



## ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
 Time: 6.00pm  
 Venue: Hazel Grove High School – Library

Clerk: N Burgess  
 Present: A Bentley, G Vout, B Vickers, C Franklin, S Warner, S Blades, S Keyworth and M Stewart  
 S Howells for part of the meeting

Action		Initials
1	Governors were asked to report any changes to their Register of Business Interests to the Clerk	All
1	The Clerk to send a copy of the visits proforma to Governors	NB
3	The Clerk to send further information regarding the content of the Academy Committee reports to the Trust Board to the Chair.	NB
3	Governors were asked to send their ideas for inclusion in the report to the Trust Board to the Chair	All
4	Governors were asked to inform the Clerk of any training they had completed	All
5	Governors were asked to send any comments or ideas around school uniform to MS	All
AOB	Food and student choices to be added as an item to the agenda for the next meeting	NB

Agenda – Part 1				
Category	Item	Notes	Action	
1	Governance Arrangements	Apologies	Apologies were received from R Kumar and A Phillips.	
		AOB items	S Keyworth advised Governors that it was her intention to resign from the Academy Committee. The Chair offered thanks to SK for her staunch support of HGHS and wished her well for the future. SK left the meeting at this point.  A Bentley wished to raise the point of timing of the meeting papers at the end of the meeting.	
		Register of Interests	Governors were asked to report any changes in their records held to the Clerk	All
		Code of Conduct	There were no changes to note to the code of conduct.	
		Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of the meeting held 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and there were no matters arising.	

E enquiries@laurustrust.co.uk  
 T 0161 485 7201

	Membership: Recruitment update/Succession planning	An expression of interest has been made to join the Academy Committee. The application has been passed to L Woolley who will refer to M Stewart to potentially arrange a meeting to discuss.	
	Scheme of Delegation	There were no changes to the Scheme of Delegation to note.	
	Governor Visits	This is a new protocol which has been approved by Trustees and will be launched Trust wide. The protocol is to be used to support Trustees and Governors on their visits into school.  Governors asked for a copy of the visits proformas to be sent to them.	NB
	Trust Board updates	Governors were provided with Trust Board updates from the December 2021 and February 2022 meetings.  Governors did not have any questions relating to the report. AB commented that the summaries do not provide a large amount of information. The Clerk advised that full minutes of each meeting are published on the Trust website.	

2	School Performance & Accountability	School Development Plan Priorities	<p>The SDP for 2021-2022 has now been RAG rated. The actions have been allocated to Leaders, according to their area of responsibility, and prioritised. The SDP feeds into the individual Departmental Action plans. The SDP forms the basis for conversations between Leaders and their Link Governor.</p> <p>Governors noted that the Personal Development aspect of the curriculum was working well but co-curricular has been affected over the last 2 years due to Covid. The aim is to get as many students as possible involved in Electives and to ensure the offer is attractive to them.</p> <p><b>Q – AB asked how does the school promote the Electives offer?</b></p> <p>A – Work is done through the departments and also the Heads of House. There is normally more uptake in KS3. KS4 is not only intervention but also about encouraging the students to be a part of the life of the school. It is also vital to ensure that as students move from KS3 to KS4 their involvement remains. The school is very pleased with the direction the Electives are moving in.</p> <p>AB suggested the Electives offer be shared with parents/carers and the wider community.</p> <p><u>Personal Development</u></p> <p>In the recent Ofsted inspection the school was judged to be Outstanding for Personal Development. It was clear that so much work that has already been done. The summary document included in the papers circulated prior to the meeting details the wealth of Electives on offer. A strength of the school is Life after Laurus. This is across the Trust and also specific to each individual school.</p> <p>Personal Development is lead by Heads of Year, Heads of House, Beliefs and Values teachers and via Careers Education. Personal Development is all encompassing and is a real strength of the school. H Bowe has been appointed as Trust Director of Personal Development.</p> <p>Governors noted they were pleased to see the wealth of opportunities offered to students and the crossover within the whole curriculum.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been some amazing feedback from parents/carers on the recent production of Matilda. A huge amount of credit goes to the staff for all their hard work with the students in making the show such a great success. School productions will now be an</p>
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		<p>annual event.</p> <p><u>Sporting Excellence</u> The Elite Pathway offer is run by the Trust Director of Sporting Excellence. All secondary schools in the Trust have students enrolled on the pathway. There have already been 2 trips to Loughborough University and there is a lot of student and parent/carers interest in gaining a place on the pathway.</p> <p><b>Q – GV asked are attendance levels at Electives monitored and are they at a level you would wish them to be?</b> A – We are happy with attendance, which is strong, but would still like more students to attend. At some of the other Trust schools, students have to pick 2 Electives to attend each week and this is maybe something which could be considered at HGHS in the future.</p> <p><b>Q – What is the uptake for the lunchtime clubs?</b> A – Attendance at lunchtime clubs is good, students are able to purchase food items at break time and eat as part of a working lunch at their choice of Elective.</p>	
	<p>Check delivery of School Curricula and Assessment is in line with Trust’s approach</p>	<p>MS confirmed the school curriculum and assessment was in line with all other schools in the Trust.</p>	

