

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 30th June 2020
Time: 18.00 Meeting
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Clerk: A Robertson
Present: P Benton, C Nevin, I Castledine, J Johnson, M Kelly, C Rath, D Brown, M Turnpenney, L Brooks, L Magrath, P Clements, W Searle, J Peet, A Jarvis
In attendance: D Woolley, N Burgess

Action	Initials
The Clerk will notify the Trust Director of Compliance that the policies listed in the agenda for CHHS and DHS has been reviewed and approved by the governors.	NB
The Clerk will circulate the Register of Interests via email for governors to check and update as necessary.	AR

Agenda – Part 1			
Category	Item	Notes	Action
1 Governance Arrangements	Apologies	It was noted that no apologies had been received	
	AOB items	DB mentioned he and LM would like to say a few words at the end of the meeting in recognition of this meeting being CN's last.	DB/LM
	Register of interests	NB had circulated the most recent Register of Interests before the meeting and no amendments were raised. AR will distribute prior to the next meeting for review by the governors for any interests relating to the agenda.	AR
	Code of Conduct	Governors were reminded of the Code of Conduct.	
	Part 1 Minutes	The governors approved the minutes to be an accurate record of the meeting. Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PB confirmed that she was happy to continue to sign off risk assessments for residential trips. It was noted that full refunds had been issued for all the forthcoming school trips.	
	Membership: Recruitment Update/Succession Planning	The Chair confirmed that the Board is looking to recruit across the Trust. People are invited to apply with a summary of why they would like to be part of the governing body and, following a review of that, they would be invited to a meeting with CN & LW. Interested	

			parties are encouraged to apply for a Laurus appointment rather than for a specific school. The governors were asked to let CN & LW know if they were aware of anybody who might be interested.	
		Scheme of Delegation	There are no changes to the published Scheme of Delegation.	
		Trust Board Update	<p>The Trust Board update is a summary of the two Trust Board meetings and key elements are published in the update to ensure transparency and to allow opportunity for feedback and to raise any questions.</p> <p>The key item was the provision of education during lockdown and plans for reopening.</p>	

2		Education provision since lockdown	<p>The Chair asked whether there were any questions or comments regarding the positioning statements for the educational provision for Primary and Secondary during lockdown. Governors were sent both positioning statements to enable them to see what was happening across the whole Trust, rather than in their own specific school. PB acknowledged the amount of work that has gone into the documents and said it was appreciated by Governors.</p> <p>Q. - Has the Trust observed any significant discrepancy in the students taking up the offer of provision?</p>	
		DHS	A. DW stated that there is a high number of vulnerable children at DHS and full provision was being given in particular to those with special needs or with an EHCP.	
		CHHS	A.DB confirmed that a consultation had taken place as to whether school or home was the best environment for learning during lockdown. To begin with the levels of anxiety as students came into school was quite high, but as confidence has grown more students have been coming back. Some issues have been raised around the pace of the Teams lessons for SEN students, but the lessons are recorded to review at a later time if necessary.	
		Reopening arrangements	Governors asked for their thanks to be recorded to all staff for the incredible amount of work undertaken during these unprecedented and uncertain times.	
	School Performance & Accountability	CHHS	<p>The HOSs where invited to give an update on each school's reopening arrangements.</p> <p>DB – CHHS has always been open for business and staff have worked and performed unbelievably. Both Microsoft Teams lessons and onsite provision for key worker and vulnerable children happened very quickly. CHHS cohabited with LCH at their site for some weeks but kept to their own bubbles and spaces, and is now back “home”.</p> <p>There are currently three SEN bubbles and Year 10 and Year 12 face-to-face sessions which are all going very well. For Year 10 there are 20% of the students in school each day for Maths, English and Science. CHHS is also offering very comprehensive Teams provision, for all year groups, that has built up over the weeks and involves all members of the teaching staff.</p>	
			DHS	<p>Students that have come into school have followed the COVID-19 specific guidelines and behaved impeccably.</p>

DW – DW praised the efforts of CR and some Year 12 students in helping to set up Teams at DHS. DHS is providing 3 hours of Teams lessons every day, has 90-95% attendance and is offering a full curriculum including PE & Music. There are currently three bubbles with 1 in 7 of all students in and DW confirmed DHS would struggle with more due to capacity.

Q. Are you seeing any mental health issues in staff and students?

A. All our online Teams lessons start with a safeguarding message encouraging students to get in touch if they are struggling. HOYs email home and Form Tutors are telephoning to speak to students to check how they are getting on. Parents have been in touch to mention that their child is losing interest in their lessons. Visits have been made to the homes of more vulnerable students, as a supportive gesture, to encourage them to come into school. Some have lost family members so a programme will be in place to support these students and staff.

