

LOCAL GOVERNING BODY MEETING

3.30pm on 8th October 2019

Venue: Training Room

Minutes

Present: Colleen Lehane, Roger Mann (Chair), Alison Bigglestone, Lucy Scott, Simon Peyton-Jones, David Williams, John Hipkin, Bruno Cotta, Donna Hubbard-Young, Peter Watts, Richard Auffret, Erinn Heggan, Clare Hargraves, Kath Hutchinson, Suzanne Izzard, Shahida Rahman, Roisin Vaughan, Claire Middleditch

1. RM welcomed new parent governors-elect Bruno Cotta, Roisin Vaughan and Claire Middleditch who were attending the meeting as guests, pending completion of their DBS checks.
2. **Apologies**
Lucy Lewis, Liz Bradbury, Sophie Igoe
3. **Declaration of interests**
Shahida Rahman - OCR
4. **Minutes of last meeting 8th July**
Minutes agreed
5. **Matters Arising**
None
6. **Election of Chair**
Postponed due to 8 members rather than the required 9 present. It was agreed for Roger to act as temporary Chair until formal appointment can be made next meeting
7. **ToR**
It was agreed to review the Terms of Reference at the end of the academic year 2020.
Action: RM add TOR to agenda for July 2020
8. **2019 Examination Results**
Clare Hargraves presented the 2019 GCSE Examination results for Chesterton and Downham Market Academy.
C: It must be particularly pleasing to see the middle prior attainers performing so well because they can be the more difficult group to focus on.
Q: You talk about disadvantaged students, do you have any measure of advantaged students? A: It is a national measure a child is either classified as disadvantaged or advantaged. Q: How do you respond to the school of thought that Chesterton does so well because it is broadly middle class? A: Given our challenging context it is clear that we are not a broadly middle class school and regardless the Progress 8 score shows that regardless of starting point students make outstanding progress.
C: Context of DMA school given to new governors.
C: A reminder that the 2019 Chesterton cohort was particularly challenging which makes the continued improvement even more significant.
C: It is difficult to find new ways of congratulating staff on these continuing outstanding results!
9. **Yr 10 End of Year Progress Data**
School is waiting for up to date information – postponed to Dec meeting.
Action: RM add item to December agenda.
10. **School Improvement Plan**
Lucy Scott presented the School Improvement Plan.
C: In order to get underneath the items in the SIP we could take individual elements e.g 'high quality schemes of learning' and say show us what that looks like.
C: Governors encouraged to join SLT on learning walks to see how items in the SIP are monitored and for general interest.

Q: Statistics re tutoring – do we have statistics regarding how many students receive tutoring? A: Tutoring is a complex web because there are so many different forms e.g. the difference between a paid tutor, a parent who has a specialism offering support, before/after school extra support delivered by a teacher. C: The very fact the school has set a target of no child getting a P8 score of less than 0.5 shows the school is not relying on the families that can afford tutoring.

11. **Ethos and Values**

Postponed until meeting in December to allow for Parent Governors to take part in the conversation.

Action: RM to place item on December agenda

12. **SLT report**

Lucy Scott presented the SLT report.

13. **Attendance and Exclusion Data**

Colleen Lehane presented attendance and exclusion data.

Q: FTE stands for? A: Fixed Term Exclusion.

Q: 3.7% of teaching sessions? A: No, it is 3.7% of the student body

Q: What are you doing proactively to bring the figures for FTE/use of isolation down? A: Huge amounts: HoH training in de-escalation & restorative approaches, SLT involvement, external agencies e.g. young persons worker, mental health support, interventions.

Q: What importance do you place on parent involvement? A: It is hugely important and we involve parents immediately.

Q: Is there a link between children being sent out of lessons and individual teachers? A: We monitor closely patterns of children being sent of lessons and would pick up immediately if a teacher needed support to re-engage students.

C: It is a thankless task that Colleen does in terms of chasing improvement in attendance with lots of difficult conversations.

C: (Re absences linked to Climate protest) Alison, Staff Gov, thanked the school for supporting her to join the protest alongside students, she was incredibly proud of the students and ex-students who attended.

C: We are proud of our students engaging politically.

14. **Surveys: Help and Hinder; parent attitudes; student attitudes**

Q: Are there any significant changes? A: No notable changes.

C: The parentview survey doesn't feel helpful to parents. A: We have used them up until this point because they are they standard recognised survey.

15. **Chesterton Reports: Safeguarding, Careers, English**

Action: RM add Safeguarding as standing item to agendas.

16. **Governor roles**

RM outlined the different roles, asked for volunteers and will follow up with email.

Action: RM to email governors re roles

17. **AOB**

None.

18. **Date of next meeting**

10th December 2019