

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday 21st September 2020

Time: 5.45pm Meeting Venue: Microsoft Teams

Clerk: N Burgess

Present: C Nevin (Chair), L Booth, A Ali, M Vevers and J Crawford

In attendance: M Dyer

Action	Initials		
The clerk will speak to J Jenkins in HR to ensure all Governors are sent the login details			
for Educare			
Governors are to complete the GDPR training by 9 th October 2020	All		
The meeting on 26 th November to start half an hour early to allow time for Governors			
to have a tour of the new building.	NB/MV		
Governors are asked to inform the clerk if there are any changes to their register of	All		
business interests record.	All		
The latest Trust Board update is to be circulated to Governors following the meeting	NB		

Ager	Agenda – Part 1				
Cate	egory	Item	Notes	Action	
1		Apologies	There were no apologies for absence for this meeting.		
		AOB items	There were no other items of business to raise.		
		Register of	Governors were asked to inform the clerk if there were	All	
		interests	any changes to their records held.	7 (1)	
			There are no changes to note, the code of conduct is for		
		Code of Conduct	Governors to adhere to and will be given to any new		
			Governors.		
		Part 1 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held 21st June 2020 were		
			approved as a correct record of the meeting.		
	Governance Arrangements		All following action points have been completed.		
		Membership: Recruitment Update/Succes	Recruitment is ongoing across the Trust. The Trust is able to recruit from various sources, including an expression of interest form on the websites and a		
		sion Planning	running advert on Inspiring Governance.		
	Gove	Scheme of Delegation	There are no changes to note.		

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



	Trust Board	The latest Trust Board update will be circulated to	NB
	Update	Governors following the meeting. The School Development Plan 2020-2021 was circulated	
		prior to the meeting. MV talked Governors through the	
		Headlines and the Covid 19 implications.	
		Academic Aspirations	
		The school is still pushing for 72% Level 5 and above in	
		English and Maths, if achieved this would make the	
		school performance one of the best in the country.	
		MV discussed the Spanish GCSE due to be taken this	
		academic year by the current Year 9. It is not yet known	
		what will happen with regards examinations next year	
		and it is hoped that clarification will be received in the	
		coming weeks.	
		Q – What will happen if year groups have to isolate	
		twice, this will be one month of lost learning?	
		A – As detailed in the School Development Plan a clear	
		recovery curriculum is in place to ensure that all	
		students access the full curriculum through a coherent	
		and staged approach. All departments have completed a	
	Agree Strategic	curriculum review and this has been fed back into the	
	Priorities and	recovery curriculum.	
	Critical Success	Culture, Creativity and Rhetoric	
	Factors (School	The Electives offer is currently massively restricted due	
	level)	to Covid 19. The school is able to offer as much as	
		possible, within the guidelines, and this offer is being	
		reviewed ongoing as new guidance is issued.	
		<u>Leadership and Service</u>	
		The school was hoping to offer Duke of Edinburgh award	
		for students to undertake but whether this will be able	
		to go ahead is uncertain at present, pending receipt of	
		further guidance.	
ility		Competition and Physical Endeavour	
itab		Again the offer is restricted and the school has amended	
noc		the activities available to students.	
School Performance & Accountability		Q – What about the House system, how has this been	
Se Se		impacted?	
Jan		A- We can still do certain things in bubble groups, we	
orn		have extensive competition programmes and plenty of	
erf		house sports taking place. We are also looking at Darts	
이		and Table Tennis as social distance sports options.	
오			



The Head of School report was circulated prior to the meeting and Governors were offered the opportunity to ask any questions.

Q How is the new building?

A – The new building is amazing and students cannot believe how big it is. It was acknowledged how difficult it would have been in the temporary accommodation to have adhered to social distancing and to maintain year group bubbles.

MV stated that the new building has allowed for the one-way system and social distancing to work well. It was noted that there was a high level of stress initially with the new routines but once the students were all back in school it all felt like back to normal. LB stated that the students are doing really well, they are all sticking to the cleaning routine as well as washing hands on a regular basis, social distancing and wearing masks when required.

Head of School Report The difficulties will arise when staff have to self-isolate or are awaiting the results of a test, currently test turnaround time is an issue. HoS stated that the school has had two confirmed cases of Covid-19 however both individuals had isolated for 10 days prior to their positive results and the DofE advised that there is nothing the school should do at this stage. The difficulty is defining coughs and those then staying at home to isolate, although this is the correct procedure it does lead to issues in school. There is Covid-19 cases in the community but at present we do not have any confirmed cases in the School.

Staff Governor LB stated that Teachers are 5th on the priority list for testing which doesn't help the situation.