Q. Is there a question around staff burnout?

A. Teachers have been working extremely hard and can spend 3-4 hours preparing for a 45 minute lesson. Staff are feeling more confident around this teaching method but we are talking to staff to see where their workload can be reduced if necessary. We appreciate staff have their own children at home and their own individual circumstances and support where necessary. There has been no break for staff during lockdown, working during all school holidays and bank holidays, and schools welcomed the government's decision to close schools over summer.

CR commended Leadership for their support and understanding for staff and their circumstances, especially those with young children, and acknowledged the amount of responsibility they have undertaken. It has also been reassuring to staff to receive the supportive emails from LM and DB.

JJ commented that it is normal for students to want to get back to their lessons and for normality to resume but that behaviour may become an issue later, and may be demonstrated in different stages.

Q. What is the impact for Year 12 and their results?

			<p>A. DB stated that teachers have been getting together in groups to rate and rank students which they have found very difficult and stressful, more so in fact than students receiving their results and this had involved a significant amount of work for all concerned.</p> <p>DW agreed that ranking had been very hard particularly with grade inflation nationally. He expressed concern that high performing schools would lose out because of the grading system and was worried that there will be disappointed students that they will have to face in the autumn. The issue was also raised of how the grades would affect the recruitment to the Sixth Form, in particular for external candidates.</p> <p>Q. Will there be the option to sit retakes?</p> <p>A. DW confirmed students would be able to resit exams but mentioned concerns around the space to do so, the logistics around supporting students to prepare beforehand and the fallout whilst waiting for grades.</p> <p>There is also the need to recognise the complexities which will also run into examinations next year. It will be tough to catch up whilst considering the students' mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p><u>Behaviour Policy</u></p> <p>DB advised that the policy is an addendum to the existing Behaviour Policy and refers to both CHHS and DHS and whilst the tone may read as quite harsh, its purpose was to ensure students adhere to the strict behaviour guidelines and there is no transmission of the virus. The policy will remain in place in September.</p> <p>JJ advised to be aware that students' around non-adherence to the policy may be due to special needs issues.</p> <p>Q. Do the schools know what is on offer for children in Stockport outside of school during the summer, in terms of libraries, leisure facilities etc? These sorts of provision can play a part on a child's state of mental health when they return to school in September.</p> <p>DB & WS said they had not yet heard what the offer for Stockport would look like.</p>	
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3	Governor Monitori	Finance Update	Governors noted the management accounts and did not have any questions to raise.	
		Risk Register	The Chair notified the governors that the non-COVID risk register is an ongoing piece of work for each school which will be picked up again in the autumn term. DB thanked AJ and IC for their input into the CHHS risk register.	
		Policy Reviews	<p>Governors received and <u>approved</u> the following policies:</p> <p>CHHS Anti-bullying policy Attendance policy Behaviour policy Cover policy Dress code – staff* Fit to Study policy* Intimate Care policy Mobile Technology policy* Student Responsible Use of IT policy (Sixth Form)* School Uniform Policy SEND information report</p> <p>DHS Accessibility plan Anti-bullying policy Attendance policy Behaviour policy Child Protection and Training policy Collective Worship* Communication with Parents Electronic Communications* Exclusion policy* First Aid policy* Gifted and Talented policy SEND information report Mobile Technology* PSHE policy School Uniform policy Student Responsible Use policy</p> <p>*No changes to existing policy</p>	
		Governor Self Review of Impact	Due to the current situation, the Chair felt it was not the right time to look at the Governor Self Review but that this should be examined in the autumn term.	

4	Governor Develop	Training Governor Verbal Update	There was nothing to report for this meeting and training will be revisited in the Autumn term.	
5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder engagement	There have been some very difficult conversations with parents/carers about what the school has been doing or that it has not been doing enough during lockdown. There have been complaints from the local community about the school not managing the students when they are out and about; there is an expectation that it is the school's responsibility rather than the parents'. LM mentioned that the expectations from HGHS parents are lower than those of CHHS and therefore they have been delighted with what the school has been doing. There have also been a few negative comments at GB.	
	AOB		There were no other items of business to discuss.	
	Meeting Dates:	Academic year 2020-2021	Tuesday 29 th September 2020 at 6.00pm Tuesday 8 th December 2020 at 6.00pm Tuesday 23 rd March 2021 at 6.00pm Tuesday 29 th June 2021 at 6.00pm	