

Esker Educate Together Board of Management Minutes September 2021

Venue	Zoom
Date of Meeting	27 th September 2021
Minutes taken by	Tania Daly
Present	Angela McMurray Ciara McMackin Damon Rogers Gemma Curry John Reilly Peter Murphy Sandra Russe Tania Daly
Apologies	n/a
Time meeting opened	7.30pm
Time meeting closed	9.00pm
Attached to minutes on file in Principal's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DEIS plan funding – Treasurer's Report – Principal's Report – Policy: Admissions – Policy: Dress Code – Policy: Assistive Technology – Policy: Healthy Eating – Hall rental terms and conditions

Topic	Detail/ decisions	Future actions
1. Minutes and matters arising	No matters arising.	
2. Correspondence	<p>Two pieces of correspondence discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NCSE requesting establishment of an additional ASD class in 2021/2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o BOM acknowledged the extreme shortage of places in the area. We strongly advocate that all schools in Lucan should be establishing these classes. At Esker we are committed to providing an inclusive purpose built environment for these children. This building is in progress and therefore we are unable to respond to this request within the timeframe requested. - Request from staff member for 10 days unpaid leave for extenuating circumstances. This is possible within department guidelines. Leave approved. 	Gemma to write letter to SENO outlining new-build plans and inability for us to respond to this request in the coming year. Ciara to review letter and send.
3. Treasurer's Report	See report attached.	
4. Principal's report including staffing / enrolment and recruitment 2021/22	See report attached.	

5. Covid-19 – policy updates	Handwashing: Reviewed guidance and adjusted school protocol to reflect this guidance. Handwashing only required after bathroom use, and when hands are physically dirty. Hand sanitiser required on entering and exiting the room. Balls now provided again at yard time.	
6. Admissions / Dress code / Healthy eating / Assistive Technology policy ratification	<p>Admissions policy has been sent to Educate Together to review. It is an extremely important policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special class. Applications for waiting list need to be made each year (they do not roll over). - Prioritising particular geographic areas. - Category 2 is specific to Esker. - Future consideration: to prioritise children in existing classes in Esker for places in special classes if eligible. - New addition: preference given to children returning from a special school/ reading school etc. <p>Dress Code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratified, see attached. <p>Healthy Eating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratified, see attached. <p>Assistive Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratified, see attached. 	Subject to clarification on age criteria (currently states age 4 on 30 th September, this appears to be an error) the board agrees to ratification of this policy.
7. Anti-bullying report / Child safeguarding statement 2021	No bullying incidents reported. Safeguarding statement ratified.	Annual review to take place at next meeting and to be sent to patron.
8. Children protection oversight report	Child Protection Oversight and Anti bullying Oversight report was read out by principal	
9. SSE / DEIS	<p>DEIS plan is our focus. This replaces requirement to do SSE, although we are keen to continue with aspects of the Global Citizenship SSE focus that was started.</p> <p>Standard scores have been analysed and have shown a decline in numeracy and literacy after the past two years and lack of contact time/ interventions etc. The BOM acknowledged that this was somewhat expected given the circumstances of the past two years, and the disappointment felt after such strong progress was being made previously.</p>	ISM is working on implementation of DEIS plan and will provide more information to BOM at next meeting.
10. Dates of next meetings	<p>Monday 22nd November</p> <p>Monday 24th January</p> <p>Monday 21st March</p> <p>Monday 23rd May</p> <p>Monday 4th July</p>	