



## MINUTES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OF CATMOSE COLLEGE

Tuesday 13 October at Catmose College  
Huntsmans Drive, Oakham at 5.00pm

Present: Mr Williams (Principal), Mr Quinn, Mr Sammy, Mrs Fowler, Mr Wright, Mr Rhowbotham, Mrs Gautrey, Mr Mellors, Mr Holt (Chair), Mr Nicoll, Mrs Mould, Mr Nicoll and Mrs Howard.

In attendance: Mrs Tyers (Clerk), Mrs Ray, Ms Savage, Mr Teasel and Mr Harrison.

1. Apologies for absence and Introductions

Introductions were made to Mrs Gautrey and Mr Mellors. It was noted that Mr Mellors had been elected as a staff governor and Mrs Gautrey appointed following a parent election.

Apologies were received from Mrs Gilboy, Mr Wiffen, Mr Denton, Mr Mulvey and Mrs Arnold. Mr Simmonds and Mr Wainwright were not present at the meeting.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr Holt was unanimously voted to stand as Chair for the next academic year.

Mrs Gilboy was unanimously voted to stand as Vice Chair for the next academic year.

3. Minutes of meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2015 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by Mr Holt as Chair.

There were no matters arising.

4. Declarations of Personal and Pecuniary Interests

The Trustees and Members of Harington School declared an interest in an item being raised under AOB.

5. Report from Resource

The committee had not met since the last meeting and would meet on Thursday 15 October 2015.

6. Transformation Plan

The document 'Internal Evaluation Summary' was circulated prior to the meeting.

Chair:

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The Transformation Plan was uploaded to the VLE and a hard copy would be printed and circulated shortly.

The Vice Principals leading on the Transformation Plan outlined the key points from the report. It was noted that the school was facing challenges to fit everything into the school day and SLT were currently considering changing the school hours whilst maintaining Electives.

Governors were pleased to hear about the outstanding behaviour in the College however queried how consistent teachers are with dealing with the low-level disruption. Mr Williams outlined how the College's aim is to get all teachers to a level that is acceptable and realises that some teachers are going to deal with behaviour in different ways to others. Governors were pleased to hear that they would be spending time observing a group of students alongside the teacher lesson observations.

Governors queried why 10% of students are not feeling safe within the College and Mr Williams confirmed that he planned to speak to these students to follow up.

Governors were pleased to hear that the teaching within the school was 91% graded as Good and Outstanding. It was noted that these observations were unannounced and teachers only knew that they would be observed twice per academic year.

Governors were shown an example of how the school would be reporting data in future to give parents an accurate picture of their child's academic score. Governors requested an explanation on the reports and were keen to ensure that the parental community is clear on how the reports work.

Mr Williams outlined the outcomes from the Internal Evaluation Summary and summarised how the 12 students in the Designated Special Provision affected the results and, due to the high amount, had split the results for those in DSP and Mainstream. Mr Williams noted the ongoing concerns with Science and Graphics but outlined the reasons behind this. It was noted that the Scrutiny Panel would meet to scrutinise the results and report back to full governors regarding the College's action to address relative weaknesses.

7. Policies

The Admissions Policy for 2016 was circulated prior to the meeting and was formally ratified and adopted.

8. Exclusions

Mrs Tyers and Mr Williams outlined the exclusions during Term 1.

9. Any other Business

- Mr Williams circulated a document outlining a Multi-Academy Trust Model document to governors. As a parent of a student at Harington, Mrs Mould

Chair:

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confirmed how happy her daughter and others were with the provision.

- Governors wanted reassurance to ensure that the independent nature of Harington is preserved within any MAT structure, that stakeholders see the strong brand and ethos that has already established being preserved and the school continues to grow as an independent academic 6th form. There are a number of Catmose governors and trustees either with children at Harington or perhaps considering it as option and they were particularly of this view. They would want any consultation to ensure that this was clearly presented that Harington joining was in order to benefit from economies of scale to further enhance the existing offer, and that this would provide a better service whilst maintaining the independent nature of the school. The proposal would need to be presented a positive step forward building, on the successes already achieved.
- There was a clear view that the Harington governing body already established should continue within the MAT with the same delegated authority it now has regarding education, ethos and standards.
- The MAT proposal should not change the partnership between UCC, Oakham and Catmose; it is critical for Harington that collaboration that has proven successful so far continues, this is a change in structure to give Harington the best opportunity to offer an elite provision, the reality in terms of governance need not change.
- There was agreement that given the family of schools that make up the MAT is changing, that a name change would be appropriate so that it is more geographically neutral. Catmose remains of the view that the Schools involved in the federation should nominate governors to join the trust in order that the trust represents the family of schools involved in it and best represents the interests of all of the schools involved; they would want to ensure that the collegiate approach that has served us well so far continues. The number of representatives should be broadly in proportion to the size of the organisations involved.
- Like Harington, Governors would wish to scrutinise the business case for Harington to join the MAT, in order to ensure that the existing Federation is not financially burdened to the extent it impedes its current capacity but also to ensure that the federation would be of mutual benefit in the long term to Harington and the schools already within the MAT.
- Mr Williams was delegated to proceed to carrying out the necessary consultation, preparing the process for any statutory changes necessary and draft the changes necessary to our funding agreements and articles through the College's solicitors using the paper presented as starting point for the new structure. The full Trust has requested that they would need to scrutinise this proposal before approval.

It was noted that there was an intent to offer 210 places for the next Year 7 and that the College will be looking to formalise an increase in the PAN provided they are able to make further internal changes during the course of the year.

Chair:

Date:

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Chair:

Date: