

16 October 2025

**MINUTES OF THE SGC MEETING HELD AT 11:00 ON 16 October 2025 AT MOUNT PLEASANT SCHOOL**

Present:	Wg Cdr P. Le Cras OC JFSU (PLC) Mrs M. Summers (MS) Mr G. Margerison (GM) Mrs K. Steen (KS)  Mrs J. Alindayu (JA) Mrs Michelle Hill (MH) SqN Ldr C. Smith (CS) SqN Ldr T. Healing (TH) Mr D. Crofts (DC)	Chair Headteacher DCS/MOD Schools Representative Executive Headteacher FI's Schools, Curriculum Representative. Safeguarding & SEND Representative/BFSWS School Teacher/Staff Representative Parent/Stakeholder Representative Parent/Stakeholder Representative School Business Manager
Apologies:	None	

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action Required
1. Apologies	None	
2. Opening remarks by Chair	PLC – Opens meeting and thanks all for attendance. Thanks school staff for such a warm welcome and also thanks previous Chair for their support. Thanks to CS for covering as Chair during gapped period.	
3. Matters arising from previous minutes	Action Points from meeting/minutes of 15/05/25: 1. Contact / chase-up police to see if they can deliver social media brief in school. Completed, a letter with social media advice was distributed. 2. Identify whether there are opportunities for school to gain learning experiences from BFSAI MIP events. Completed, to be covered later in meeting.	
4. HT Report	MS – Previous SGC meeting was early in summer term and we have since enjoyed a very positive end to one school year and made an equally positive beginning to the next.  With the expected arrival of a new teacher for 2025-26, the summer term involved much work to be ready to change our class structure again ready for the start of the new school year. The school now has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYFS/KS1 Commerson class</li> <li>• LKS2 Sea Lion class</li> <li>• UKS2 Orca class</li> </ul> We have also re-positioned our FS/KS1 classroom and our 'Stay and Play' space, so that we are also ready to split the Early Years and KS1 phases into separate classes in the future, should staffing allow.	

	<p>The school self-evaluation has been reviewed with the help of the ROW SIA, GM as part of the core visit. Similarly the SIP objectives have been reviewed and updated, since the last SGC meeting a new SIP priority 4 has been added, 'Change Management'.</p> <p>Summarises some of the key events that have taken place in school and which are detailed in the HT report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCS ROW Teaching &amp; Learning Advisor Debbie Taylor visited school in the summer term and met with all teaching staff</li> <li>• School photographs for individual children, families and classes</li> <li>• Music with the 6<sup>th</sup> Rifles Band</li> <li>• Mount Pleasant School Winter Fete community event</li> <li>• Visit to BFBS for children to record messages and songs for broadcast</li> <li>• Parent book event in school</li> <li>• End of school cinema trip</li> <li>• FS2 &amp; KS1 visit to St Cuthbert's church</li> <li>• FS/KS1 educational visit to Bertha's Beach</li> <li>• FS/KS1 educational visit to Bear Wood and picnic lunch</li> <li>• Autumn term launchpad with parents joining children for their learning</li> <li>• Golden assemblies continued</li> <li>• Stay and Play sessions extended</li> <li>• SGC visit focussed on community collaboration</li> <li>• SGC visit focussed on Pupil voice</li> <li>• Support meetings with Chair of SGC</li> <li>• SGC members attended staff meeting to talk about OP WIDE AWAKE / ROUNDUP / MINIMISE and have Q&amp;A time</li> <li>• CBF visited school to chat with children</li> </ul> <p>PLC – CBF has commented on the quality of the children's questions during his visit.</p> <p>MS – Outlines current staffing levels of both teachers and LSA's. There remains little/no staffing resilience.</p> <p>New teacher post has been advertised and following sift there is 1 candidate to invite to interview. If successful, the new teacher may be in post by May '26 or Sept '26, it will depend on the onboarding process which can be lengthy.</p>	
--	---	--

