



**MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2021 FROM 8.15AM VIA
MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), John Harrison (Head of School), Peter Moody, Tessa Leuchars, Geoff Thompson, Andrew Wright, Dyl Powell, Matthew Holt, Andreas Menzies, Stuart Williams, Liz Birchall, Jay Banerjee

In attendance: Sara Kane (Clerk)
Natalie Ray (Chief Finance Officer, RDSF)
Ian Dodd (Trustee, RDSF)

	Action
<p>1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence Rob Guthrie welcomed governors to the Microsoft Teams LGB meeting. Ian Dodd was introduced as a trustee of the RDSF.</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Margaret Miles, Henry Price, Ben Solly and Briege Slattery.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of interest None.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2021 (VLE) The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising from previous minutes There were no matters arising that would not be covered later in the meeting.</p>	
<p>5. Return to School John Harrison drew governors' attention to the Head of School report where detailed information on the return to school was covered. The following points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of students are back on-site and are in good spirits. There are very few long-term absences. The school is working with the families. • Students were invited to complete a lateral flow test on Friday prior to their return to School on Monday. The remaining students were tested on Monday. Students will receive bi-weekly testing and complete three tests in School prior to being issued with home testing kits. Students are expected to self-test bi-weekly. Only a small number have students have not given consent. Staff are also receiving bi weekly tests and will shortly receive home testing kits. <p>Students are wearing face coverings in lessons and communal areas. The only exception to not wearing a face covering is when eating or drinking. Student and parents have been supportive of the measures put in place. Two students are not wearing face coverings in lessons due to medical exception, however they are maintaining social</p>	



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distancing rules and wearing a covering in communal areas, following the individual Risk Assessment.

Question: Is it voluntary for students to take a lateral flow test to remain on site at school? And what is the school doing to encourage students to have a test?

John Harrison explained that it is voluntary to take a test, however the vast majority of students and parents had given consent. The school has provided parents and students with a lot of information about the testing process.

Stuart Williams reported that the DfE has confirmed that the Federation will take part in a clinical trial. If a member of staff or a student comes into contact with a positive case they will no longer be required to self-isolate and will be able to receive seven days testing and PCR tests in school. This information will be communicated and consent sought.

Question: Are teaching staff wearing face coverings?

Staff are wearing face coverings in communal areas. When teaching at the front of a class some are removing their face coverings, whilst following social distancing rules and keeping two metres away from students. When social distancing rules cannot be observed then face coverings are worn.

Question: How does academic enrichment work generally?

Academic enrichment takes place on Wednesday afternoons for 1.5 hours. The Year 12 programme is geared to ensure students are in a strong position to apply for university or apprenticeships. Usually enrichment is split into volunteering and the career pathways. For example, staff have run a law, finance and Oxbridge group. Usually subject specialists are invited into school, due to the pandemic some of these sessions are taking place virtually.

6. Centre Assessed Grades Policy

Rob Guthrie explained that a sub-committee of the Local Governing Body (with governors with no conflict of interest) had met virtually to discuss the circulated policy. The minutes of this meeting will be circulated at the next governors meeting.

John Harrison explained that the policy mirrors that of Catmose College as a Federation wide approach will be taken. The key element of the policy is transparency and fairness.

The policy has been shared and discussed with students. Parents have also received a link to the policy along with a supporting letter. All communication has had the caveat that the policy may need to be amended as a result of more detailed guidance from the government. This is due at the end of March.

Clerk

Chair:

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Date:

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The following points were highlighted:

Assessments have always been carried out in an objective manner (all students do the same assessments under the same conditions). Given guidance from OFQUAL the assessments will not be identical to that other settings. The policy identifies that the school's procedures are ethical and fair. The school is in good position as assessment data has been collected throughout students' time at Harington. The centre assessed grades will be based upon assessments and teacher judgements. In Year 12 students had three assessment points. In Year 13 they have already had one assessment point and will have another at the end of term 4.

At the end of Term 5 Year 13 students will complete two key assessment papers of a reduced length 1.5- 2 hrs per subject. Between 20-30% of the data will come from existing assessment data (Year 12 and the start of Year 13).

In conjunction to the policy each subject has provided a breakdown of percentages and topics. This will be shared with students and parents.

A rigorous quality assurance process is in place.

Question: What happens if students are ill for the assessments?
It was explained that there will be some discretion around this. Hopefully the 7-day testing clinical trial will enable students to remain in School if they are exposed to a positive case of COVID- 19 case. If not, they will sit the assessment at the next available point.

Question: During the Term 5 assessment will students have any idea of the content?
John Harrison explained that the teaching staff will shape the content of the assessment to ensure coverage of the course, the subject CAG form will clarify topics that will be assessed.

Governors approved the policy.

Tessa Leuchars left the meeting.
Jay Banerjee joined the meeting.

7. **Safeguarding Review**

Liz Birchall drew governors' attention to the previous circulated compliance checklist. Liz explained that she had met with John Harrison and Chris Raine (DSL) to discuss safeguarding at the school.

Liz reported that she is pleased to report that Harington is compliant with safeguarding procedures across the board. There is a high level of safeguarding expertise across the Federation. After the pandemic it would be beneficial to receive additional feedback from students

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regarding topics that they would like to see covered in PSHE lessons. In the future it would be beneficial to meet with students and staff regarding safeguarding and pastoral care at the school.

8. Admissions

The deadline for applications closed on 14 February. All prospective students have now had a virtual interview and have received a conditional offer.

The admission number for next year looks strong, with a higher amount of applications received than in previous years.

It is planned to upload Physical Education and German subject videos to social media shortly, following other subject videos which have been posted. Subject teachers will also email prospective students before the end of term to make contact.

John Harrison explained that he is keen for applicants from Casterton and John Ferneley to visit the school, if restrictions are in place it is hoped that at least some after school taster sessions will take place.

Question: Are the population trends in future years looking favourable for admission numbers?

It was explained that the SCAP report from the Local Authority shows secondary numbers at UCC and Catmose are looking good for the next five years. Catmose has been asked to expand to admit an additional 30 students next year.

9. Any Other Business

Staffing

Deputy Head of School

The Deputy of Head of School role will be advertised, subject to final approval from the RDSF Trust. The final decision will be made at the next Trust meeting on 25 March 2021. Recruitment is likely to commence in April 2021.

Spanish Teacher

The Spanish specialist teacher will be leaving the School due to a promotion to Head of Languages elsewhere. Interview will be held to recruit a MFL teacher across the Federation shortly.

University of Leicester appointed governor

Peter Moody was thanked for the suggestion to strengthen the link with The University of Leicester, therefore after communication with the Vice Chancellor of the university it has been agreed that Philip Dalby (CV circulated)) would replace Peter Moody as the University appointed governor. Peter wishes to remain a governor at the School. It would be discussed at the next Trust meeting to reappoint Peter as a governor appointed by the Trust. John Harrison and Rob Guthrie will meet with Phil Dalby in a few weeks' time to discuss strengthen

Rob
Guthrie
John
Harrison



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the relationship between the school and the University along with welcoming him to the governing body.

10 Meeting dates

- . Thursday 6 May 2021 -LGB followed by scrutiny
- Thursday 1 July- LGB

D Powell,
B Slattery,
M Miles, L
Birchall