



Minutes of the meeting of the Secondary Local Board
of Hessle Academy
Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 5.30pm



PRESENT:

Mr M Benson (Chair, MB), Ms N Gaddu (NG), Mr V Groak (Headteacher, The Hessle Academy, VG), Ms S Howroyd (SH), Mrs J Linwood (JL), Mr K Nicholson (KN), Miss K Staveley (KS), Miss JM Quinn (JMQ)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs J Meir (Assistant Headteacher, Standards JM), Mrs G Stafford (Clerk to the Trust, GS)

Throughout these minutes a question is indicated by Q followed by the initials of the questioner and a comment is marked by C.

11 WELCOME

MB welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the academic year, and thanked everyone for full attendance at a physical meeting. MB also introduced JL who has joined as a Trust Appointed Governor.

12 APOLOGIES

Full attendance.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All annual personal details and pecuniary interest forms had been completed. No conflicts of interest were declared for this meeting.

14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (15 September 2020)

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2020 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair, MB.

15 MATTERS ARISING

15a ACTION: All Governors to send their completed personal details form and pecuniary interests form to GS by 25 September - complete

15b ACTION: GS to seek approval for the minutes via email due to the LGB meeting not being quorate – complete, approval was given by KN and KS

15c ACTION: KN to discuss with VG / LP how he can assist with student voice / mentoring – action carried forward

- 15d ACTION: LP to report on the issues with College provision in the Quality of Education section of the Strategy Report for the next meeting – action carried forward**
- 15e ACTION: Consistency in presentation of graphs required – all graphs to have current data at the top - action carried forward**
- 15f ACTION: Attendance graphs to show absence for comparable time last year e.g. Autumn 2019 compared to Autumn 2018 not 2018/19 as a whole –action carried forward**
- 15g ACTION: Governor safeguarding visit section to be updated on the CP and SG Report – action carried forward**
- 15h ACTION: KN to look into mastery within English- action carried forward**
- 15i ACTION: VG / JM to send information to the LGB regarding where catch up funding will be directed once analysis has taken place – on this agenda, see minute 18**
- 15j ACTION: GS to chase approval for Behaviour policy and Equality and Diversity Policy ASAP - complete**
- 15k ACTION: Data Protection training to be completed before Christmas – all Governors had activated their registration link. Module to be completed by the end of this term**
- 15l ACTION: Any two Learning Link modules to be completed 2020/21 – LGB Links asked to choose modules related to their position within the Board - ongoing**
- 16 HEADTEACHER SUMMARY OF THE FIRST HALF TERM**

VG made the following points:

- Overriding priority is to keep the Academy open
- Huge amount of work has been done to re-open to ensure safety of staff and learners
- Had two positive student Covid cases since the start of term with 300 students sent home to self-isolate
- One support staff member tested positive this week
- All cases were contracted outside school
- Each case leads to further scrutiny on practices with risk assessments being constantly under review
- Following the closure of a bubble, parents' awareness of any cold like symptoms are heightened leading to some keeping their children off
- Year groups are in bubbles with their own social space and staircases
- Attendance is very good, although it should be noted that any absence due to Covid reasons is recorded but not considered for absence stats. Whole school attendance is 92.9% for all and 88.1% for DA. These figures are higher than national
- Blended learning is used when students have to self-isolate. Bubble closure has released the DfE supply of laptops (151) to the Academy
- Year 10 bubble had online learning available after 3 days. From 270 available lessons over 200 lessons were live
- Vast majority of students have adapted well to new procedures and are showing a new level of maturity and understanding of the rationale for the procedures

- Zero tolerance taken to any breach of Covid rules
- Staff have to move between classrooms so department teams are no longer located together
- Student services team call the most vulnerable when self -isolating at home to ensure their well- being and that they are accessing the online leaning

Q: (MB) Are public health supportive?

VG: They have been fantastic with clear and quick decisions.

Q: (JMQ) Where attendance drops, is the feedback that parents have been scared to send their child /ren in to school?

VG: Parents are more heightened to see similar symptoms following a positive case

Q: (MB) Has attendance changed as the term goes on?

VG: It was high then dropped but is now increasing again.

Q: (JMQ) What was the DA attendance this time last year?

VG: 90%, now it is 88%.

Q: (JMQ) Are some staff nervous about delivering live lessons?

VG: Staff have been very positive. They don't all deliver the full hour - some teach for the first part and then set questions and some are offering blended learning as some are delivering to a class and recording lessons for those at home.

C: (JMQ) That shows great resilience of the staff.

Q: (JL) Are students engaging well with online lessons?

JM: The majority are. If not, we phone them up. A phenomenal number of students have done all the available online lessons.

VG: It is fair to say that some lessons are more popular than others. Computer Science is very popular, some other subjects less so and that is where we might see the gaps widening. There is no barrier with devices as we have plenty available. The only barrier is the support given at home.

C: (VG) More maturity has been seen in the students, especially in Year 11s. Year 9 is the year group that is struggling as they are going through puberty and haven't coped so well with the time out so we are working with them on attitudes. There are wider community issues to deal with such as unemployment, family sickness, family splits.

Q: (JMQ) Have you seen an increase in take up of free school meals?

JM: Only by a couple.

Q: (MB) How are the staff coping with all the changes?

VG: The staff have been fabulous – they are the ones that now have to move classes and the school day has changed with staggered breaks and lunches so they are all working extra cover. We have cancelled some evening commitments to reduce the workload and we always explain why we have implemented these practices. Attendance for staff is very high with no need for supply. They are doing a great job.

Q: (MB) Have you done a well- being survey this half term?

VG: No; one will go out after half term.

17 PUPIL PREMIUM STRATEGY

- New format used this year
- 28% HHS students are pupil premium
- Pupil premium allocation is £277,905 for 2020/21
- PP progress 2019/20 was -0.2, attainment 8 was 39.29 and percentage achieving Basics 5+ was 28%

Aims for 2020/21:

- Reduce P8 gap with non – PP to under 0.33 (2020 was 0.45)

- Increase attainment 8 to above 40
- Reduce gap in basics 5+ between non-PP and PP to <20%
- Improve aspirations of PP students and increase the number that attend Sixth Form to at least 15% (just 9% in 2020)

To achieve the aims above the plan details teaching priorities such as ensuring an inclusive curriculum and a robust approach to blended learning, targeted support for small groups and wider strategies across the Academy such as the study plus programme, improving aspirations at Key Stage 3 and improving self-esteem of students.

It was noted that last year's aims of improving progress of DA students, lessening the gap in progress and improving DA attendance were not achieved due to the school partial closure on March 2020 due to Covid -19.

Q: (KN) How are you going to raise aspirations of students?

JM: Work is ongoing in Years 7 and 8. Hayley Ridley is attending some English, Maths and Science lessons and discussing careers with these students and what skills would be required in certain professions. Hull University is also doing work on raising aspirations giving support on line and staff are linking PiXL Leadership work with projects to increase aspirations at KS3.

VG: We are working with the University on their "first in family" project; be the first in your family to go to university, have a certain job etc. We have gone right back to explain basic information such as the order of qualifications and have videos to address any questions. In the restructure I am redefining the careers post and work will start with Year 7s.

C: (KS) We meet as house groups and discuss aspirations and let all the students know that university can be within their reach.

C: (KN) The work you are doing is outstanding, I didn't know what was available to me when I was at school. It is commendable.

Q: (MB) Do you know how many students haven't got IT devices?

JM: Very few haven't – a couple per year group as most have a mobile. However, some have reported that they do run out of data near the end of the month.

Q: (MB) Are the online lessons different to a video conference meeting?

JM: Yes, the lessons are more controlled. We start by showing the rules of being online and then staff explain the work to be covered. Some staff use visualisers.

C: (VG) There will be long term benefits to delivering lessons like this in future closures as we are recording the lessons and building up a catalogue that can be accessed later.

Q: (MB) Which strategies have been carried over from last year?

JM: All have transferred across and we have added more. We did not have the time to see the impact of what we had in place.

The Board voted and all were in favour of approving the Pupil Premium Strategy for 2020/21.

Resolved: Pupil Premium Strategy 2020/21 was approved and can be published on the Academy website.

