



**MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 26 MAY 2022 8.15AM**

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), John Harrison (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Tessa Leuchars, Dyl Powell, Andreas Menzies, Philip Dalby, Margaret Miles, Liz Birchall, Briege Slattery, Andy Wright, Jay Banerjee, Phil Dalby, Henry Price and Matthew Holt

In attendance: Sara Kane (Clerk)
Natalie Henry-Oliver (Deputy Head of School)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Nick Davenport and Ben Solly.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 March 2022

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

3. Matters arising from previous minutes

Parent Governor vacancy – Due to the number of interested parties a parent election will be held shortly. As part of this process they have been asked to complete a short biography, which will be circulated to parents along with a survey. It is hoped that a new parent governor will be recruited by the end of the academic year.

A Level German – John Harrison confirmed that the small number of students that initially chose German have now made alternative choices. Harington remains their first choice provider.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Clerk’s Business

Register of Business Interests

The statutory requirement for completing the previously circulated business interest forms was explained. Governors were requested to complete and return.

National Governance Association NGA – Governors’ attention was drawn to the online governor training modules available through the NGA. Governors were also asked if they would like to receive the NGA weekly newsletter to inform Sara Kane.

6. Head of School Appointment

Governors had been previously informed that John Harrison would leave Harington School at the end of the academic year due to the appointment of Headteacher at another school.

The School has undertaken a successful recruitment process and Oliver Teasel will join Harington as the new Head of School from the start of the next academic year. Oliver will begin the handover

ACTION

Governors

**Sara Kane to circulate
NGA training module
Information
via email/ Governors**

Chair:

Date:

process week commencing Monday 6 June to ensure a smooth transition.

The rigorous two-day recruitment process was explained. As part of the process, a governor's interview panel comprising of three governors from the Harington School and three trustees, along with interviews with the Chair of the LGB and the Chair of the Trust.

7. **Careers Presentation**

Natalie Henry-Oliver presented an overview of the careers programme which has been shared previously with parents and students. The school is confident that students benefit from a very strong careers programme. The timeline for the careers programme was explained including the opportunities for additional enrichment, for example, the Harington Challenge, the EPQ qualification, the careers apprenticeship fair, Summer Schools, virtual work experience, and the Doc Soc.

The School aims to provide unbiased support to students' whether they choose to apply for university or require guidance in degree for apprenticeships.

As shown with the presentation, students in Year 13 typically receive 3 or more offers from universities. The introduction of Unifrog has assisted students with their applications.

Recently Springpod has been implemented. This provides students with the opportunity to attend virtual work experience. This is assisting students in accessing work experience and is invaluable for interviews and personal statements.

Question: Is the interview experience used as part of the Gatsby Benchmark?

Interviews do form a part of the Gatsby Benchmark, the School meets this requirement. However, in future this will be built into the mock interview process. A small cohort test group has been used to test Springpod. It has been well received by students. The virtual work experience has increased the number of students accessing work experience.

Due to the increase in student numbers the school may need to look into a paid service for mock interviews in the future, as currently the school relies upon volunteers.

Question: Would it be good practice to have a nominated governor responsible for careers?

It was agreed that careers would be scrutinised by the local governing body annually, Phil Dalby agreed to be the governor nominated for careers.

It was reported that the EPQ programme is becoming more popular with students and in the future may require a tweak to the staffing structure or a limit on the number of students that can undertake an EPQ.

Phil Dalby

Question: What does EPQ stand for?

EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification and is worth the equivalent of half an A Level.

Question: How do you source work experience?

Governors encouraged the school to build upon the connections with parents and governors along with local businesses.

Stuart Williams joined the meeting.

8. Head of School Report

The Head of School report was circulated prior to the meeting, the following points were highlighted.

Year 13 Assessment

Year 13 had begun their final examinations and they were going smoothly. Students had been informed about the clearing process and the next steps, this information had also been shared with parents.

Year 12 Assessment

Year 12 would begin their summer mock week commencing Monday 13 June. The data from the examinations will be shared with governors at the next meeting. Students are aware that the grades obtained from these mocks provide information used when setting UCAS predicted grades.

John Harrison

Safeguarding

There are no current safeguarding concerns.

Secretary of State for Education

Nadhim Zahawi, the Secretary of State for Education and Alicia Kearns MP visited Harington School and Catmose College on Friday 6 May they watched the hustings and had been very complimentary about the school and the wider federation.

The Leicester University Centenary Event

The event hosted by the school on behalf of The Leicester University was a success and further cemented the relationship between the university and the school.

Head Student interviews

The interview process was discussed. Over 40 students had applied, 26 students were interviewed and 12 students taken through to the hustings process. Successful candidates have now been appointed.

Young Enterprise

The group had got through to regional finals and had a received a number of awards.

Greenpower

The team came third in their race. The project was providing students with a range experiences. The team had raised money via sponsorship from local businesses.

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue

The assembly along with the virtual reality experience had been very worthwhile. The session covered driver awareness where real life examples were provided.

It is hoped to run a trip to Rutland Aquapark for Year 12 students following the successful visit to Flip Out.

9. Policies

The amendments to the following policies were discussed and approved by the governing body.

- Examinations
- Home School Agreement
- SEND
- PHSE
- Dress Code

It was explained that that the language in the Dress Code Policy had been tweaked following consultation with students, including representatives from the transgender community. The language around the school tie had been amended to those students that identify as male must wear a tie. The governors were in support of the amendment and the cultural importance of being an inclusive community.

Question: Are there any significant concerns with uniform?

It was reported that overall the standard of uniform is very good, however, there are a few issues around the length of skirts, which should be knee length. The school is working to address this issue.

10. Any other Business

Safeguarding Scrutiny Panel

The safeguarding scrutiny panel will take place following the LGB meeting.

Question: Has there been much student or staff absence due to Covid?

It was reported that there has been no significant absence due to Covid this term.



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11. Dates for Diaries

LGB- Thursday 7 July 2022 @5.00pm with a buffet to follow

Open Evening- Tuesday 8 November 2022

Presentation Evening- Tuesday 13 December 2022