



**MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2022 8.15AM**

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), John Harrison (Head of School), Henry Price, Tessa Leuchars, Dyl Powell, Andreas Menzies, Philip Dalby, Margaret Miles, Liz Birchall, Briege Slattery, Nick Davenport and Andy Wright

In attendance: Sara Kane (Clerk)
Chris Raine (Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare Lead)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Stuart Williams, Matthew Holt, Ben Solly and Jay Banerjee.

2. PHSE Presentation

Chris Raine delivered a presentation on the PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) core offering at the School detailing the full curriculum covered and explaining the importance of this programme to students. Detailed information on the PSHE curriculum is published on the school's website.

It was reported that students receive a least one PSHE session per week as part of a tutorial session. This is complimented by an engaging assembly programme to the year group (once per week).

Ofsted require religious education to be delivered as a statutory element of post-16 education. These elements are currently integrated into the programme and the school is utilising subject specialists to develop this even further.

Question: How comfortable are tutors with the resources and delivery?

Some tutors have delivered the topics covered within the programme over a number of years and therefore are experienced in delivering the content.

The subject is well resourced and material available to staff. CRA continues to update resources prior to delivering so that the most up to date content is included. Staff receive a reminder email weekly with links to material and additional suggestions regarding strategies for delivering. TLE (staff governor) commented that this approach and material was really beneficial.

The resources provided typically include videos, presentations and tasks for completion. In addition to the weekly resources, staff have been able to access training such as that relating to sexual health delivered by an external company at the start of the year, and careers based material such as UNIFROG, the schools career package. Specialists are also invited in to deliver assemblies which staff attend (e.g. Kooth and mental health).

ACTION

Chair:

Date:

TLE (staff governor) commented that the resources were really strong and that students are also confident to discuss sensitive issues.

Question: Has there been any significant challenge from parents with regards to the delivery and the content of the topics covered?

It was explained that the majority of the content of the programme is statutory. There have been no parental issues or concerns regarding the topics covered. Students are often informed of the content of the session prior to delivery, especially where the topic is potentially sensitive or controversial (e.g. sexual abuse).

It was agreed that the PSHE programme was an important element of education.

Students feedback on the content of the programme is currently collected annually. In the future feedback will be collected termly to continue to shape the programme and ensure that feedback relates to specific topics that have just been covered.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 December 2021

The minutes of the meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

Parent governor vacancy - There had been no expressions of interest received in the parent governor vacancy. John Harrison will approach some parents individually to enquire whether they would be interested.

John Harrison

5. Clerks Business

It was reported that on Tuesday 7 December 2021 the governing body of Uppingham Community College had formally agreed to reappoint Ben Solly to the position of governor appointed by UCC to the Harington School Governing Body, for a term of office of four years.

6. Activities Programme – Scrutiny

It was reported that a panel of governors had met to scrutinise the activities programme at the School. The presentation from this meeting had been circulated to governors. The activities programme is delivered on Friday afternoon and students have access to a wide of opportunities from sport to music to student leadership.

It was explained that the students that had been interviewed as part of the panel spoke very positively of the activities programme on offer at the school. The activities programme is an important part of the school week and brings different students together for shared interests. In some cases the development of softer skills (e.g.

leadership in Young Enterprise Scheme or involvement in the charity committee) is very clear. In some areas (e.g. board games) it is an opportunity to students to spend time on activities they enjoy which has wider benefits for students mental health.

Question: Are Friday afternoon sessions the most appropriate time to deliver the activities programme?

It was explained that both students and staff really welcomed ending the week with activities and is brought the school community together well. Logistically it was the most appropriate time within the Federations timetable and the School has exclusive use of the sports hall.

Question: Could the sports hall be available after school for Harington?

John Harrison explained that this would be difficult as it is a shared resource, it would also be difficult to staff and some of the activities offered for example yoga funded through Resilient Rutland need to take place during the school day.

Question: Are students required to have their own membership to use the gym?

It was reported that students are required to have individual membership to use the gym facilities as it is a private gym.

Question: According the analysis the ratings for Young Enterprise were lower than other options – was there a reason for this?

It was explained that a small number of students had dropped out of the programme, and this figure might be skewed due to the proportional small numbers. It was reported that an external advisor visits the Young Enterprise group regularly and is supported by a specialist economics teacher. Students currently involved seemed to have really enjoyed it and won 3/6 certificates at the last external event.