18 COVID CATCH UP PLAN

- Government has allocated a one-off payment to all schools to accelerate progress. The payment is based on £80 per pupil and will be paid in three instalments. This is not linked to DA students but to all students
- Catch up premium allocated to the through school is £118,960

- The LGB must hold the HT to account for the impact of their catch-up strategy and so this will be a standard agenda item for every meeting this year

Measure	Activity	Cost
To ensure continuity of learning in the event of local lockdown / self-isolation	Purchase of eBooks Development of GCSEPOd programme	£600 £5,000
Support students with gaps in core subjects	Employ an additional LA to release subject specialist Las in English, Maths and Science to work with small groups	£18,000
Support student with gaps in all subjects	Trial of Year 9 students with MyTutor	TBC
To ensure effective safeguarding of all	Increase hours of Deputy DSL temporarily	£5316
		£28,916

Q: (MB) Why hasn't all the allocation been planned?

VG: We are still working on the plan and this will be reviewed again in the December meeting.

C: (JM) The Year 9 trial of MyTutor (National Tutor Programme) is a TCAT initiative, I will attend the next webinar and feedback on its appropriateness.

19 ACADEMY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- Development Plan cycle runs from October half term to October half term
- All aims are linked to Ofsted criteria (Leadership and Management, Quality of Education, 16-19 Provision, Personal Development and Behaviour and Attitudes)
- All aims will be RAG rated by SLT and reviewed at future LGB meetings
- Governors commended the simplicity of the plan making it easier to scrutinise

Resolved: Governors approved the ADP 2020/21

20 GOVERNOR TRAINING AND SUPPORT

The Clerk requested that all Governors complete the NGA Learning Link Safeguarding module as it has recently been updated to include changes to the KCSiE 2020 guidance. Governors are also expected to complete at least one other module, linked to their area of responsibility within the Board.

ACTION: Governors to complete the Safeguarding Learning Link module plus any other module

Governors were reminded to complete the Data Protection training module by the end of this term.

ACTION: Governors to complete the Data Protection module on GDPR Sentry

21 GOVERNOR VISITS TO SCHOOL

Physical visits to school cannot take place until further notice.

However, Links were encouraged to set up virtual meetings with the staff in school responsible for PP, Safeguarding and SEND. Virtual visits should still be recorded on the Governor visit form.

ACTION: JMQ and SH to arrange a virtual call with Jo Anderson (SEND and Safeguarding Lead) this term to review SEND progress and Safeguarding compliance

ACTION: NG to arrange a virtual call with Jo Meir (PP Lead) this term to review PP progress and strategies

ACTION: GS to circulate the Governor visit template

22 POLICY UPDATE

- Access to Education Policy (review date January 2022)
- Marking and Literacy Policy (review date October 2022)
- Uniform Policy (review date October 2022)

Resolved: All policies and their review dates were approved.

23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15 December, 5.30pm

24 ANY OTHER PART A BUSINESS

None

25 ACTION POINTS

25a ACTION: KN to discuss with VG / LP how he can assist with student voice / mentoring – action carried forward (minute 15c)

25b ACTION: LP to report on the issues with College provision in the Quality of Education section of the Strategy Report for the next meeting – action carried forward (minute 15d)

25c ACTION: Consistency in presentation of graphs required – all graphs to have current data at the top - action carried forward (minute 15e)

25d ACTION: Attendance graphs to show absence for comparable time last year e.g. Autumn 2019 compared to Autumn 2018 not 2018/19 as a whole –action carried forward (minute 15f)

25e ACTION: KN to look into mastery within English- action carried forward (minute 15g)

25f ACTION: Governors to complete the Data Protection module on GDPR Sentry (minute 20)

25g ACTION: Governors to complete the Safeguarding Learning Link module plus any other module (minute 20)

- 25h ACTION: JMQ and SH to arrange a virtual call with Jo Anderson (SEND and Safeguarding Lead) this term to review SEND progress and Safeguarding compliance (minute 21)**
- 25i ACTION: NG to arrange a virtual call with Jo Meir (PP Lead) this term to review PP progress and strategies (minute 21)**
- 25j ACTION: GS to circulate the Governor visit template (minute 21)**

Part A closed at 6.52pm.