



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022 8.15AM

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Tessa Leuchars, Briega Slattery, Andreas Menzies, Matthew Holt, Liz Birchall, Tony Nice, Tiffany Arntson, Dyl Powell, Andy Wright, Ben Solly, Henry Price

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

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Governors were welcomed to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Phil Dalby and Margaret Miles.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 October 2022

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

4. Matters Arising from the previous minutes

Ben Solly will liaise with the Local Governing Body at Uppingham Community College to enquire whether there are any expressions of interest on joining the Local Governing Body of Harington School.

It was reported that mock interviews will take place for Year 12 students in the Spring. It is likely that an external company will be used to provide this service.

The Open Evening held on Tuesday 8 November was very well attended.

Question: Is there any information as to why some parents feel the need for additional support from external tutors?

It was explained that any external support should work in harmony with the school curriculum. Usually external tutors provide additional support with examination techniques and time management. Due to the covid pandemic impact on examinations some parents are sourcing external tutoring to ensure that their child is well supported. There has been no parental communication to state that they are unhappy with the support provided by the School.

5. Clerk's Update

Governors' were reminded to complete the online NSPCC safeguarding training which had been circulated in September.

It was agreed that although the training requires a time commitment, governor's have a statutory duty to complete safeguarding training, as a governing board, they have overall responsibility for safeguarding. The NSPCC training is accredited and recommended by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LCSB) due to its high quality and therefore national use. Each governor needs to be aware of safeguarding and child protection issues which must also include online safety.

The importance of completion of the training and the statutory responsibility of governors was reiterated.

6. Update from Resources Committee

Planning permission has now been granted for the new building at the back of the College. Partially due to the increased cost of materials, the Federation will need to use some of its reserves to fund the expansion, on top of the grant given from the local authority.

An order has been signed to refurbish the old sports hall and a contractor has been appointed. The old swimming pool has been demolished.

The Trust is currently projecting an in-year deficit of £697,143 for 2022-2023 due largely to the increase in energy and staffing costs. The government has announced an energy support programme for October 2022 to March 2023, and some additional support although the detail is not yet known. A further update will be given to the local governing body, once the detail is known.

7. Feedback from Governors' Day

It was reported that the day was enjoyable and informative and provided governors with the opportunity to see the School and its ethos in action. Governors joined lessons and met with students and staff. It was explained that what was seen in practice was an accurate reflection of what is discussed at governing body meetings.

Following the visit governors met with Oliver Teasel where the UCAS process, level of challenge during enrichment and the use of private study were discussed.

Governor Days will be arranged annually. Governors are also encouraged to engage and contribute to school life based upon their expertise, for example, mentoring or the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Governors were invited to attend Presentation Evening on Tuesday 13 December and the Christmas Concert on Wednesday 14 December.

Stuart Williams joined the meeting.

8. Governors' Role in Strategic Leadership

Stuart Williams encouraged governors to watch the Ofsted Training presentation which had previously been circulated. The presentation explains what happens during an Ofsted inspection and what governors should expect. It was explained that the key document for governors is the School's [Transformation Plan](#).

9. Head of School Report

Oliver Teasel circulated his report ahead of the meeting. He highlighted the key points.

Year 13 Assessment Data

It was reported the first Year 13 assessment data is taken from SISRA and is based upon the data obtained from the first eight weeks of the year.

The data shows that the number of students achieving grades AAB and A* - C is lower than last year's predictions. This data informs the intervention strategy at the School.

Analysis has shown that the subjects in which students have received lower grades is in subjects that they have not studied before, namely Business Studies, Psychology and Economics. Therefore, to study these subjects, students will now be required to obtain a grade 6 in both English and maths as agreed in the admissions policy for 2023. It is imperative that Year 11 students receive the right advice in which subjects to study at A Level based upon their GCSE predictions. The admissions process is refined annually.

Year 12 Assessment Data

The data shows that the current Year 12 cohort is slightly more able in comparison with the current Year 13. Some students had found the transition from GCSE to A Level difficult particularly in Physics as can be seen in the data. It was reported that the recent lesson observation in Physics had been judged as good.

Question: From the data shown Religious Studies average point score per entry has per entry dropped by 10 points is that due to the students choice of subjects?

It was explained that the cohort is large and that some students had not studied the subject at GCSE. Bespoke structured intervention for student's is now taking place.

Question: Attainment in Psychology and Business Studies appears to be lower, is there concern about the teaching?

The teaching in these subjects is good and lessons observations have been carried out. As part of the review process Business Studies is currently having a mini review following the subject review which took place in June 2022. There are large groups of students studying these subjects, which have not been studied at GCSE, intervention is taking place. The distribution of grades of the students in the groups has had an impact, hence the change in grade boundaries in the 2023 Admissions Policy.

Attendance

Attendance has increased since last year, currently at 95% whereas 96% is the current target. Year 12 attendance is slightly higher than Year 13.

Isolations and Safeguarding

There were no isolations or safeguarding issues to report.

Recruitment

There are currently 114 admissions to date, this is higher than the amount of applications received at this point last year. There has been increase in the number of admissions from Casterton College and Stamford Welland Academy.

Deputy Head of School Update

UCAS Update

19 students have submitted early applications. 11 students have applied to Oxbridge group universities, this is an increase on previous years.

The number of students applying for veterinary science has been higher than those applying for medicine this year.

Question: What support is offered to students applying for Oxbridge?

In term 3 students typically self-identify. They are then supported by Rob Gumbeer and Judith Green throughout the process including super curricular and interview preparation.

Question: Does Harington work in partnership with Oakham School to support Oxbridge students?

It was explained that Harington works closely with Oakham School to support students applying for medicine courses.

Question: How many students are looking at an alternative pathway to university?

Approximately eight students are interested in a higher-level apprenticeships, and they continue to make UCAS applications.

Question: How many students are considering a gap year?

Two students have expressed an interest in teaching English abroad before attending university.

10. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Update

Natalie Henry-Oliver circulated an update prior to the meeting. It was explained that data from the recent Year 12 assessment point has been used to ensure that students with additional needs are supported.

Question: What does Ever 6 mean?

Ever 6 are students that have previously been in receipt of FSM. The Pupil Premium funding continues for a further six years (Ever 6), even if the child is no longer entitled to Free School Meals.

It was reported that more students have been identified as SEND students and more students are in receipt of the Bursary than in previous years. This information is utilised in tutor mentoring.



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022 8.15AM

Publications across the Federation have been looked at to ensure that they are diverse and provide a fair representation of the student body.

Equality, diversity and inclusion topics are being discussed as part of the PSHE programme in School during assemblies and tutorials. This term students have received sessions in Black History Month, transgender and Football World Cup issues. Some of the material has been provided by students. The student body is heavily involved in the material delivered.

11. Policies

Governors' attention was drawn to the policy overview document which detailed any amendments. The below policies were ratified by the governing body:

- Behaviour and Learning
- Home School Agreement 2023
- Searching Students and Confiscation
- Student Welfare
- Dress Code – students presented the changes to the policy. Governors approved the policy with the amendment to plain socks.

12. Any Other Business

Governors were encouraged to attend the following events:
Presentation Evening – Tuesday 13 December 2022
Christmas Concert- Wednesday 14 December 2022

13. Dates for Diaries

LGB- Thursday 9 February 2023, 8.15am
LGB- Thursday 30 March 2023, 8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 30 March 2023, 10am
LGB- Thursday 25 May 2023, 8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 25 May 2023, 10am
LGB- Thursday 6 July, 5pm