

ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday 26th September 2022

Time: 5.45pm

Venue: Laurus Ryecroft

Clerk: N Burgess

Present: S Marsden, M Vevers, A Ali, L Booth, S Bridge and L Casey

No.	Action	Initials
1	PDR training to be rescheduled to the start of ACM2 meeting	Clerk
1	Governors to inform the Clerk of any changes to their Register of Business Interests	All
1	ID badges to be available for the start of ACM2	Clerk
1	The chair to update Governors on the expression of interest received to be a Governor on this Academy Committee	JC
3	Updates from the Safeguarding and SEND link Governors to be given at ACM2	JC/SM
3	MV to contact leader from local PRU regarding the possibility of presenting to Governors	MV
3	The Annual Trust Board report for 2021-2022 to be finalised	Clerk
3	Governors are invited to send any content they would like including in the Trust Board report to the Clerk	All
4	Governors are asked to complete the Safeguarding and GDPR training modules by 31 st October 2022	All
4	Governors are asked to email the Clerk on completion of the Safeguarding and GDPR training to allow the training log to be updated	All
5	PA to the Head of School to send a list of forthcoming events to Governors	JP

Agenda – Part 1

Category	Item	Notes	Action
1 Governance Arrangements	Apologies	Apologies were received from J Crawford and H Rizvi.	
	AOB items	The proposed PDR training will be postponed and rescheduled for the start of ACM2. There were no other items of business which were not covered by this agenda.	Clerk
	Register of interests	Governors were asked to report any changes to their record to the Clerk.	All
	Code of Conduct	Governors agreed to adhere to the Code of Conduct for Governors and Trustees.	

		Part 1 Minutes	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2022 were <u>approved</u> as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Matters arising from actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The register of business interests was updated • JC will update Governors further at the next meeting • Blinds in classrooms have been looked into and are on the list finances permitting • The Academy Committee Report to the Trust Board will be finalised and a new report started from September 2022 • Skills Audit has been circulated to Governors • ID badges should be available for the next meeting 	Clerk
		Membership: Recruitment Update/Succession Planning	<p>JC will update, at the next meeting of this committee, the progress of an expression of interest received.</p> <p>The Clerk informed that the terms of office for A Ali, L Booth and J Crawford would end at the end of this academic year.</p>	JC
		Scheme of Delegation	<p>There are no material changes to note on the Scheme of Delegation. The document is published on the Trust and all individual school websites.</p> <p>Governors did not raise any questions regarding the Scheme of Delegation.</p>	
		Trust Board Update	<p>Governors reviewed the Trust Board reports from the May 2022 and July 2022 meetings and did not have any further questions.</p>	

2	School Performance & Accountability	School Development Plan priorities	<p>The SDP has been updated to reflect the new academic year. Whole school actions have been updated for all KPIs and targets for the four areas of the plan. The RAG rating has been removed and this will be done again at the end of the academic year to reflect progress made.</p> <p>There are no fundamental changes to the SDP. There is a desire to offer more student initiated electives and the opening of the Sixth Form will help with this.</p> <p>Q – Are the school expecting and Ofsted inspection? A – An inspection could be at any time and the school are as prepared as possible.</p> <p>Q – Did the mock exam results give an indication as to what the final results may look like? A – The results give an indication but traditionally grades are higher in the final exams. Leaders are hopeful of achieving 70%+ Level 5 including English and Maths. 72% is still a challenging target which the school are working towards and is in grasp. This is still very much the aim.</p> <p>SB commented that there is a programme of revision already in place for Year 11 students and they seem to be engaged.</p> <p>AA commented that as a parent students appreciated the support in knowing what to revise. MV confirmed that prior to the mocks, after the October half term holiday, there would be an increase in revision sessions offered to students. There would then be some down time in January/February before the sessions commenced again prior to the formal exam season. It is important that the students are not overwhelmed.</p> <p>Governors had no further questions on the SDP.</p> <p>Governors were pleased to see the excellent results from the Spanish GCSE sat by the Y9 cohort in the summer. 83.8% of students achieved a grade 5 or higher.</p> <p>40% of students had achieved a 7+ which is incredible against a national average of 31.5%.</p> <p>The school are very proud of the results and Governors were really pleased. The year 10 cohort are a very strong cohort who work hard and want to do well.</p>	
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		Set and ensure delivery of School Curricula and Assessment (in line with Trust's approach)	MV confirmed to Governors that the school follows the Trust approach to delivery of the school curriculum and assessment in line with all other schools in the Trust.	
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		<p>Review Head of School report</p>	<p>S Bridge detailed to Governors the marketing campaign for the Sixth Form.</p> <p>Work is being done with the Trust Marketing Team and H Eckhardt to promote the 3 new Sixth Forms opening in September 2023. These include Laurus Ryecroft, Didsbury High School and Hazel Grove High School. The admissions timeline has been set and the next event will be the Open Evening on 3rd November. Applications will open in November and between December 2022 and February 2023 all applicants will have a consultation meeting to discuss their subject interests. There is a mailing list set up and this indicates that to date there have been 185 expressions of interest, including 47 external applicants. Social media campaigns have not yet started and it is expected this will further increase interest. There are also a number of planned events where staff will visit other local schools to present to their year 11 students via their assemblies.</p> <p>In terms of Ryecroft students 67 have indicated that they will apply. Students were also asked to specify which subjects they may be interested in studying post 16. Data shows that a large number of students leave the area to access their further education and the school totally respects the wishes of students who wish to study elsewhere.</p> <p>A focus group has been created and a next steps tutor programme has been delivered to year 11 students, including promoting all other local open evening events. It was noted that all students are actively encouraged to explore all of their options and to apply for more than one place. As part of the programme year 11 students have been on trips to Cheadle Hulme Sixth Form and also to Tameside/Clarendon College.</p> <p>There is a Careers Leader Breakfast planned for 28th September and Governors were invited to attend if they would like to.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the questions students may have before applying. It is felt the different area of the building and separate environment would be a selling point to students. There will be no requirement for students to wear uniform but there will be a dress code.</p> <p>Q – Is there a plan for transport/cars if students drive to Sixth Form? A – There will be some spaces available if this does</p>	
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			<p>happen.</p> <p>Q – What are the numbers in each group? A – the PAN is 100 in each year group. In the first year 60 would be viable but 70 would be an ideal number of students. The current year 10 and 11 cohorts are smaller than other year groups due to the school opening in temporary accommodation.</p> <p>Q – What is the number of students you would need for each individual subject? A – Each subject will be looked at on an individual basis, in the first couple of years it may be necessary to run subjects with smaller numbers but this will not be sustainable in the long term.</p> <p>Q – When you make a student an offer will it be based on what the subject offer is now? A – We are making decisions now and recruiting staff accordingly and will review subject options ongoing. The curriculum plan is currently being formulated. Leaders feel the current offer is a good, varied extensive offer.</p>	
3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update including pupil numbers, benchmarking and value for money	<p>Management accounts to 31st July 2022 were circulated ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>The year-end forecast looks to be a deficit of £162k, this is due to planned building projects over the summer break. There will be the creation of year 11 Refectory space which will also be used for revision space. There will also be work done to create an additional music classroom and changes to office space. From the reserves of £572K the planned works will leave a balance of £410k. The proposed 5% teacher pay award is unfunded and this will be a concern if this has to be funded from the school budget. Another huge issue of concern is the rising energy costs. The Trust submitted a 3-year balanced budget in July 2022 and the announcement regarding teacher pay award was made afterwards.</p> <p>Q – Will cut backs have to be made at the expense of anything else? A – Not at present but some building plans in the future may have to wait. The money will always be spent to impact the students directly. MV assured Governors that the school finances are ok but that the issues were more of a concern than ever before.</p>	

