

Minutes: Special Educational Needs Committee of the Governing Body of Dog Kennel Hill School held at 62 Oakhurst Grove on Monday 17 October 2011 at 6:30

PRESENT

Peter Bibby (Convenor)

Marion Cranmer
Gillian Reeve

Philip Prior
Robyn Harrison

Apologies

Eileen Wray

Other members are Tania Degale and Karen Jones

1. Appointment of minute taker

The Convenor volunteered to take minutes

2. Minutes of meeting Monday 23 May 2011

No matters arising

3. Annual reviews

Members have attended annual reviews in accordance with our policy. In one case Southwark refused to amend a statement following the annual review. The review meeting had agreed amendments to Part 2 of the statement (the description of needs) both to bring it up to date and to include a recent diagnosis of Oppositional Defiant Disorder. Upon Southwark refusing to amend the statement, the parents appealed to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal. In response to the appeal, Southwark agreed to amend Part 2 of the statement.

We are hoping that Southwark will now look more favourably at amending statements following annual reviews.

We agreed members to attend annual reviews as follows:

Peter	7	November 2011
Gillian	18	January 2012
Gillian	14	March 2012
Peter	23	May 2012
Karen	20	June 2012
Philip	4	July 2012

4. **Review of School SEN Policy**

The committee reviewed the SEN policy and the proposed changes which were circulated by Robyn. We approved all the proposed changes, with one minor modification. Robyn (thank you) has rewritten the introductory section which is a big improvement.

The minor modification concerns the expectation of the Government introducing legislation following the Consultation Document: "Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability." We amended: *this will be subject to vast changes when the actions set out in the Government's Green Paper come into being*, to read ***this will be subject to changes if***

We agreed that the draft amended policy be circulated to all staff for comments, with the expectation that we can circulate the amended policy for approval by the Governors on 21 November 2011

5. **Individual Children**

We discussed individual children.

6. **Educational psychology service.**

The psychology service provided by Southwark has been unsatisfactory recently. From October 2010 until April 2011, the allocated psychologist did not have sufficient experience. Next we had no psychologist for half, then Southwark allocated a new psychologist who was good but has now left.

For work, apart from assessing children for statements, we can hire our own psychologist. Pascale Mather who was our allocated psychologist from Southwark is now in independent practice. The committee recommends that the School use her services in appropriate cases.

7. **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting will be at 6:30 on Monday 30 January 2012 at 62 Oakhurst Grove.