	Review Head's Report	<p>The first mock results in a couple of years were reported for years 9/11 and 13. There are a total of 305 students in the current year 11 cohort. Mock examinations had taken place at Christmas and a second set of mocks will be taken by students in years 9 and 11. The aim is to allow students to practice and have as many opportunities as possible to prepare for the exams.</p> <p>Headline figures from staff identify any support and intervention required. SLT in school, along with Heads of Department, and AHT links are currently working together to look at grades and triangulate into the classroom and into results.</p>	
		<p>Examination boards are providing additional information in all subjects. It is anticipated that grade boundaries will be lower than pre Covid levels. As a school, Leaders were pleased that HGHS was ahead in the delivery of lessons on Teams in the first lockdown and this will be of benefit to the students.</p> <p>There is a final push of intervention in place where needed and advance planning is taking place for weekends and holidays to support the students as much as possible. Governors were informed that the Year 9 Languages students were incredible and felt ready for their exams.</p> <p><u>Attendance and Behaviour</u></p> <p>It was noted that there had currently been a spike in cases of Covid reported in school and that there were a number of staff and students absent due to testing positive. The Covid Risk Assessment had been circulated prior to the meeting. Governors were informed that the Risk Assessment was used in all Trust schools and was regularly updated as DfE guidance changes.</p> <p>It was commented that despite the current rise in cases the HGHS were still significantly higher than national average.</p> <p><u>Behaviour</u></p> <p>Governors were informed that the most behaviour issues were within a core group of students who are about to leave school after their examinations. This group of disaffected students make up for 1/3 of the suspensions in total. It was noted that all Alternative Behaviour Provisions are full and have been since October 2021. There is no additional support available and this is a borough wide issue. Work will continue with these students whilst maintaining the behaviour culture throughout the rest of the school.</p>	

			<p>MS commented that it was a vision when HGHS joined the Trust to change behaviour and that this was now embedded.</p> <p>Governors were invited to ask any questions relating to the Head of School Report.</p> <p><b>Q – The school has a high number of EHCP students, which is above national average?</b></p> <p>A – Yes there are a number of students in school where we are unable to fully meet their needs but there is no alternative provision available for them. There is heavy involvement for students from the SEND team and also from the Trust Director of SEND.</p> <p>Governors acknowledged that the progress made was significant and will show further over the coming years. Governors looked forward to receiving updates ongoing.</p> <p><b>Q – SW asked that from the data provided there looked to be a high number of year 9 students losing focus and also not starting task promptly – is there an issue?</b></p> <p>A – Some students in this year group can lose focus as they have already selected their option choices and know they will no longer be studying certain subjects. There is some low level disruption which is still recorded and monitored.</p> <p>MS explained the B and C code system for the benefit of Governors:</p> <p>C is recorded as any behaviour which can disrupt the learning of others  B is responsibility of own learning – staff issue B codes to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop good learning habits.</p> <p>Heads of House monitor students accumulate high numbers of B and C codes and intervene accordingly.</p>
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3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update including pupil numbers, bench marking and value for money	<p>Governors reviewed the December 2021 and January 2022 Management Accounts and were invited to ask any questions.</p> <p><b>Q – SB asked what the £30k improvements to outdoor space in the future plans was?</b></p> <p>A – This is for a covered outdoor seating area in the future, to allow additional seating at break and lunchtimes.</p> <p>Supply costs were raised as an issue due to Covid related absences. This is disappointing as the supply costs had decreased significantly as the school joined the Trust.</p>	
		Risk register and Covid Risk Register	<p>Governors reviewed the HGHS Risk Register and there were no questions.</p> <p>The Covid Risk Register was also circulated prior to the meeting for Governors to review. This is a live document which is regularly updated as guidance changes. The Covid specific Risk Register is applicable to all secondary schools in the Trust.</p>	

