

STANDARDS AND EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 4.00pm on 2 December 2019

Present: Sue Daley (Chair) Alan Maltpress (Vice Chair) Karen Points
Nikos Savvas (Principal/CEO)

In Attendance: E D'Souza, Corporation Chair Alison Hurrell, QM Andrew Adamson, ED
Colin Shaw, VP Q&LE Cathy Durrant, HPC Rachel Kirk, AP HE
Rachel Boast, M&ED J Bridges, Clerk

Members confirmed that they had no conflicts of interest to declare in relation to the items of this agenda.

Action

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from J Wakelam. The Vice Principal Employer Engagement, L Moody, Executive Directors, D Coomes and G Jefferson and the Interim Group HR Director, S Graham also passed on their apologies.

All governors were invited to attend the meeting to consider and review the whole College Self-Assessment Report provided for under agenda item 6 of this meeting.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

3 Matters Arising

The matters arising from the meeting were summarised in the report and all actions reported had either been resolved or, where appropriate, an update had been provided on progress elsewhere on the agenda.

4 16-18 Maths and English Update

The report highlights that in some curriculum areas, functional skills attendance is better than for GCSE. On closer examination there are a small number of students who are not attending both their GCSE classes, impacting on overall attendance. These students are being monitored and the disciplinary process utilised as appropriate to improve attendance.

It was noted that MarkBook structures have been built for maths and English for both Functional Skills and GCSEs and MarkBook completion/progress reports are to be shared with the Committee at future meetings. The data currently shows that students are 30% complete YTD which is good progress toward positive GCSE and Functional skills outcomes. The Director of maths and English also confirmed that all students have completed their BKSB assessments which is encouraging. It was noted however that there are, in some areas (Music, Hair and Beauty for example), significant differences in attendance between GCSE and Functional Skills and deeper analysis of these rates needs to be investigated, by teacher and by class so that we can truly understand where and what the underlying attendance issues are or may be. The Committee questioned if where the stats show that attendance is 75% it was recognised that this does not mean that we have lost a quarter of the students. Collectively attendance is 75% so three quarters of students turn

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up but in the period 25% of students haven't and it's the reasons why attendance is low is what needs to be investigated further.

The Committee was pleased to learn that there has been a positive shift in behaviours in maths and English this year to date. At the same point last year, the Director of maths and English has dealt with 17 complaints from students, this year they have only dealt with 2 issues.

In the last month, learning walks have been undertaken throughout maths and English and the Quality of Education for English was found to be consistently Good or Outstanding. The Quality of Education for maths however requires improvement and steps are being taken to address this to improve the enjoyment of learning and ultimately, outcomes for students.

R Boast left the meeting at 4.45pm

5 2018/19 College Self-Assessment Report

It was acknowledged that the Committee had spent much time at the last meeting scrutinising and challenging the content and grades of the Self-Assessment Report and the quality team have responded to these, the report has been externally validated by an Ofsted HMI, and the areas still subject to discussion and agreement were highlighted yellow in the revised copy circulated to all.

Key Judgements by Curriculum Area

The key judgements by Area under the new Ofsted Education Inspection Framework were summarised in the report on page 13 with most areas a Grade 1 or 2 with the exception of Proactive Learning, graded a 3, and Science, Sport and Public Services, Animal Studies, Plumbing and Electrical Installation a grade 4.

It was noted on page 13 that the percentage/proportionality of the education programmes for young people has been provided so that we can now see, for example, that music has 1.1% of our student population whereas Animal Studies is 0.8%. The proportions shown indicate the degree of impact on the student's experience.

The SAR was validated on 18 November 2019 by Ofsted HMI, Paula Heaney and grades awarded were found to be accurate and of sound judgement. The meeting was robust and each section of the SAR was covered and challenged sequentially. The Ofsted HMI concluded that our assessment is robust and a true reflection of our understanding of where our strengths are and of the areas where we need to improve.

Quality of Education

The Committee considered the assessment of the Quality of Education detailed over pages 16 to 36 inclusive and agreed the grade 2 as assessed which recognises the typicality of our evidence (i.e. the data evidences that typically this is the experience of the Quality of Education that students receive).

Behaviour and Attitude

The Committee considered the assessment (grade 1) of Behaviour and Attitude detailed over pages 37 to 42 inclusive.

The Committee agreed the grade 1 judgement for Behaviour and Attitude.

Personal Development

The Committee considered the assessment (grade 1) of Personal Development detailed over pages 43 to 48 inclusive. It was noted that the first draft of the SAR had judged this chapter as Good (grade 2) and Ofsted HMI concurred with the outstanding grade.

The Committee agreed the grade 1 judgement for Personal Development.

Leadership and Management

The Committee considered the assessment of the Effectiveness of Leadership and Management detailed over pages 49 to 57 inclusive and agreed the grade 2 judgement, recognising that the grade is limited by the grade 2 judgement for the Quality of Education.

Provision Types

Education Programmes for Young People

The Committee considered the assessment of Education Programmes for Young People detailed on page 58.

There were no comments made with regard to this section of the report.

Apprenticeships

The Committee considered the assessment of Apprenticeships detailed on pages 59 and 60.

There were no comments made with regard to this section of the report.

Adult Learning Programmes

The Committee considered the assessment of Adult Learning Programmes detailed on page 61.

There were no comments made with this section of the report.

Overall Effectiveness

In summary the College has assessed as grade 2 for Quality of Education and Leadership and Management, and grade 1 for Behaviour and Attitude and Personal Development. The overall effectiveness therefore is a grade 2, Good.

6 2019/20 Quality Improvement Plan

The draft 2019/20 Quality Improvement Plan arising from the 2018/19 Self-Assessment Report was shared with the Committee. Actions have been RAG rated and the Committee will receive progress reports against the plan at each meeting of the Committee in the year. It was noted that the QIP 2019/20 now finalised is to be communicated and shared with managers who are to take ownership of improving the areas as planned and with their teams reporting back at regular progress review meetings to ensure that they are driving and making the changes need to bring about a positive change.

The Committee asked that it receives more detailed reports of the improvements needed with our Level 1 provision in particular and this will be a standard focus agenda item for each meeting of the Committee. It was further suggested that the Committee maybe looks at a particular improvement area of the QIP and takes this as a report to find out if progress is being made and can be seen/evidenced. The Committee would also

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like to receive update/brief reports on progress with the underperforming (grade 4) areas; Plumbing, Electrical Installation, Sport and Public Services, Science and Animal Studies.

Relevant
Executive
Director

The Committee approved the 2019/20 Quality Improvement Plan as documented.

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Any other business

It was agreed that this time next year we will reverse the October and November agendas so that the SAR is the primary focus of the October meeting and other agenda items can be taken for more discussion at the November meeting.

JBridges

Date of next meeting

Monday 27 January 2020 at 4.00pm. Room TG1.16

The meeting closed at 5.20pm.