

ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 27th June 2023

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Cheadle Hulme High School

Clerk: A Robertson

Present: A Jarvis, D Brown, I Castledine, W Searle, P Benton, K Pearson, C Jamison

In attendance: L Brooks, H Eckhardt, D Woolley, T Coltman, R Green, R Howarth

Action	Initials
Governors will use the Governor Visit Form for future school visits and asked to have shared the Trustee visit form.	NB
Look at covering Trust structure and provide clarity on role of Trust Directors.	DB

Pre-meeting training: Languages Curriculum

Trust Director of Languages, Tom Coltman, and Head of Languages at CHHS, Rachel Green, spoke to the governors about the MFL curriculum at CHHS. They explained that powerful knowledge for their subject area was made up of culture and language, patterns and codes and speaking. In year 7, languages are taught 100% in the subject language for the first half term to ensure complete immersion. Doing so gives students a buzz and absorbing the language in this way gives students ownership of a language as well as securing phonics and sounds. Regular and high frequency practice as modelled with the consistent PP&R as well as lessons several days a week builds up students' fluency. This prepares students to take their Language GCSE in year 9 with strong results. It was explained that students can continue with another language in year 11 and then beyond to A Level, with a good percentage of A Level students continuing with language studies at university. R Green explained how languages are looked at in a creative and culture context to take students beyond what they might learn in every day life and to stimulate curiosity. This is supported by cocurricular enhancement such as visits abroad, global week, languages Spelling Bee and MFL debating – some of which Trust-wide. Languages is well supported across the Trust with intra department meetings for pedagogy.

IC – Are there any negatives to taking a GCSE in year 9 if a student then wanted to take another language at A Level? There's a chance they would forget what they've learned if it's not maintained.

RG – There is the opportunity to do bridging lessons in years 10 and 11 in stead of a unit of PE a fortnight to keep up the knowledge.

P Benton commented on the amount of planning that goes into trips and the effort put in by the staff, and wished to pass on her thanks to the languages staff.

AJ – Do you have sell German more?

RG – We've not worked out what we need to work on with this as a lot of German students go on to take French or Spanish later.

AJ – Do students ask for other languages e.g. Italian?

RG – We have taster sessions at the start of the year in many languages and we hope to run some of these throughout the year. Also, once the year 9s have taken their GCSE they have the opportunity of a few weeks of taster sessions in another language.



Pre-meeting training: Ofsted Preparation

David Woolley delivered training to the committee on preparing for Ofsted and what might be expected of them during a visit. He explained the breakdown of the areas Ofsted looked at and the importance particularly in safeguarding and SEND provision. He covered the various stages of a visit during the days inspectors come in.

Agei	Agenda – Part 1				
Cate	egory	Item	Notes	Action	
1	Governance Arrangements	Apologies	M Kelly was unable to attend. Word was not received from M Turnpenney.		
		AOB items	No other business was raised.		
		Register of interests	There were no changes to the register of interests.		
		Part 1 Minutes	The governors agreed that the Part 1 Minutes from ACM1 were a true record of the meeting's discussions.		
		Actions for ACM3	The Head of School advised that AJ & IC would be coming in later that week to go over the risk assessment.		
		Membership	The Committee was advised that the Chair would be stepping down and other governors were given the opportunity to put themselves forward for the position before the meeting. IC had offered to take the role on from September 2023. IC left the room whilst the rest of the Committee voted on the proposal. The committee unanimously agreed for IC to take up the position of Chair and for AJ to sit as Vice-Chair. DB thanked AJ for his service as Chair and for all his support during his term of office.		
		Trust Board Update	The board noted the minutes from the Trust Board meetings. AJ commented that it would be useful to hear about what the Trust currently looks like and also understand the role of Trust Directors. IC agreed it would be good to hear how Trust Directors identify intervention needs.		



RH gave an update on the KPIs which had changed very little since the last time they were shared with the committee. The school is still very hopeful for the summer results. The HoS spoke about how the school was expecting the progress score to be high for the GCSE students but that it will be slightly lower due to the TAG for their year 9 MFL assessments. She also reported on positive expectations for this year's year 9 MFL grades.

