



MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE COLLEGE MEETING

Thursday 1 July 2021, 5pm
Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Julian Barwell, Emma Gautrey, Judith Gilboy, Andrew Holt (Chair), Gary Marsh, Clive Norgaard Morton, Simon Mellors, Alex Mould, Rob Mulvey, Martyn Rhowbotham, Briege Slattery, Stuart Williams (Principal).

In Attendance

Tim Stevens (Independent Member), Sheryl Wilson (Clerk).

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence

Andrew Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular, Tim Stevens who was in attendance in his capacity as an Independent Member. Apologies for absence were accepted and received from David Evans.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There were none declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 May 2021

These were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Clerk's Business

Rob Mulvey has resigned as governor with effect from Thursday 1 July 2021. Thanks were given to Rob for his long-standing support as a governor. He will, however, continue to support the Federation in his role as an Independent Member.

The meeting dates for the new academic year were shared with governors. It was suggested that the Local Governing Body meetings for Catmose College were moved to an earlier time in the day; governors were invited to email their proposals to the clerk.

Governors were asked to complete and return the annual Register of Business Interests' form.

6. Update from Resources

The accounts are at 75% of the financial year and it is anticipated there will be a surplus for the College of £200,000 with good reserves for the Federation.

Stuart Williams reported that staffing is in a good place. Steve Kelly (Assistant Team Leader for Humanities) and Neil Mullinger (teacher of maths) are retiring at the end of the academic year.

7. Covid19 Update

The College is actively planning to get back to normal and the Transformation Plan will focus on recovery. There will be an emphasis on activities which build students' leadership skills, resilience and teamwork alongside academic catch-up. Extracurricular activities have restarted and the Duke of Edinburgh's programme has been relaunched. A video of a student applying for the position of Head Student was shown to governors together with a video launching the next College musical.

On Friday 25 June the daily contact testing clinical trial ended which had proved to be effective, whilst the testing was taking place in College, it meant that only very few students were having to work from home.

Question: Have all staff been vaccinated?

Yes, most staff have been vaccinated. The wearing of face coverings had been reintroduced in the College in the last two weeks of the term due to the rising cases of coronavirus.

8. Scorecards

Teaching Scorecard

Teaching staff have been observed at least once during this academic year. The scorecard demonstrates a high standard of teaching and good consistencies across each of the year groups. The timetable for the new academic year is now completed and the number of teachers' students come across in years 7 and 8 has been reduced.

Attendance

Stuart Williams praised the work of the Senior Assistant Principal's responsible for attendance and their tenacity in following up each case. 96% attendance is remarkable given that it has been a Covid year.

Question: Have students with a K code struggled with attendance?

Stuart Williams acknowledged that FSM students' attendance is a little low. However, this can be attributed to the second lockdown when the government advised that the coding needed to be recorded as absent, when at the time, it was more appropriate for students to work from home.

Behaviour and Welfare

The overall pattern indicates that when students returned to College they embraced being back at school and have done well. There have been some Early Help referrals, the same as any other year together with some social care referrals. Some parents have decided to remove their children from the College due to the wearing of face coverings. There have been three permanent exclusions this year. The College is working with the local authority to support students who are at risk of permanent exclusion.

Teaching and Curriculum

The Year 9 tutor reports have been issued and they are excellent to read; teaching staff have ensured that each report is individual to the student.

9. Pupil Premium

The annual pupil premium report was presented to governors which justifies how the budget of £175,000 is spent.

Question: It is impressive the level of intervention that is provided for pupil premium students, given the effects of the pandemic, how does this compare with the rest of the student cohort?

Stuart Williams advised that the intervention provided is very similar for all students.

Governors were pleased to learn that the College has high expectations of pupil premium students as of any others and the data demonstrates this.

Question: Does the local authority state how the funding for looked after children should be maintained?

It depends on the local authority, some local authorities ask for this to be done on a case by case basis, whilst others ask for bidding for the funding, or ask the College to say what the money has been spent on.

Governors approved the Pupil Premium report.

10. Update on Scrutiny Panel – Behaviour

A scrutiny panel was held which focused on students abuse of staff, mainly verbal abuse. The findings were that the majority of students are polite and respectful. There are a few acute cases of students who are verbally abusive to staff which are effectively dealt with. Minutes of the scrutiny panel was shared with governors.

11. College Expansion

The College has now signed the Grant Agreement with the local authority. The next step will be to consult with all stakeholders and an application will be made to the ESFA to expand. Governors agreed that the expansion will be good for the College and the community.

12. Centre Assessed Grades 2021

A new appeals policy has been written for Centre Assessed Grades 2021, which details a flow chart on how to appeal which is in-line with the JCQ guidance.

13. Policies

The College Student Attendance and Inclusion Policy was approved by governors.

14. A.O.B

Andrew Holt thanked all the staff at the College for their ongoing work in what has been an extremely challenging year. Stuart Williams thanked the governors for their support and the time that they give to the College.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 14 October, 4pm