	Policies (undertake school level reviews and note phase/trust level policies)	<p>Governors reviewed the Attendance Policy which they commented was very comprehensive.</p> <p>Governors <u>approved</u> the Attendance Policy.</p>	
	Ensure curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance	MS confirmed that all school curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance.	
	Safeguarding and SEND Link governor updates (if meetings have been held)	<p>AB reported that he had visited the SEND department in the week prior to this meeting. It had been a very positive visit and had included an update and a tour of the Resource Base.</p> <p>The proposed restructure, to bring in line with other schools in the Trust, has been a positive and had allowed for a redistribution of tasks within the department.</p> <p>AB asked for thanks to be recorded to the staff involved in the visit.</p>	
	Review educational achievement of looked after/previously looked after children	<p>S Howells presented to Governors.</p> <p><u>Disadvantaged Strategy</u></p> <p>The disadvantaged strategy is a wider context than just Pupil Premium. Governors were shown the deprivation index for Stockport.</p> <p>The new strategy makes clear the intention, is research driven and is split into 3 key areas. Governors were directed to the full Pupil Premium Strategic Plan on the school website.</p>	



		<p>Monitor Pupil Premium, Catch up and Sport Premium spending</p>	<p>It was noted that everyone plays a vital role in improving outcomes and this is embedded in all that is done. The impact analysis is a live document which is updated ongoing.</p> <p>In terms of LAC there are currently 12 in school, this number is lower than in previous years. The impact of Covid is another area of focus.</p> <p>The Designated Teacher:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informs staff of the needs of individual LAC</li> <li>• Tracks attendance, attainment and progress</li> <li>• Puts together PEP for LAC in partnership with child/carer/social worker</li> <li>• Provide a constant source of support.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q – AB asked how do you source tutors due to the cost?</b> A – we have tutors via the Pendlebury Centre. They come into targeted lessons and are very effective and are mid-range costs.</p> <p>Costs of tutoring was discussed at length. The Pupil Premium funding received is £600 per pupil.</p> <p><b>Q – Has there been any catch-up funding received?</b> A – Yes there has been. The catch up statement of how the funding was used has been published on the school website.</p> <p><b>Q – What is a PEP?</b> A – A Personal Education Plan. This is a legal document which is reviewed 3 times per year.</p> <p><u>Young Carers</u> Schools are now more aware of the number of Young Carers in schools. The average nationally is 1 in 12. Some families do not wish to engage and acknowledge that their child is a young carer. Currently there are 63 Young Carers identified at HGHS. The School has been awarded Gold in the Young Carers in Schools award, only one of 14 schools in the UK to achieve this recognition.</p> <p>Support in place for Young Carers in school includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young Carers passport</li> <li>• One to one check in</li> <li>• Signpost referrals</li> <li>• Residential trips</li> <li>• Young Carers group</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Governor self review of impact (update to Annual Trust Board report)</p>	<p>The Annual Trust Board report was discussed and is updated following each meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk agreed to obtain further information regarding the content of the report and send to the Chair of this committee</p> <p>Governors were invited to channel any ideas for inclusion in the report to the Chair.</p>	<p>NB</p> <p>All</p>

4	Governor Development	Review Governor Training plan – GDPR/PDC/Ofted training	<p>Governors attention was drawn to the suggested training plan which was circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Governors were asked to report any training they had completed to the Clerk.</p>	All
		Minute any training undertaken by Governors since the last meeting	<p>GV – PDC training completed.</p> <p>SW – Exclusion training completed.</p>	
5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder engagement – verbal update (Staff/parents/students/Governors)	<p>All schools are required to look at the cost of school uniform and review, in particular considering branded items, and reducing where possible. The school are conscious of rising costs due to renewing the uniform 2 years ago.</p> <p>It was noted that most of the branded items are part of the PE kit but are not essential.</p> <p>School Leaders and Governors must consider alternatives and publish the new guidance to come into place from September 2022. There is also a push on second hand uniform to be made available to parents. Governors discussed the need for the purchasing of second-hand uniform items to be discretionary to remove any stigma. MS commented that HOY already help some families in need of uniform and that this is done discreetly and on an individual basis. Governors felt it would be useful to also focus on the environmental aspect as an option.</p> <p>Governors were invited to send any comments or ideas to MS.</p> <p>Governors suggested an online area for uniform sales to be make it more accessible to parents.</p>	All

	AOB		<p>AB requested that where possible the meeting papers be issued more than one week in advance. MS agreed that where possible some documents could be made available earlier but that others would only be available one week before the meeting to ensure the data included within them was as up to date as possible.</p> <p>Thanks were offered to NB for standing in to clerk this meeting. Interviews will be taking place after the Easter break to appoint a new clerk to this committee.</p> <p>AB requested that for the next meeting could the subject of food and the student choices be added to the agenda.</p>	NB
	Meeting Dates:	Meeting dates 2021-2022	ACM4 Tuesday 28.06.2022 at 6.00pm	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes
Governors received a comprehensive presentation on the educational achievement of LAC and Young Carers
Governors received an update on the Electives offer and student participation
Governors were updated on mock results and data for years 9, 11 and 13
The updated Attendance Policy was approved by Governors
School uniform was reviewed and discussed

Meeting closed at 8.10pm