



MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE COLLEGE MEETING

Thursday 23 March 2023, 4pm
John Clare

Present

Andrew Cross, Emma Gautrey (Vice Chair), Thomas Heath, Andrew Holt (Chair), Simon Mellors, Clive Norgaard Morton, Gary Marsh, Alex Mould, Martyn Rhowbotham, Briege Slattery, Stuart Williams (Principal).

In Attendance

Alex Emmerson (Vice Principal), Claire Pugh (Vice Principal), Natalie Ray (Chief Finance Officer), Sheryl Wilson (Governance Professional).

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence

Andrew Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting, there were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There were none declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2 February 2023

These were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

5. Catmose Expansion Update

The new building is progressing well and should be on track for completion in time for the new academic year.

6. Update from Resources

The recruitment season has started ready for the new academic year and there are a few vacancies. Further work had been done and finances are now planned to break even in Year 3. Quotes are currently being obtained for a new MIS system as the existing company will cease to exist.

Since the last governing body meeting, the sports centre will now remain open and the local authority will be signing a new agreement with Stevenage Leisure.

7. Spanish Review

Claire Pugh presented the Spanish review which was completed in December 2022.

The review had established that in Key Stage 4 there was outstanding teaching and the learning walks were either good or outstanding. In Key Stage 3 there had been some curriculum changes and these improvements should be reflected in the 2024 examination results.

8. Update on Scrutiny on the Breadth of the Curriculum

A Scrutiny Panel had been held in March which covered the breadth of the curriculum at the College. Students were invited to the meeting and they shared their experiences with governors about the extracurricular activities that they have been involved in, including: Music, Drama, Electives, Sport, the DofE programme and trips. Governors commented that it was a lovely, positive and uplifting meeting and it was wonderful to hear about the range of activities the College offers.

9. Principal's Update

The College is in many ways in a strong position. Trips and visits have resumed, offering a programme that is not dissimilar to that before the pandemic; London (art), German Exchange, French Exchange, Paris (sport), Barcelona (sport), Iceland (art) and the Battlefields of France (History). This is alongside a very strong range of shorter curriculum visits including, to the West End, (&Juliet), The Curve, (Inspector Calls), Lincoln Castle (History), Peterborough (Geography), and the DofE programme. Sport also continues to be a vibrant offer with recent success in a number of local and national competitions including gymnastics, swimming, athletics, rugby, basketball, futsal and badminton. The Performing Arts team have also been very busy with the Spring Concert and rehearsals are well under way for Legally Blonde. The core curriculum remains robust with teaching continuing to be a strength across the curriculum. Progress for Year 11 looks to be similar to be pre-pandemic years with no areas of concern.

10. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion update

The PSHE curriculum had been reviewed in line with the EDI programme and the objectives. The voice of students had also been heard to help shape the tutorial topics covered, therefore ensuring relevance. The updated PSHE, Relationships and Sex Education Policy had also been shared with parents.

11. Scorecards

Outcomes

The scorecards for the Year 11 Key Assessment mock actual and predicted grades data along with the Year 10 Checkpoint assessment were shared with governors. Alex Emmerson reported that Year 11 students are in a good position, they have had careers meetings, either with Stuart Williams, and/or the careers manager. A second progress evening had been held for Year 11 students and there had been some good conversations around revision.

Safeguarding Scorecard

There has been an increase in the number of referrals, including referrals to Early Help, with some cases escalating to Child in Need.

Teaching Scorecard

There are no patterns forming which is causing any concern, most lessons are graded either good or outstanding.

Behaviour and attendance

Overall attendance is at 93.3% for this year, however, 208 students are classed as persistently absent. This remains above the national average but has now returned to pre-pandemic level despite considerable support for families.

12.Policies

The below policies were ratified by the local governing body and the details of the changes were shared with governors.

- Federation Early Career Teacher Induction
- Designated Teacher
- PSHE and Relationships and Sex Education

13.A.O.B.

Governors were reminded to complete the Register of Business Interests Form for this academic year.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 18 May 2023 4pm, Catmose College Local Governing Body meeting

Thursday 15 June 2023, 10.30am - 11.30am Scrutiny Panel on Pupil Premium

Legally Blonde performances 26/4 – 29/4/2023

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