	<p>PLC – If this campaign is unsuccessful, does the vacancy go 'back into the pile' i.e. recruitment has to start over and could be delayed by the recruitment pause.</p> <p>GM – The position has been made exempt from the pause, so campaign would be re-launched.</p> <p>MS – A qualified teacher cover supervisor has now been onboarded.</p> <p>LSA positions were recently advertised, there were no suitable applicants.</p> <p>LSA classroom support is at a minimum, 1 x LSA is being utilised exclusively in Yr3/4 classroom to support with a particular need, but this means that there is no other LSA support across KS2.</p> <p>FS1 sessions continue to be provided for 5 mornings per week. However, with reduced staffing this is challenging and vulnerable.</p> <p>Stay and Play has been extended to 4 sessions per week and also to include children from 18 months of age, in response to local need.</p> <p>Number of children on roll is currently 18.</p> <p>We are looking for ways to increase the numbers, but don't really know what the answer is.</p> <p>GM – Are currently delivering a great functioning school. Everyone who comes in is impressed. DCS webpages are now updated.</p> <p>TH – The school offer is excellent. How do we go about advertising what is being offered?</p> <p>PLC – Have spoken to CBF about this and asked if there can be more engagement with career management in order to get the message out to the military as opposed to DIO and contractors such as MITIE.</p> <p>We remain reliant on people with the right skill set wanting to come to the FI's. It's about making people realise this is the 'new Falklands' not the 'old'.</p> <p>CS – Is there any potential to open up more continuity tours?</p>	
--	---	--

	<p>PLC – That is very much governed by the availability of housing, new houses are due on-line next year, so could lead to opening up more continuity tours.</p> <p>CS – There is work being done on a new video with a focus on the opportunities for families.</p> <p>MH – Perhaps that could also mention that secondary education is also now available in Stanley.</p> <p>MS – provides highlights of end of summer term academic data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% of children in early years reception achieved a good level of development in all areas</li> <li>• 100% of children taking Y1 phonics check achieved the expected standard</li> <li>• 100% of children taking the Y4 multiplication test achieved the required standard</li> <li>• 75% of Y2 children taking optional tests at the end of Y2 achieved expected standard or higher in all areas</li> <li>• 100% of children in Y6 taking SATS achieved expected standard or higher in all areas</li> </ul> <p>We have no children with a SCAN (Service Children's Assessment of Need).</p> <p>We have 2 children on the SEND register:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 child with a diagnosis of dyslexia – individual support plan is awaiting parental meeting after half-term</li> <li>• 1 child with a diagnosis of ADHD – individual support plan in place</li> </ul> <p>Attendance as of 10/10/25 is at 97.6%.</p> <p>Attendance has been affected by 1 pupil being on a phased return to school (part-time timetable) for the first 5 weeks of term, i.e. authorised absence.</p> <p>All reasons for absences are known and holidays in term time are unauthorised. Absences are only agreed in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>SGC safeguarding member, JA attended school on 06/10/25 to complete the annual section175 safeguarding self-assessment and all aspects were judged to be 'fully met'.</p>	
--	--	--

