

Holy Trinity CE Primary School, Sunningdale

Minutes from the Admissions Committee Meeting held on 11th January 2021

Present by Microsoft Teams: Mr B Aherne, Mrs A Boaler, Mrs J Griffith, Rev J Hutchinson, Mrs B Moss, Mrs S Lawson (Clerk)

In Attendance: Mr T Fettes, Mr P Grover, Mrs A Williamson

Apologies: n/a

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Update on Numbers

SL reported on school numbers. Two children had been added to the school roll in Reception Class as planned on 6th January 2021, as they were due to start and all transition activities had been completed. In addition, both children have siblings in school and so the children and families are familiar with Holy Trinity. These admissions take the school roll to 238 which is the highest number on roll in recent times.

Three places remain in Year 5. Two of these places have been offered and verbally accepted in the first week of January 2021. However, it was agreed with the committee that these children would not be invited to start at Holy Trinity until teaching within school resumed. SL has confirmed with both sets of parents that they should access remote learning with their current schools until we are able to physically admit them to Holy Trinity. Should both these children be admitted prior to any children leaving, this will increase the school roll to 240.

JG explained that another application had been received for the remaining Year 5 place. The child is from a nearby school and has additional needs and is at risk of exclusion. The child is supported on a one to one basis at the current school but does not have an EHC Plan. As Holy Trinity is already providing one to one support to a child with no EHC Plan, JG explained that resources are not available to support the child to the same level. This increases the risk of exclusion which is an outcome school would like to avoid. JG has approached RBWM for specific financial support of a minimum of £12K to employ additional staff to adequately support the child. JG would prefer not to offer the place until extra resources are confirmed. The committee asked what would happen should another application for Year 5 be received in the meantime. SL thought the place should be reserved for this applicant until further discussions with RBWM have taken place. If another application is received BM suggested Christine Jones, Admissions Advisor at the Oxford Diocese be contacted for advice.

Application for Deferred Entry to Reception Class September 2022

JG reported to the Committee that a request had been received for a child to start Reception Class in September 2022 instead of September 2021. JG agreed with the reasons given by the parents for the child to be educated out of year group and permission to do so will be given to the parents and advised to the RBWM Admissions Team ahead of the current Primary Admissions deadline of 15th January 2021.

Addendum 14th January 2021 – This decision is also supported by the Sunningdale Pre School who know the child well.

AOB

The committee discussed whether they should continue to meet or should suspend business while England is in lockdown (with school closed to all but children of critical workers and vulnerable children). BM asked that the committee continue to meet via Microsoft Teams as required, so that there is no build up of applications or other business. This will also avoid any timescales being missed or called in to question in the future. The committee agreed to meet as required via Microsoft Teams and also agreed that new pupils should not be admitted to school until Holy Trinity is physically open to all pupils again.