

## Sladefield Infant and Thornton Primary Schools Working Party

**Meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019**

**Present**

Mrs Sue Simmons – Head of Thornton Primary School  
 Mrs Cathy Grace – Deputy Head of Thornton Primary School  
 Mr Rob Meadows – Head of Sladefield Infant School  
 Mrs Nicola Connolly – Deputy Head Sladefield Infant School  
 Mr Tharack Ahmed – Governor of Thornton Primary School  
 Mrs Sadia Haqnawaz – Governor of Sladefield Infant School  
 Mrs Bilqees Ali – Parent Thornton  
 Mr Sajad Akran – Parent Thornton (Chair)  
 Mrs Smaira Khan – Parent Thornton  
 Mrs Shabana Adnan – Parent Sladefield and Thornton  
 Mrs Halima Khan – Parent Sladefield and Thornton  
 Mr Mohammed Ismail – Parent Sladefield and Thornton  
 Mrs Obaida Javed – Parent Sladefield and Thornton (Vice Chair)  
 Mrs Ambreen Khaliq – Parent Sladefield and Thornton  
 Mr Amjad Rayaz – Parent Sladefield  
 Ms Lizeeta Zs – Parent Sladefield  
 Miss Ester Mulonda – Parent Sladefield and Thornton

**In Attendance**

Jenny Steckles – Clerk of Thornton Primary Governing Body

The meeting commenced at 9.17am

Item	Action Required
<p><b>1. Welcome and Documentation</b>            Sajad welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He advised that Sue had send a large amount of documentation to all the members for information. Sue asked that if the members required hard copies of any of the information in future they needed to contact the school who will print it out for them. She advised that a large amount of the documentation would be discussed today so most of what was sent as for information only. Sajad stated that he was conscious of the time for these meetings. Sue confirmed that they should be no longer than two hours. Sajad asked that everyone needed to contribute to the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of last Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b>            Sue advised that she and Rob had altered the minutes slightly from those distributed from the last meeting. Sajid asked what would go on the school's websites. Sue confirmed a copy would be put on both the school's</p>	

<p>websites when the name of the missing attendee had been added and they had been signed by Sajad. Sajad then asked about feedback to the Governing Bodies. Sue confirmed that the Governors present at this meeting would feedback to the Governing Bodies.</p> <p><b>The Members noted that the agreed minutes would go on both the school’s websites when signed by Chair and the Governors on this working party would feedback to the Governing Bodies.</b></p>	
<p><b>3. Action Points</b></p> <p>Sajad asked Sue if there were any differences in RSE document. Sue confirmed that it had gone through House of Lords on the 26<sup>th</sup> April and they hadn’t amended it.</p> <p>Sajad then asked about the reading books and whether members had taken them out. Sue confirmed that several members had taken them out. Sajad then asked if the members had any feedback on them. Halima stated she had had issues last time, but we need to discuss why members were unhappy with certain books and have a fresh start. Sue confirmed that needed to have a programme in place that agrees a way forward and can be taken to Governors for approval. Sue confirmed that using story books was a good idea to teach concepts, but we need to have a consensus on the books and then have a parents meeting about them. Rob advised that teachers will take other books too and use them in the scheme of work as we have always done.</p> <p>Tharack stated that we need to distance ourselves from everything that is going on with ‘No Outsiders’ from now on. Nicola stated that maybe we needed to come up with another name for our programme. Sue explained further and Halima advised that the schools could also look at using drama as well as books. Sajad stated that the community circle were well intentioned but had mentioned concerns with ‘No Outsiders’. The members discussed the matter further with Sue and Rob. Sajad stated that it was a kneejerk reaction when something is new, then there is a lack of trust and relations have broken down in other schools as they are not listening to parents’ views. Nicola stated that it was not about Islam as there were also other religious groups that had objected to some of the content but the Muslim parents had received the greatest publicity about their objections. Obaida advised that she would rather go down the diplomatic route, she wants to know</p>	

information for herself. Rob stated that not everyone was as well informed as Obaida. Sue advised that it is often adults who are hung up about the books because they are looking at the content in a more sophisticated way. Nicola explained further about the books. Obaida stated that the parents didn't think they were being listened to at Parkfield when it first started, the parents wanted a process to help diffuse the situation. She confirmed that she was looking forward to the outcome of this working party.

Amjad asked about the overviews. Sue advised about PSHE Association guidelines that schools could use. She advised what Thornton was originally planning but this was stopped, awaiting the final RSE document. Sue confirmed that she had sent out what Thornton was working on at the moment to members but that they had 12 months to get it right before implementation in 2020. Sajad asked about the working document. Sue explained what the school was working on and advised that nothing from 'No Outsiders' had ever been used at Thornton but that they did own the books and handbook.