	<p>The Single Central Record (SCR) is well-managed and fully compliant, GM has completed checks as part of the core visit.</p> <p>New DBS checks and local police checks where required have been completed for all new LSA staff and SGC members.</p> <p>All staff and SGC members have updated themselves by reading KCSIE 2025 part 1.</p> <p>All staff and SGC members complete L2 safeguarding training with BFSW<sup>S</sup>. There is 1 LSA still to complete L2 training as they were unable to attend the last course owing to illness.</p> <p>The DSL and DDSL have completed the annual MyConcern 'health check' with the Safeguarding Company. MyConcern platform continues to be used to record and manage all safeguarding concerns.</p> <p>Mandatory training continues to be completed as required by all staff.</p> <p>All staff complete MAYBO training about positive and safer approaches to behaviour management/de-escalation strategies.</p> <p>1 x Teacher to complete 'Technical Specialist in Adverse Childhood Experience in Early Years; training. 1 x LSA has enrolled onto a CACHE diploma course. 1 X teacher to complete NPQSEND</p> <p>The school budget remains well managed and is reconciled monthly to DCS statements.</p> <p>The Headteacher and School Business Manager meet with the DCS finance team termly and spending plans are on track.</p> <p>The end-of-school fund raising winter fete on 21/06/25 raised £2070.</p> <p>PLC – The monies from the Gurkha-Nepalese community auction night are also being donated to school.</p> <p>DC - Outstanding infra-structure works are managed and tracked by EMS/DIO.</p> <p>The erection of a wooden slatted windbreak fence around the outside of EYFS playground was first raised as a H&amp;S issue owing to dust and debris being blown into the playground. It is possibly now also a safeguarding issue as the playground may be directly overlooked by the new housing under construction.</p>	
--	---	--

<p>5. Policy updates</p> <p>6. SGC Monitoring Visits</p>	<p>An alternative solution of using plastic strips woven into the existing fence is being explored.</p> <p>PLC – It will be necessary to wait and see what the view into and from the new housing is like after the garden fences are in place. If there is a potential safeguarding concern at that time it can/will be raised.</p> <p>MH – The outdoor environment for the children would be much improved if the fence could be erected.</p> <p>DC – New panels to repair the wind damaged outdoor classroom are incorrect and MITIE are re-ordering.</p> <p>No other changes to the outstanding works.</p> <p>MS – H&amp;S update. All new staff follow DCS H&amp;S induction and sign to confirm having read the DCS SHEF directive. All staff complete annual mandatory H&amp;S training. Teaching staff complete a termly H&amp;S classroom checklist. There have been no staff accidents or near misses. All minor pupil playground accidents are recorded on MySafety.</p> <p>Electrical items are checked monthly or as used and, in the absence of PAT, all staff have been reminded about the importance of user checks prior to using any electrical items.</p> <p>There is a high standard of fire safety management as confirmed by the 1PA fire inspection which was completed on 16/09/25.</p> <p>Legionella flushing of unused outlets is undertaken weekly and recorded in the H&amp;S dashboard.</p> <p>Fire drills are conducted every term.</p> <p>PLC – Is there a 6 monthly workplace inspection?</p> <p>DC – This has been done in the past, but we seem to have dropped off the list, it hasn't been done for some time.</p> <p>GM – Would be welcome to be back in the programme.</p> <p>PLC – Will look into that.</p> <p>PLC – Please take the time to read the provided policy updates and come back within 1 month with any comments.</p> <p>JA – Completed the Section175 safeguarding audit all very positive. Also, recently notified school of a safeguarding alert concerning a children's book that had links to adult content, school had already received the alert and actioned.</p>	<p>PLC – to check if the school still included in the 6 mthly workplace inspection schedule.</p>
--	--	--