		Policy – undertake school level reviews of relevant policies	There were no policies for approval at this meeting.	
		Ensure curriculum policies (eg Religious Education and Relationships, Sex Education), Behaviour and Welfare policies are in line with statutory guidance)	MV confirmed that the curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance.	
		Safeguarding and SEND Link Governor updates	There are no updates at this point of the academic year. Updates will be given at the ACM2 meeting. Governors discussed provision for students who are at risk of permanent exclusion. It was suggested that it would be useful for a leader from a local Pupil Referral Unit to attend a future meeting to clarify the understanding of Governors around the provision for students following permanent exclusion. Governors felt this would also given them additional knowledge when being a member of the Pupil Disciplinary Panel committee. MV commented that permanently excluding a student was always a very difficult decision, and a last resort, but it was vital to consider all students in school.	SM/JC MV
		Governor Self Review of Impact (Update Annual Report to Trust Board)	The Annual Report to the Trust Board will be finalised following the last meeting and a new report will be done for this coming academic year. Governors suggested to the Clerk they would like the following items included: Sixth Form recruitment plans Staff CPD offer Year 10 and 11 results and commitment to their studies following the pandemic JC will present the report to the Governance, Oversight and Standards committee at their November meeting. Governors were asked to send any further content for inclusion in the report to the Clerk.	Clerk All
4	Governor Developm	Review Trust Training Plan	Governors are asked to complete Safeguarding and GDPR training by 31 st October 2022. Any Governor having difficulty accessing the training should contact the Clerk.	All

		Clerk to minute any training undertaken by Governors since the last meeting	Governors are asked to email the clerk on completion of the GDPR and Safeguarding training to enable the Training Log to be updated.	All
		Governor Competency Framework/Effective Governance Handbook	Governors were issued with the Governor Competency Framework and Effective Governance Handbook for their reference.	
5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder Engagement	Governors had attended the school performance of Oliver in the Summer term. SM had met with parents in school. Governors were informed that the school performance this year would be We Will Rock you with a live band and a cast of over 150 students. PA to the Head of School will send a list of forthcoming events to Governors.	JP
	AOB		There were no other items of business.	
	Meeting Dates:	Meeting dates for 2022- 2023	ACM2 – Thursday 24 th November 2022 at 5.45pm ACM3 – Thursday 9 th March 2023 at 5.45pm ACM4 – Monday 19 th June 2023 at 5.45pm	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes
Governors reviewed the School Development Plan
Governors were very proud to review the Year 9 MFL GCSE results
Governors received a comprehensive presentation on the marketing campaign for the Sixth Form
Management accounts to 31 st July 2022 were reviewed by Governors
Governors will be completing Safeguarding and GDPR training

Meeting closed at 7.00pm

Signed by the Chair:

Julie Crawford

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