Obaida explained about the crayon book which she had read. She then went through it with the members. Sajad stated this is why we needed to steer clear of an approach that relied on a programme and that we pursued our own agenda. Tharack stated that everyone had voiced an opinion about the 'No Outsiders' but we needed to move forward. Obaida stated that she believed we could use the book but not the lesson plan as the lesson plans do not tie in the author's intention (he was Dyslexic).

Sue advised that schools needed to start thinking a different way, that we need to think what schools **have** to teach and also what we **want to teach**. She stated that schools need to follow a programme but that starting with the resources was the wrong way to think about it: schools need to start with what is going to be taught and then work backwards with the resources being the final piece in the jigsaw. Sajad stated that adult interpretation is different and that adults need to look at the key messages, and adults sadly misinterpret books. He advised the need to teach to the Equalities Act. Sue stated that we don't need to get hung up on books as resources can be easily changed. Halima asked if the schools were ready to address the issues. Sajad advised that equalities are the key factor and schools have to address these, but it needs to be

appropriate and agreed with the community. Sue stated need to put 'No Outsiders' out of mind, we need to start from now and develop our own programme. Obaida asked if Nicola had spoken to Nansen. Nicola confirmed that she had spoken to Nansen and they use some of the books. Sajad stated that we don't have to follow another school and we should develop our own approach Sue advised about a recent Head Teachers meeting and confirmed that a large number of schools are using 'No Outsiders' but under the radar.

Halima stated that needed to teach children to be kind, respectful, have good manners and be aware not to say certain words. Sue confirmed that the schools had always taught these.

Tharack asked about workshops with parents. Nicola advised that the schools look at when these are needed and what topics they were on. Obaida advised the need to decide where wanted to go. Mohammed asked about parents opting out of PSHE and RSE. Sue advised that parents can only opt out of Sex Education. Mohammed asked how parents are told of the content of this. Sue advised workshops are held for parents and very few parents opted out once they had seen the resources and spoken to staff. Obaida asked if the schools talk to parents. Sue confirmed they do and explained further what happened. Samira stated that parents needed to be really open with children on this and they had a big part to play. Shabana stated that parents know their children best. Sue confirmed that everything that is done is in an age appropriate way. Sajad stated that parents could always query what is going on.

Sue advised that moving forward both schools needed to look at framework from LA. She confirmed that both Cathy and Nicola were going on a LA course next week. Nicola explained further about the course. Sue stated that the schools needed to have a shared policy and there was a legal requirement to have a policy. She also explained about the need for there to be a joint scheme of work across both schools. Tharack advised that parents needed to know all the topics and threads that are covered in the scheme of work. Sue then showed the members the PSHE Document and stated that need to look at RSE in line with this. Sajad asked about the Unicef Rights of the Child. Sue confirmed that both schools take the Rights of the Child into account. She advised that need to look at the existing requirements

and then look at the documents. Sajad stated that we needed to have a sub committee to look at policy. Sue confirmed that the policy would be the starting point. Nicola and Cathy agreed to take the lead on the policy. Sajad stated they needed to lay down the strategic document. Sue stated that there were a lot of examples of existing policies that could be the starting point. She then advised needed to have at least four members on the sub-committee. The members then discussed who would be on the sub-committee. They agreed that members would be Obaida, Lizeeta and Mohammed with an email being sent to those not present today to see if they wanted to become a member. The members then discussed the date for the meeting and agreed on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 9.00am at Thornton.

**The Members agreed that the Members of Sub Committee to look at policy would be Nicola, Cathy, Mohammed, Obaida and Lizeeta. They then agreed that the meeting would be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 9.00am at Thornton.**

**Sue left at 10.10am**

Rob advised that the policy was the starting point, but we also needed to look at the framework for the areas to be covered as part of PSHE and RSE. Tharack advised needed to break up areas that needed to be covered and a timeline with threads on each one to ensure all areas covered. Rob stated should have a clearer picture after Nicola and Cathy had been on the course. Halima stated that policy needed to reflect teaching sensitivity as we are not talking about a secondary school. Cathy stated that is what the schools already do. Nicola advised of a PSHE meeting she had attended recently, and a faith school had explained what they were doing. Cathy explained further about what Thornton does and that the children are already talking about many of the topics covered in PSHE lessons. The members discussed this further. Rob advised about the workshops that the school hold. Smaira stated that she didn't like workshops. Nicola advised that some parents need workshops and this is how parents get the right information, not hearsay. Amjad advised that certain topics are viewed differently between different groups of Muslims. Sajad stated that needed to look at policy and practice in schools as don't want to create more friction and need to look at way forward. Rob stated that the schools weren't faith schools they were LA schools. The members discussed this further.

Sajad thanked everyone for attending today.	
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**Next meeting on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 9.15am**

Meeting closed at 10.50am.

Signed  ..... Date 20/06/19  
Chair of working party