

Burlington Junior School
Minutes of the Curriculum Committee
Wednesday 04th June 2025

Present: Mrs P Utting (Head of School)
Mrs J Hickman (Chair)
Mr S Arbuthnot
Mr S Bown
Mr S Gilmour
Mrs M Uteem
Ms S Finch
Miss J Harris
Mr N Shah
Miss C Albury

In attendance Mrs C Didcote-Hayward, Year 6 Class teacher
Miss N Gava, Year 3 Class teacher
Miss R Grinsted, Year 4 Class teacher
Mrs N Yendole, Y6 Class teacher
Mr M Blow (Deputy Head)
Miss A Mir, Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr West, Mrs Ikiko, Mrs Campbel and Mrs Hall I

Absent without apologies - Mrs Hakim

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2025 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Art Update

Governors watched a presentation delivered by Mrs Didcote-Hayward which gave an update on the [Art curriculum](#)

The following points were raised and noted:

Governors asked how many times a week Art is Taught? Mrs Didcote-Hayward reported that each year group receives an equal amount of lessons which are split across each term. For example Year 3 benefits from a 1-hour lesson per week however depending on the lesson planning this may be offered as 2-hour lesson on alternate weeks.

5. DT Update

Governors watched a presentation delivered by Miss Gava which gave an update on the

[DT update](#)

The following points were raised and noted:

Governors asked if the school currently offers an Art exhibition or is planning to? Miss Gava reported that the school has previously run successful exhibitions and are planning to hold a similar event in the future once things are more settled in the new building.

Governors asked if the Art exhibition will be separate from the D&T exhibition? Miss Gava confirmed that yes this would be the case.

6. Science Update

Governors watched a presentation delivered by Miss Grinsted which gave an update on the [Science Curriculum](#)

The following points were raised and noted:

Governors asked if the science curriculum includes any school trips? Miss Grinsted reported that the science curriculum offers an enriched programme including trips and workshops. In Year 3 the children enjoy a trip to the Science Museum and in Year 5 the Wonderdome are invited to school for the day.

Governors asked what is included in the children's science bags? Miss Grinsted gave an example. In Year 4 students receive the Human circuit which includes a net to use for the outdoor net catching experiment. In addition to this, children use books with experiment ideas which don't need a lot of resources. These resources are provided by the school if necessary.

Governors asked if the majority of the children participate? Miss Grinsted reported that children are keen learners however mainly choose the topics they are passionate about. Our children are also encouraged to write down and share stories about their holiday experiments through Google classroom and during the weekly class sharing sessions.

Governors asked about the experiment which runs from Nursery up to Year 6 and asked if classes were able to showcase their work to other year groups? Miss Grinsted reported that the presentations were kept within each year group however children were encouraged to share ideas afterwards.

Governors recognised that the collaboration with the Infants has worked well and asked if this will continue in future projects? Miss Grinsted confirmed that yes this would be the case.

7. Curriculum update

Governors watched a presentation delivered by Mrs Yendole which gave an update on the [Curriculum Update](#)

The following points were raised and noted:

Governors asked if the volume of content that was delivered was too much, too little and age appropriate? Mrs Yendole clarified this by sharing some information directly from the report:

- Respondents noted that the curriculum at KS1 and KS2 is not effectively balancing breadth and depth;
- This can lead to a struggle to cover all content with sufficient depth and negatively affects pupils' ability to master foundational concepts.
- The review will now look at the volume of specified content to ensure a good level of breadth across the curriculum is achievable, while continuing to drive high and rising standards in all subjects.

An example would be that a unit of history such as the Stone Age to the Iron Age is delivered across 5-6 lessons during a half term. It is not possible to cover this over more lessons, even though there is a great deal of content to cover. Schools select which knowledge children need to know and remember in order to progress through KS2 (in line with the National Curriculum). We have to make choices about what **not** to cover in order to ensure the depth of pupils' understanding is achievable. The curriculum review is going to continue to look at this and hopefully take this into account when a revised curriculum is shared.

Governors asked how many subject leaders are amongst the teaching group? The Headteacher confirmed that every teacher except Early Career Teachers (ECT's) is a subject leader.

9. School development plan

The Headteacher agreed to go through this at the next full governors meeting.

10. Link Governors

The board agreed that as governor week is currently in progress this week it would be more appropriate to collate the feedback and report it at the next curriculum meeting.

11. Any other business

None declared

Date of next meeting

12th November

Autumn term	Spring Term	Summer Term
PE and Sports premium RE English	PSHE/RSE Maths Opal	Geog Computing History