<p>7. ROW SIA Core Visit</p>	<p>CS – Community engagement visit completed, all positive. Would always be worthwhile reminding all unit and parents to 'lean in' to support the school if they can offer any activities for children, such as after-school activities.</p> <p>PLC – Would be useful to have a list of potential after-school activities, to put to units to see if anyone can assist/get involved.</p> <p>TH – Pupil voice visit, all positive.</p> <p>TH – Attended a school staff meeting to discuss Exercise WIDEAWAKE/ROUNDUP/MINIMISE. Will be meeting with JSPSU to create simple crib cards for school to use when exercises are called.</p> <p>GM – Have reviewed the SEF and SIP to check that what the school leadership thinks is matched to what's actually happening.</p> <p>This is a welcoming school; the environment looks great and the children get a 'cracking' education.</p> <p>The recent arrival of a new teacher has provided the opportunity to develop the classes/curriculum groups and similarly provides the opportunity for the staff to build and develop.</p> <p>We have a good school building and a good community group.</p> <p>KS – Every time I visit the school I am impressed by the offer and the teamwork. No children are disadvantaged by being so far away from the UK.</p> <p>GM – We have received parental feedback during our informal coffee morning, all parents were very pleased and positive. We received suggestions about first aid training for children and parents.</p> <p>Looking to re-introduce swimming teaching next half-term, will need lifeguards and pool time to be booked.</p> <p>Parents asked about providing more sports, but that is difficult owing to low student numbers, we do try to link with the school in Stanley.</p> <p>MH – We are intending to join Camp Education at Goose Green for an outdoor activity day.</p> <p>GM – There is currently no nursery provision so school is providing space for Stay and Play. Whilst there was a Nursery Manager employed in the past we now have to wait and see what transpires from conversations happening at the Customer Executive Board.</p> <p>The DCS Early Years advisor is due to visit in March 2026 and the next core visit will probably be in the summer term.</p> <p>Overall have seen evidence of lots of good teamwork, a 'can do' attitude, supportive parents and great school experience for children, you only have to look around the school.</p>	<p>MS – to provide list of activities.</p> <p>TH – create crib cards for use during exercises.</p> <p>DC – to book pool time and lifeguards once timetable known.</p>
----------------------------------	---	---

<p>8. Issues raised / AOB</p>	<p>Next half-term the HT will begin to focus on policy renewal.</p> <p>Student outcomes for next year are expected to be good.</p> <p>Attendance is currently at about 97%, please encourage no term-time leave.</p> <p>Thank you to all school staff and all those who support, the school is getting better and better, well done.</p> <p>PLC – Thanks GM for coming to Mount Pleasant and the support given, knowledge and experience is appreciated.</p> <p>PLC – The headteacher vacancy is number 1 on the priority list and is expected to be advertised as soon as the recruitment pause is lifted, hopefully 03/11/25.</p> <p>CS – Are we expecting to recruit another headteacher?</p> <p>PLC – The position has to be advertised, will ask DCS if the position can be advertised internally in first instance.</p> <p>MH – Would welcome MS as the permanent headteacher. What about the assistant head position?</p> <p>GM – At the moment we don't know the answer, as historically there was only a headteacher plus 4 teaching staff. When pupil numbers increased, the staff structure changed to eventually become a headteacher plus 5 teaching staff and a nursery manager, which in turn became a HT + AHT + 4 + nursery manager. However, pupil numbers have since declined, so it is uncertain what the structure will become.</p> <p>CS – Are there plans to have a residential trip?</p> <p>MS – Yes, intended that Y5/6 will join the Stanley Infant &amp; Junior School residential.</p> <p>CS – The staffing situation fundamentally impacts teacher workload, is staff welfare being considered? Parents will bend over backwards to support.</p> <p>MS &amp; MH – Agree that staff welfare is in a good place.</p> <p>CS – Is there still an intention to offer nursery provision?</p> <p>PLC – The SLA does not currently include nursery provision and parents come here knowing there is no nursery. The decision at the moment is not to put nursery provision into the SLA with DCS for the next 12 months, but this will be reviewed as needed.</p> <p>TH – Parents need to understand that after-school clubs can be run by parents.</p>	<p>PLC to ask DCS if HT vacancy will be advertised internally.</p>
-------------------------------	--	--



Date of next meeting	<p>MS – Yes, this was stated at yesterday's parent coffee morning.</p> <p>TH – Intend to rename the current 'Circuits Club' and be clear that all children are welcome to attend.</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>PLC – Thanks all for attendance and closes meeting.</p>	
----------------------	---	--

	Action Points	
1	Check if the school is still included in the 6 mthly workplace inspection schedule.	PLC
2	Provide list of possible clubs and activities to PLC.	MS
3	To create crib cards for use by school during exercises.	TH
4	Book pool time and lifeguards once a new swimming timetable known.	DC
5	Ask DCS if HT vacancy will be advertised internally.	PLC