

Sladefield Infant and Thornton Primary Schools

Working Party

Meeting held on Wednesday 30th September 2020

Present

Mrs Cathy Grace – Acting Head of Thornton Primary School
Mr Rob Meadows – Head of Sladefield Infant School
Mrs Nicola Connolly – Deputy Head of Sladefield Infant School
Mrs Katie Biddle-Rawbone – Assistant Head of Thornton Primary School
Mrs Ruth Allen – Teacher & PHSE Lead at Sladefield Infant School
Mr Sajad Akram – Parent Thornton (Chair)
Mrs Obaida Javed – Parent Sladefield and Thornton (Vice-Chair)
Mr Amjad Rayaz – Parent Sladefield

1. Apologies

Halima Khan - Parent Thornton and Sladefield

The meeting commenced at 10am

Item	Action Required
<p>2. Welcome</p> <p>Sajad welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. The agenda was confirmed: feedback from members on resources shared from previous meeting and actions to take to share the resources with parents. The minutes from the previous meeting, previously shared, were approved.</p>	
<p>3. Resources</p> <p>Sajad thanked both schools for the length & breadth of the RSE curriculum resources they had shared with the working party. He stated they were sensitive to the cultural needs of the community.</p> <p>He queried if the story 'Foo Foo Rabbit' covered the objective it was assigned to.</p> <p>Sajad also commented that Thornton Primary School's Shaun Tan work for the first two weeks back was a good way to re-engage learners as part of their reconnection curriculum. He</p>	

asked when and how the Year 6 objective relating to Human Reproduction is taught at Thornton Primary. Cathy explained that it is not taught in the Autumn Term, but it is taught in the Summer Term with parent sessions delivered in the Spring Term well in advance, to both Year 5 and Year 6 parents. She said the school continues to use the Services for Education resources (LA) they have used for many years. The school has chosen to use these resources because they are culturally sensitive.

Obaida asked Cathy to explain more about the reconnection curriculum. Cathy explained about the Shaun Tan (illustrator and author) work the children were completing, as well as the additional mental health work planned in daily as well as half termly lessons.

Nicola responded to the question about the book 'Foo Foo Rabbit', explaining how it met the learning objective.

Obaida stated the story had contradictory behaviour and suggested 'The Ant and the Grasshopper' (Aesop's Fable). Nicola agreed there were plenty of alternative stories to choose from, such as 'The Little Red Hen'.

Sajad confirmed that the story chosen had dialogue to positively represent wider views of parents, and that it was important that everyone remembers the stories need to be considered from a child's perspective.

Rob confirmed that school practitioners are well versed in using resources to achieve learning objectives and can skilfully use such resources to steer the conversation correctly to professionally achieve the objective. This includes being able to draw out safeguarding concerns. He highlighted how some nursery rhymes and fables can be misconstrued as they potentially have serious safeguarding elements in them such as domestic violence. He said this is a very good example of children's perceptions being very different to adults.

Nicola to investigate alternative texts to 'Foo Foo Rabbit' that could be used but would still cover the objective outlined – by 13/01/21

Obaida asked who the 'special people' referenced in Year 2, Autumn 2 planning were. Nicola replied they were significant people in the child's local community such as teachers and religious leaders, and that in Year 1 they were people from the child's family. Sajad asked about safeguarding the children in terms of using topics based on morals to strike a chord and how the schools allowed children to express their concerns. Rob stated that Sladefield Infant School use 'worry monsters': children write their worry and give it to the worry monster and then staff deal with the concern, reporting to a DSL as necessary. Cathy confirmed that Thornton Primary School start lessons by setting out expectations and boundaries and provide the children with a box so that any written worries can be shared by the child and dealt with by staff, or a DSL if necessary. Nicola added that Sladefield Infants use a tick sheet to monitor who needs support to participate in these lessons.

4. Sharing resources with parents

Rob confirmed that the Risk Assessments that both schools have completed, and have subsequently been approved by the Local Authority, state that contact on site must be minimised and that it would not be possible to host groups of parents on site to look at resources. There is a 'no visitor' policy in both schools for the Autumn Term at least, unless by specific professional services. He stated that this was subject to change in response to future Local Authority or Government guidance. Sajad suggested that members of the working party write letters to parents from both schools, asking them to direct any concerns to himself or Obaida. Cathy stated that the school websites were kept updated with minutes from the RSE Working Party meetings.

After inviting comments from all members present, Sajad concluded that everyone present was happy with the schemes of work and the plans for RSE curriculum delivery. He suggested that he write a letter from Thornton Primary School to parents, and that Obaida write a letter from Sladefield Infant School to parents to provide an update about the work of the working party. Rob suggested that the letter be a joint one from both schools to reflect the joint working party. This was agreed by all.

Obaida asked if packs could be made available for members to borrow the books referenced in the planning for Autumn Term. Nicola explained that links to online versions of the books could be shared. Katie suggested that the books could be scanned and added to Microsoft Teams for all members of the working party to access. It was agreed by all that the books would be scanned and uploaded.

Sajad thanked the members of the working party for their support in serving the best interests of the children.

The working party members agreed to meet on Wednesday 13th January at 10am via Microsoft Teams.

Sajad and Obaida to send a joint letter this term to parents to update them on the work of the working party – by 11/12/20.

Staff from both schools to upload scanned books for the Autumn Term onto Microsoft Teams for the working party to have access to – by 11/12/20.

Next meeting on Wednesday 13th January at 10am via Microsoft Teams.

Meeting closed at 10.43am.