



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL
LGB MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 25 MAY 2023 8.15AM

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Tessa Leuchars, Briege Slattery, Tiffany Arntson, Phil Dalby, Dyl Powell, Andy Wright, Margaret Miles

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

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Governors were welcomed to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Andreas Menzies, Ben Solly, Henry Price, Tony Nice and Liz Birchall.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30 March 2023

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

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

5. Governance Professional's Update

Governors' were reminded to complete the Prevent duty training. Completed certificates to be returned to the Governance Professional.

It was reported that the Trust took part in a national EDI survey. Local Governing Bodies were not required to complete the survey.

6. Update from Scrutiny Panel – Post 18 Support

It was reported that bespoke support is offered for students to help them progress to their next steps. It was explained that the School has developed the range of support available to reflect the increase in numbers of students wishing to explore employment and apprenticeship routes as well as those wishing to attend university. The level of both generic and bespoke support provided by the School was commended.

The parental communication regarding Post 18 support includes parent information evenings and regular updates on the process and support available.

UCAS are amending the process around academic references also different universities require different information for selection which the School is working through.

Next year Post 18 support will also be available for students who are not sure of their future route during Wednesdays' enrichment sessions.



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Year 13 have received an assembly and an email on the clearing process. This to ensure that they understand the process. Staff will also be available to provide support on A level results day.

Question: How does career advice fit into the Post 18 support available?

The School uses Unifrog where students are able to look at the career paths available combined with their subject choices, university courses and apprenticeships. The School also utilises the Federation's Careers Advisor in addition to the UCAS and apprenticeship support available.

7. Update from Resources Committee

It was reported that the financial position of schools in general is under significant change. However, Harington is a better position than predicted due to the increase in student numbers. Harington is forecast to break even within the next few years and will have paid the deficit to the Trust.

The Federation has reserves which will be depleted due to the expansion of the College and increases in costs. It is hoped that funding will be procured to expand Harington following the expansion at the College.

It was reported that Natalie Ray had resigned from the position of Chief Financial Officer of the Federation. Chris Wilson had recently been appointed and would take up post shortly.

8. Head of School Report

Oliver Teasel referred to his previously circulated report, the following points were highlighted.

The Heart Space had become a private study area during the Year 12 mock examinations period. This was to replace study leave and to encourage students to receive support during the examinations. The data obtained from the Year 12 mock examinations would be shared at the next meeting.

The good news stories during the term were highlighted including afternoon tea for Year 13, the Greenpower Team success at the recent race and the Young Enterprise Team achievement in the county competition. The Young Enterprise Team would shortly be attending the regional finals.

Attendance Data

Attendance figures have increased this term and are currently higher than average secondary school attendance. It was reported that there is no attendance data available for comparison at sixth form. Attendance this term is 95 percent, It is hopeful that attendance figure will increase next year and return to pre Covid levels.

Exclusions and Safeguarding

There were no exclusions or safeguarding incidents to report.

Rewards

15 postcards have been presented to students this term. The School wishes to develop the way in which it recognises and rewards students achievements. The

introduction of the Pledge Passports and the postcards has provided tangible recognition. It was agreed that further development of the family ethos and culture at the School would be discussed at the next meeting.

Deputy Head of School Update

Natalie Henry-Oliver referred to her previously circulated report and presentation. The following points were highlighted.

Admissions

296 applications had been received to date. The induction days are scheduled to take place on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 June. A high number of students have already stated that they would be attending the induction. The induction days will provide prospective students with an insight into life at Harington.

Post 18 support

Some Year 13 students are still utilising support for apprenticeships. Post 18 days for Year 12 students will take place next term, this will consist of guest speakers, university visits, ASK mock assessment centres and visits from the Harington alumni.

Stuart Williams joined the meeting.

Question: How does the School maintain relationships with ex-students?

The School invites ex-students to visit the School to discuss their experiences following life at Harington. Prominently these ex-students visit during the Post 18 days. The School would like the opportunity to develop the alumni further and explore utilising LinkedIn to develop relationships. However currently there is not the capacity to develop and maintain the links with ex-students.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

30 students recently started their EPQ, having been launched in an assembly. In the future assessment data will also be used to identify students with a strong academic record who would benefit from an EPQ.

Oxbridge

The School's Oxbridge link from St Catherine's College, Cambridge has recently visited Year 12 Oxbridge students. Students were provided with an insight into the courses available and life at an Oxbridge University.

Head students

Over 50 students have recently been appointed into various senior roles at the School including charities and subject ambassadors along with an engagement team. These roles will support the Head and Deputy Student roles at the School.

Senate

The senate, which consists of representatives from each tutor group were in the process of launching the School's Mental Health Strategy 'With You In Mind' to the School community. An update will be provided at the next governing body meeting.

Industrial action

The School had not closed due to industrial action. The Federation had received notifications for a coordinated response from trade unions with regards to industrial action. There is likely to be further disruption across schools during the Autumn term. Harington School is able to utilise private study during industrial action to prevent closure.

Question: If a student is not performing as well as hoped or enjoying a subject within the first half term are they able to change subjects?

It was reported that if a student is not enjoying a subject they usually identify this soon after commencing the course. It was reported that the School supports students to ensure that they start on the correct courses, from their initial applications with taster sessions, one to one meetings and induction days along with support on results day.

When applying to join Harington students are encouraged to discuss their future aspirations along with their subject choices, to ensure that students access the correct courses for their future.

9. Policies

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

It was reported that Rebekah Merrington had been assigned as the SENCO for Harington to support students with SEND.

- SEND
- PHSE

10. Any Other Business

None

11. Dates for Diaries

Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 25 May 2023, 10am
LGB- Thursday 6 July, 5pm