MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE COLLEGE MEETING



Thursday 6 July 2023, 5pm John Clare

Present

Andrew Cross, Emma Gautrey (Vice Chair), Thomas Heath, Andrew Holt (Chair), Gary Marsh, Clive Norgaard Morton, Martyn Rhowbotham, Stuart Williams (Principal).

In Attendance

Alice Beckwith (Vice Principal), Claire Pugh (Vice Principal), Chris Wilson (Chief Finance Officer), Sheryl Wilson (Governance Professional).

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence

Andrew Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies for absence were received and accepted from Alex Mould, Si Mellors and Briege Slattery.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There were none declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18 May 2023 & notes from the Scrutiny Panel on Pupil Premium on 16 June 2023

These were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

Following the scrutiny panel on pupil premium, governors requested an action point relating to the Accelerated Reader programme, in that it would be beneficial to capture the improved progress in months as well as the child's overall reading ability. This action has been forwarded to Hannah Williams and Emma Speirs.

5. Clerk's Business

Governors were reminded to complete the online survey and the meeting dates for the new academic year were circulated.

6. Catmose Expansion Update

A Topping Out Ceremony of the new building was held with BAM employees, members of the student council, local authority representatives, staff, governors and trustees in attendance. It was a successful event with all attendees delighted with the new space. The new building should be ready for use in September 2023.

7. Update from Resources

Chris Wilson was introduced as the new Chief Finance Officer following the resignation of Natalie Ray. Staffing is in a good place with new teaching staff joining the Federation in the new academic year.

8. Scorecards

Behaviour and Attendance

Alice Beckwith reported that the attendance figure is above national and work to support students and families with anxiety related non-attendance (ARNA) is continuing by the College and local authority.

The behaviour scorecard detailed the negative behaviour entries (recorded on CPOMS) of each year group, including Free School Meal students, SEN students, inclusive of K codes and EHCPs. 85% of the student population do not have a CPOMS entry. Housepoints data included percentages of year groups, gender, FSM, SEN and ethnic majority students. During the academic year 2022/2023 there have been 38 suspensions with 2 permanent exclusions.

Question: Had there been any incidents of physical assault of a member of staff?

Mrs Beckwith confirmed that this had not been pulled out separately, however, there had been incidents of verbal abuse to staff.

Question: Is there overlap between bullying and incidents of racial abuse with the same students?

Stuart Williams advised that the definition of persistent bullying is when there is repetition, when work has been done with a student and they continue to be unkind, the College takes a restorative approach towards these incidents.

Governors noted that there were very few students on Stage 3 of the pastoral support system. Stuart Williams confirmed that intensive work is done to support students and at Stage 3 students are at risk of permanent exclusion.

Question: Why do the CPOMS entries reduce in terms 5 and 6?

Year 11 students are not in the College from the beginning of term 6 due to exam leave and behaviour tends to have improved across the rest of the year groups by this point in the academic year.

Teaching Scorecard

The teaching scorecard is positive and strong across all subjects. A new format of grading lessons was discussed with trustees earlier in the day which will be implemented in the new academic year.

Outcomes (Year 9 Key Assessment)

Year 9 have chosen their options and the data looks to be in line with the overall figures.

Safeguarding

The team responsible for safeguarding have done an excellent job with supporting students, the numbers are low and therefore individual cases were not discussed. It was noted, however, that is difficult to meet the threshold to submit referrals to social care and early help, due to case load.

Question: Is there any way of measuring the success of the student peer mentoring programme?

It was acknowledged that some work cannot be measured, however, students have been attending the sessions and in turn attending school, therefore, this is having some impact.

9. Policies

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

- Catmose College Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy includes the objectives for the new academic year.
- Catmose College Child Protection Policy updates in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, with effect from 1 September 2023.

10.A.O.B

Governors Aide-memoire

An aide-memoire by Andrew Holt was circulated to all governors in the event of an Ofsted visit. This included links to useful information, for example, minutes of meetings, scrutiny panels and the transformation plan.

The paper from Ofsted on outstanding schools was also added to the VLE for governors, Stuart Williams had recently attended a seminar.

Update from the Incident Management Team meeting (IMT)

The full copy of the Environmental Health report was shared with governors. If parents request a copy, they must send a request directly to the Environmental Health team as it is their document and it has not been redacted. Students in Year 11 all sat their exams and there were no incidents of passing out.

Ofsted complaint

Stuart Williams had received an anonymous complaint from Ofsted via the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO). A full response was shared with governors.

Wellbeing dog for the College

Stuart Williams asked governors to consider the benefits of the College hosting a dog, in particular to work with students in the Designated Special Provision. A policy and contract would be put in place before this is finalised together with the national lottery funding. Governors agreed in principle. An expression of interest would be emailed to all staff.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 October 2023, 4pm