Question: Do students have the opportunity to volunteer during the activities programme session on a Friday afternoon?

The majority of volunteering takes place during the Wednesday afternoon enrichment time. Where half of the students volunteer in the community or at Catmose College and Catmose Primary. The other half of the year group participate in academic pathways. This rotates every term.

Question: Does the School offer Duke of Edinburgh?

There are over 40 students participating in the DofE Gold Award at the School and this has always been an important part of the school

offering. To fulfil the requirement set by the DofE the activities have to take place out of school hours.

7. German Review

John Harrison explained that a subject review takes place annually. At the next meeting a mini psychology review will be shared with governors and a review of Business Studies is also scheduled this year.

Governors attention was drawn to the previous circulated document, the following points were highlighted.

Students studying German feel well supported by the subject specialist teachers. It was reported that the quality of curriculum and support and expertise provided by the subject specialists is excellent.

The projected numbers for students studying German next year are small, however the team are being proactive in marketing MFL at the School.

It was reported that at Catmose College, German is not offered to the current Year 10 cohort during the timetable, however there is a group completing the course outside of school. It was also reported that the numbers of students studying German at Uppingham Community College are low.

It was explained that nationally the number of students studying modern foreign languages is decreasing and a decision will need to be made regarding the viability of the subject at the next resources meeting.

8. Head of School Report

John Harrison circulated his report prior to the meeting. The key points were highlighted.

Covid

The numbers of students absent with covid had been relatively modest at the School, however the shared staffing across the Federation had been impacted with covid related absences

Assessment

Year 13 were in the process of sitting mock examinations. This was the first full examinations that this cohort had sat due to the pandemic. Students were coping well with the examinations. If in the event students were unable to sit full examinations in the summer then the data obtained from the mocks would be used for the Centre Assessed Grades (CAGS). The examination boards had released further advanced information which would be shared with students and parents.

Careers

Further information on careers will be presented to governors at a future meeting. John Harrison reported that there was a challenge around work experience due to the pandemic, however the school were looking to work with a company offering virtual work experience and a small pilot group is underway.

Oxbridge

One student has been offered a place at an Oxbridge University this year.

Question: How many students applied to Oxbridge this year?

12 students had applied to Oxbridge this academic year.

Question: Does the School run a Doc society with Oakham School?

It was explained that the school still works in partnership with Oakham School and the society is well established and an important part of our offering.

Admissions

The modelling currently shows intended intake of 153. It was reported the possibility of running school transport from the Casterton area was being explored. It was hoped that this would be in place for September.

Question: The projected number of students joining the school from Casterton appear to be low?

It was explained that these numbers are based upon projections and that the introduction of a bus route should encourage more students from Casterton and the surrounding areas to join the School.

John Harrison

Question: Some schools see lesson observations as a crude measure, are staff comfortable with the lesson observations?

John Harrison explained that the majority of lesson observations are viewed as a positive experience across the Federation. There is a strong methodology that sits behind the observations. The observations are used to assess the delivery of lessons but also the quality of provision.

Question: Is good practice shared?

It was reported that the sharing of good practice ties in to the core CPD sessions which take place across the federation.

Question: Will covid restrictions be listed in School from next month?

The School will follow the guidance issued by the government. In the event of high numbers of students or staff contracting covid advise will be sought from public Health England.

John Harrison

Nick Davenport left the meeting.

10. Policies

Communication

The Communication policy was approved by the governing body.

Early Career Teacher (ECT) Induction

Governors were informed that the ECT was a Federation policy, for information. The significant amendment to the policy is that the induction programme for (ECT) will now take place over a two-year period opposed to one year.

It was reported that there are currently two ECT's at Harington, who have experienced staff as mentors. Both have made very positive starts to their teaching careers.

11. Any other Business

Safeguarding Scrutiny Panel

It was agreed that Liz Birchall, Phil Dalby and Dyl Powell would form the panel to scrutinise safeguarding at the School. This would take place on Thursday 31 March at 10.00am.

Dyl Powell,
Liz Birchall,
Phil Dalby

Dates for Diaries

- 12.** LGB- Thursday 31 March 2022 @8.15am
Scrutiny Panel- Safeguarding -31 March 2022 at 10.00am
LGB- Thursday 26 May 2022 @8.15am
Scrutiny Panel- Curriculum- 26 May 2022 at 10.00am
LGB- Thursday 7 July 2022 @5.pm
Presentation Evening - Tuesday 14 December 2021