AB gave a summary of the year to the May half term which showed improved attendance and absence having reduced. Persistent absence had also reduced so it was felt school was moving in the right direction. The focus now was on LAC, FSM and PP students' attendance and putting interventions in place. From September an attendance plan would be put in place alongside a studen'ts SFP and meetings would be held with parents and students.

IC – Do the numbers include Sixth Form? Is that fair if other schools don't have a sixth form?

AB & HE – Attendance is for the whole school. There is no national figure for sixth forms so we use all school attendance for our own use. We have always said that if students have no lessons they can go at lunchtime which has perhaps caused bad habits, so we are looking to change that possibility to a privilege after the October half term, as a small number of students are skewing the data.

Review of Headteacher's Report

AB went on to provide a breakdown of behaviours and codes. Year 10 was a challenging year due to being in year 7 during covid and missing the expectation setting when they start at the school, but we've been working really hard on it.

AJ – Was there an issue around female poor behaviour? Was it a blip or a trend?

AB – It was year specific with behavioural issues with a small group of girls.

AB also talked about suspensions and exclusions and how numbers were still lower than the national average; they were similar in Stockport but still lower.

AJ – Are parents as supportive or critical of suspensions and exclusions?

WS – There is definitely more challenge and cases of parents not accepting our decision. We are currently reviewing our suspension letter. We are also planning to look into alternative provision a couple of days a week for students struggling to accept school expectations, which will allow the majority of students to learn and teachers to teach those who want to learn.

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	Policies Finance Update	The Mobile Technology, School Uniform, Intimate Care and Behaviour Policies were all approved by the governors. IC – Are the changes to the policies as a result of student behaviours and are they communicated to students internally? DB – Yes, the changes will be rolled out and the details of the policies are in the mechanics of how they are administered. AB – We also use Bromcom to log incidents and codes. The finance reports were shared with the board.	
Governor Monitoring	Governor Training LAC Overview and School led Tutoring	The Clerk advised the Committee of recommended training on Equality and Diversity which could be accessed via the Laurus Institute on SharePoint. The Clerk also reminded the Governors of the new Governor Visit Form templates which are available on the Governance Teams area, to be used when visiting school to provide structure and guidance on areas to look at. Once completed, these can be uploaded to the same area by the Clerk for other governors to be able to view. The Committee asked about also being able to see Trustee Visit Forms which will be taken forward as an action. As per the supporting documents, the HoS explained school was keeping a close watch on looked after students and how additional funding has been used for students who are struggling.	
	Pupil Premium Progress Analysis And Strategy Statement	HoS explained the Pupil Premium Progress Analysis document provided key headlines to show how we compare with national schools for PP. Our progress for PP students is still better than that of non-PP students elsewhere. The Progress 8 figure is looking really good. The Strategy Statement highlights how we use funding for these students in literacy, numeracy, attendance and other support needs. AJ – Are you getting an increase in PP numbers? DB – No, it's actually lower but polarised due to the socioeconomics of the Stockport area. We used to have subject options based on ability but now we have the same offer for all students.	
AOB		No other business was raised.	



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Me	These dates for next academic year were noted.	

Agenda – Part 2

The press and members of the public to be excluded from the meeting at this point under 2003 (school governance procedures) (education) regulations because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Cate	egory	Item	Notes	Action
1	Governance	Trust Growth	HoS told the committee that it had been the most difficult season for recruitment but that they were really happy with who they've got. There was just some recruitment for English and for an assistant Head of Year remaining.	
	Staff		The HoS presented AJ with a gift and thanked him for his tenure on the committee as Chair. AJ also thanked WS for her hard work for the school and committee over the years as she retires. The Clerk also advised the committee that she would be stepping down from her role.	
2	AOB		NA	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes

The Committee were given an overview of the MFL Curriculum.

Ofsted preparation training was delivered to the governors.

Ian Castledine was accepted as the new Chair and Adrian Jarvis now sits as Vice Chair on the Committee.



