended as child friendly and specific with connections made to related policies e.g. special educational needs and disability (SEND).

4.8. Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions: Records are retained for 10 years. Only medications labelled for individual pupils and prescribed from a pharmacy or GP (General Practitioner/Family Doctor) are administered. Calpol is on site only for specific children.

4.9. Teaching and Learning Policy: Curriculum goals were noted including for non-verbal children. This includes a reference to Tales Toolkit and update of values.

4.10. Development Matters Framework: Nursery curriculum development goals are included.

4.11. Safeguarding Statement: This has been rewritten in simplified language.

4.12. Values Statement: This will be referred to FGB re context, equalities, concepts and values (ethical, respectful and tolerant). Curriculum goals are included and supported by recent staff INSET training and development e.g. visit to Ronald Openshaw Nursery Education Centre, understanding of Froebel theories of early childhood education in order to put children at the heart of what is done. FANS has 2 different settings but with the same pedagogy so the learning needs to be better described.

ACTION: Committee **AGREED** policies and recommends to FGB for ratification.

5. LEARNING WALK-SD:

5.1. SD visited LHNS to review resources related to use of ECERS (Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales) and ITTERS (Infant and Toddler Environment Rating Scale).

5.2. ECERS is specific, the space is well organised and accommodates 3-4 children and there is flexible use of space indoors and outdoors. Children were outside and using the sandpit, their models are annotated and photos taken which are added to their special books. There is a need to also develop awareness of numbers.

5.3. Resources were accessible but not seen to include dressing up clothes. There are outdoor areas for dramatic play but resources at LHNS need refreshing if possible reflecting OFSTED inspection action points re staffing and resources. However, the yearly budget is only £1200 which includes consumables.

6. **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PLAN:** Data is being redone with curriculum goals rewritten to include non-verbal children.
7. **PROVISION FOR 2 YEAR OLDS:** This item was noted.
8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**
 - 8.1. Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Report: There is a proposed revised format (use noted and **AGREED**). There are specific questions with curriculum goals highlighted in the table with a focus on child centred education.
9. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 12 June 4.30 p.m.-Virtual.
ACTION: Governor Services please send link and 'save the date' message.
Draft agenda items to include:
 - Welcome and apologies for absence.
 - Declarations of interest.
 - Minutes and matters arising from the meeting held on 20/03/2025.
 - Statement of values.
 - Revised data re autumn/spring term and impact on progress.
 - Compare settings: Focus on progress.
 - Review support to Barncroft and Stoneydown Park Primaries.
 - Any other business
 - Date and time of next meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.