



Minutes

Name of meeting	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY PANEL
Date and time	MONDAY, 19 NOVEMBER COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM
Venue	COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs George Cameron (Chairman), Paul Fuller, Julie Jones-Evans, Colin Richards, Margaret Webster
Co-opted Members (voting)	David Miller, Sara Sheath (Parent Governor Representatives) Tony Blackshaw (Diocesan Representative)
Cabinet Members	Cllrs Dawn Cousins, David Pugh
Officers Present	Ian Anderson, Steve Beynon, Gary Booth, Chris Mathews, Paul Thistlewood
Apologies	Cllrs Gary Taylor, Urszula Topp (Diocesan representative)

21. **Declarations of Interest** ([Recording 1](#) and [2](#))

Sara Sheath declared an interest as she was a Local Authority Governor at Christ the King, had children at Christ the King who had previously attended Shanklin C of E Primary School and was a paid examination invigilator at Christ the King College.

Councillor Margaret Webster declared an interest as she had family members at Queensgate.

Councillor Colin Richards declared an interest as he was a governor at Newchurch Primary School and had grandchildren at primary schools.

Councillor Paul Fuller declared an interest as he was a governor at Northwood Primary School and had two children at Cowes Enterprise College who previously attended Gurnard Primary School.

Councillor Julie Jones-Evans declared an interest as she was a governor at Nine Acres Primary School and also had a child at that school.

David Miller declared an interest as he had children at Cowes Enterprise College and his wife was a governor at Gurnard Primary School.

Chris Mathews declared an interest as he had step grandchildren at Gurnard Primary School.

22. Primary school sector performance

The chairman welcomed the representatives from the six primary schools and outlined the format of the meeting. This would enable each school to give a brief overview of issues identified within their recent Ofsted inspections, attainment, support provided by the council and effects of any moves.

(a) [Gurnard Primary School](#)

The school was represented by Liz Jackson, Headteacher, and Ian Welsh, chair of governors. A briefing note was provided by them.

They highlighted a range of background information related to the schools move, the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including:-

- The school had relocated from Cockleton Lane to the former Solent Middle School site in Baring Road.
- The building had required some refurbishment and upgrading.
- The strong ethos of the school had been maintained together with sustaining the high outcomes.
- The assistance of the Council's HR section with the staffing structure had been welcome.
- Traffic problems outside of the new site were being experienced and required resolving.
- The Ofsted inspection had taken place in May 2012 after the school had been on its new site for 5 weeks.
- The school was judged as good in all aspects. There were two areas where Ofsted identified where improvements could be made.
- Actions had been put in place to ensure that these improvements were addressed.
- Pupils attainment for 2012 was provided

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Subject leaders were key in raising levels of achievement;
- 2013 targets were aspirational and similar to 2012 but looking to increase maths performance;
- Budget for next year would be challenging;
- Importance of tracking individual pupils progress and providing support where required.
- Subject leaders provided with support in their own personal development;
- Headteacher provides support to other island headteachers.

(b) [Haylands Primary School](#)

The school was represented by Stefan Hopper, Headteacher, and Angela Welsh, chair of governors. A briefing note was provided by them.

They highlighted a range of background information related to the schools move, the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including:-

- School in an area of deprivation;
- Moved to new purpose built premises in September 2012;
- The school had been judged as satisfactory in all aspects by Ofsted with three areas identified as requiring attention.
- Although attainment had been above the local authority average it was below national average.
- Booster classes being used to accelerate learning of pupils identified as requiring support.
- Use of information from pre-school playgroups on specific speech and language issues.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Difficulties in engaging parents particularly those of pupils with more challenging behaviour.
- Assistance with leadership skills for senior management from colleagues within the cluster and across the Island.
- Use of budget to buy in external accredited inspectors to validate performance.

(c) [Queensgate Foundation Primary School](#)

The school was represented by Samantha Sillito, Headteacher, and Glen Jones, chair of governors. A briefing note was provided by them.

They highlighted a range of background information related to the schools move, the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including:-

- Background to the establishment of the foundation and the issues encountered;
- Move to former middle school premises but outstanding issues with roof and more secure fencing along one boundary to be resolved.
- Ofsted had judged the school to be good with two areas where improvements could be made.
- Implemented new marking policy to ensure consistency by all staff.
- A number of families had complex needs and required working with other partners.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Mentoring arrangements were in put in place for subject leaders.
- Introduction of a range of family learning opportunities.
- The 13% difference between reading and writing attainment.

(d) [Medina House School](#)

The school was represented by Julie Stewart, Headteacher, and Matt Atkins, chair of the Interim Executive Board. A briefing note was provided by them.

They highlighted a range of background information relating to the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including :-

- Ofsted inspection in June 2011 had deemed the school to be inadequate with new head taking up post in September 2011.
- Interim Executive Board and headteacher put action in place including a staffing restructure.
- Re-inspection by Ofsted in September 2012 removed inadequate category but improvements still required in several areas.
- The package of support put in place included assistance from an outstanding special primary school in Southampton.
- The range of steps taken to ensure engagement with all parents and carers.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Processes put in place to ensure all staff had appropriate qualifications.
- Progress made will enable Interim Executive Body to hand over to governing body.
- Appointing staff with knowledge and experience of working in special schools a challenge.

(e) [Gatten and Lake Primary School](#)

The school was represented by Margaret Henshaw, headteacher, and David Williams, member of the governing body.

They highlighted a range of background information relating to the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including :-

- The school had been placed in special measures following an Ofsted inspection in February 2012.
- A further inspection in July 2012 had shown that the school had made good progress and graded as satisfactory.
- Existing premises not fit for purpose and waiting to move into new building in May 2013.
- Regular monitoring of pupils progress had been put in place.

- Key element to improvement was in strong leadership.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- The local authority was to return full delegated powers to the governing body in January 2013.
- Consistent zero tolerance to poor behaviour across the whole school.
- A number of new governors had been appointed.

(f) [Shanklin C of E Primary School](#)

The school was represented by David Moore, headteacher, and Bob Bransom, vice chair of the governing body. A briefing note was provided by them.

They highlighted a range of background information relating to the Ofsted inspection and attainment for 2012 including :-

- Ofsted had assessed the school to be inadequate after its inspection in July 2012.
- The number of rules regarding behaviour had been rationalised and made easier for pupils to understand.
- Where required parents had been challenged on pupil behaviour and attendance.
- Collection and analysis of pupil performance being developed.

The panel sought clarification on various issues including :-

- Action taken on instances of extreme bad behaviour.
- Science specialist appointed to assist in development of science curriculum.
- The existing governing body was engaged in ensuring that the relevant improvements were made and these were effective.

The panel was advised by Tony Blackshaw that the diocese was keen on moving the school out of category as soon as possible. To this end it had applied for academy status and was working with all partners to achieve this.

CHAIRMAN