



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 JULY 2023 5PM

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Tessa Leuchars, Briega Slattery, Tiffany Arntson, Phil Dalby, Dyl Powell, Andy Wright, Margaret Miles, Andreas Menzies, Tony Nice and Liz Birchall

In attendance: Laurence Howard (Member)
Sara Kane (Governance Professional)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Laurence Howard was introduced and welcomed to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Ben Solly, Henry Price, Dyl Powell, Margaret Miles, Tessa Leuchars and Stuart Williams.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 May 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.

Henry Price's term of office is due to end on 24 September 2023. The Trustees at Oakham School will confirm his reappointment as a governor appointed by Oakham School in due course.

Governors were reminded to complete the Governors' Survey which had been circulated. As a Federation all stakeholders including staff, students, parents and governors are surveyed. This information then feeds into the Federation's and individual schools Transformation Plans.

6. Update from Scrutiny Panel – Safeguarding

The aim of the Scrutiny panel was to look at the School's approach to safeguarding and the systems and processes in place. A compliance checklist was also completed to ensure that the School is fully compliant with its safeguarding responsibilities. Governors were impressed by the stringent processes in place and the additional resilience that had been introduced with more staff receiving Designated Safeguarding Lead training, in addition to all staff and governors also received annual safeguarding training. Both the Federation's Safeguarding and the School's Child Protection policies are regularly updated to reflect changes in the statutory guidance and effectively communicated and available.

It was reported that since the scrutiny panel Dyl Powell (Safeguarding Governor) had visited the School to look at the Single Central Record. It was reported that the systems in place were meticulous. Oliver Teasel (responsible for HR) also checks the record termly.

Small changes to the culture of the School have provided further opportunities for students to engage with staff, for example the soft seating outside the Head of School's office, the open door policy along with the introduction of a safeguarding email address where queries are directly sent to the Safeguarding Team to deal with efficiently.

Governors were satisfied with the safeguarding procedures in place at the School.

7. Update from Resources Committee

It was reported that Chris Wilson had taken up the position of Chief Finance Officer in June. The new Catmose College building's topping out ceremony took place on Wednesday 21 June. The build will be handed over for the start of the next academic year. It is planned that the next major capital project will be at Harington School, this is likely to take place within a 2-3-year timescale dependent on pupil numbers and securing a CIF bid.

8. Head of School Report

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

Senate and School Ethos

Oliver Teasel will invite members of the School Senate to the next governing body meeting to discuss the School Senate and its purpose along with the ethos of the School.

Highlights of the Term

Induction Days

The two induction days which took place on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 28 June were well attended with 185 prospective students attending. The predicted number on roll next year looks promising. The increased entry requirements for Business Studies and Psychology do not seem to have impacted the number of students applying with nearly 300 applications received.

Post-18 days

All Year 12 students took part in two Post-18 days. Guest speakers included a number of Harington Alumni, representatives from The University of Leicester and ASK Apprenticeships. It was reported that from the student survey it had been identified that students would like additional support around degree level apprenticeships.

Wellbeing Wednesday

The wellbeing Wednesday had been enjoyable and useful, however next year this would be more focused.

The Doc Soc

Aspiring doctors, veterinary scientists and dentists had completed their first round of interviews at Oakham School. The feedback was that candidates and their interviews had been impressive.

Mock Interviews

Mock Interviews had taken place for Year 12 students organised by Councillor David Wilby where a number of interviewers had visited the School. Thanks were expressed to Councillor David Wilby for his support.

Visit from David Hobbs

Students recently enjoyed a visit from David Hobbs, former secretary general emeritus of the NATO parliamentary assembly, who delivered a talk on NATO, its origins and purposes.

Year 12 Mock Examinations

Oliver Teasel referred to the mock examinations results and explained that the results have improved when compared to the previous year's data. Early intervention is supporting this increase in achievement.

Question: Economics is half a grade down in the residual why is this?

It was explained that students were comfortable in economics leading into the mocks and had concentrated on revising in their other subjects, however this will be monitored during the next round of assessments.

Attendance

Attendance is currently 94.93% which is slightly lower than last term due to university open days and work experience. Although there are no comparative figures the attendance at the School is high for a sixth form. It is hoped that 96% attendance will be achieved next year.

Question: What is persistent absence?

Persistent absence is attendance under 90% and is usually for long periods of time. For example, students that are on work experience for two weeks will have attendance below the 90% threshold and this will be classed as persistent absence.

Safeguarding

There were no issues to report.

Behaviour

There were no issues to report.

9. Policies

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

- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- PSHE

10. Any Other Business



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Despite the challenges due to the impact of the Covid Pandemic and financial pressures governors agreed that the School continues to go from strength to strength. Governors congratulated Oliver Teasel on his first year as Head of School. It was agreed that Rob Guthrie would write to staff to thank them for their efforts. Oliver Teasel thanked staff and governors for their support.

11. Dates for Diaries

LGB- Thursday 5 October 2023,8.15am
Open Evening Tuesday 7 November, 6pm
Governors' Day Thursday 16 November
Presentation Evening Tuesday 12 December, 6pm
LGB- Thursday 14 December 2023,8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 14 December 2023, 10am
LGB- Thursday 1 February 2024,8.15am
LGB- Thursday 28 March 2024,8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 28 March 2024,10am
LGB- Thursday 23 May 2024,8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 23 May,10am
LGB Thursday 4 July 2024, 5pm