The Year 7 Reading and Comprehension assessments are currently taking place so we can see where the students are up to, there are no concerns regarding this, students are thriving on routine also Y8 and Y9 are to take part in the accelerate programme. Intervention evenings will be delivered on Teams and the outcome of these evenings will be reported back at a future meeting.

There has been a lot of positive feedback from parents regarding the new building. They would love to come and look around but accept that this is not possible at the current time. The one-way system is working well for parents dropping off and collecting students.

Q – AA was asked if as a parent he had heard the views



of any other parents?

A- Parents are taking into account what is currently happening and they are happy that their children are now back in school. There does seem to be confusion regards the process around Covid-19 and cold symptoms, are they to come in or not if they are showing symptoms of a cold. Parents will be happy as long as there is regular communication.

Attendance was discussed at length. Last years figures also reflect a bout of illness which significantly affected the figures in November 2019. Attendance was strong at the start of term and then dipped to 92%, and is now back at 95%.

Q – Are we tracking the impact of Covid on attendance?

A – We are but it is difficult to monitor. There will inevitably be some students off with symptoms but there will be others who will just have a cold and parents are being more wary and trying to do the right thing.

Behaviour and exclusions were discussed. The detailed information provided makes it look like there are lots of incidents but this is due to even small incidents being recorded. Small incidents are dealt with and positive behaviour is shown. It is hoped that Governors will soon be able to come into school to look around and see for themselves the impeccable behaviour of the students.

Governors were updated on electives. These have been massively affected and currently there are no external bodies allowed in school to provide electives.

Q: How are the students taking the change regarding there being no electives at present?

A: From next week we will expect students to participate in one elective per week, if some students would like to do more then we could accommodate this. We are holding subject related electives which are on an Invite only basis, the students like that they are invited however they are being asked as we have concerns of where they are in that subject. We have no extra external people coming in for the electives but have had a number of staff offering to hold three electives per week.

In terms of professional learning the Research Review was discussed. This is <u>ana board</u> of opportunity to move away from Covid related issues and have a semblance of normality.



I	Ī		Theme were CNOTe who started at Division ft in Co. 1	
			There were 6 NQTs who started at Ryecroft in September 2020. These staff missed a full term of their training and	
			additional support will be in place for these staff. LB commented how well the NQTs had settled into school	
			life, they were embracing all the challenges.	
			MV final words were that we want to be upfront with	
			the Parents and Carers regarding the Covid procedures	
			and what will happen throughout the different tiers. We have a good plan in place and we are ready to go which	
			is reassuring for Parents and Carers.	
3			The management accounts were circulated prior to the	
			meeting. The finances are as expected and are in a healthy position with a healthy rollover from the	
			previous year which will be spent on increasing the	
		Finance	facilities.	
		update	The outside food shack has now been installed and will	
			become operational on the 22 nd September. School are	
			also looking to install an external sail canopy for students to use.	
			There were no policies to approve at this meeting of the	
		Policy Reviews	Academy Committee.	
	g B		The Governor Self Review of Impact is a committee re-	
	itori	Governor Self Review of	port which is completed throughout the year and is re-	
	Mor	Impact	ported back to Trustees. This will be revisited in the Au-	
	rnor	Annual Report to Trust Board	tumn term 2 meeting. CN and NB will look at starting to populate the report.	
	Governor Monitoring	to must bound		
4	ار ا		Governors were asked to complete the GDPR training by	All
	Governor Developn	Governor training	9 th October 2020. Educare logins should have been sent	7 (11
	Go	trairing	to all Governors and NB will double check this with HR.	NB
5			It was acknowledged that it was difficult that only essential external visitors were currently able to visit school.	
	nity nent	Stakeholder	It is hoped that on the day of the November meeting	NB/MV
	Community	Engagement	Governors will be able to attend school half an hour ear-	IND/IVIV
	Con		lier and have a tour of the new building.	
	AOB		There were no other items of business to discuss.	
	¥			



	Meeting Dates:	Academic year 2020-2021	Thursday 26 th November 2020 at 5.45pm Thursday 4 th March 2021 at 5.45pm Monday 21 st June 2021 at 5.45pm	
--	-------------------	----------------------------	---	--

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.

Category		ltem	Notes	Action
1	Governan ce	Part 2 minutes		
	Staff	Staff vacancies/app ointments	There is currently a maternity leave in MFL and therefore there is currently an Ad running for Teacher of Spanish. There is also a vacancy for an Assistant Headteacher to expand the current team.	
2	AOB		There were no other items of business to discuss.	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes

- Governors received and reviewed the School Development plan and details of the recovery curriculum in place following the return of students to school.
- Governors received an update on the new school building and the measures in place around Covid-19.
- Governors were asked to complete GDPR training.

