

## ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Time: 5.45pm

Venue: Laurus Ryecroft

Clerk: N Burgess

Present: H Rizvi, S Marsden, J Crawford, M Vevers, R Carling and A Ali

No.	Action	Initials
1	Governors to inform the Clerk of any changes to their Register of Business Interests	All
2	RC to contact A Ali to arrange a meeting to discuss opportunities for students	RC
3	MV to provide an update on the number of applications for to join the Sixth Form for September 2023	MV
3	To present the Pupil Premium report to Governors at the next meeting	MV/RC
4	To complete any outstanding training and send certificates to the Clerk	All
5	To provide details of the bus company and affected service to JC	RC

### Agenda – Part 1

Category	Item	Notes	Action
1  <b>Governance Arrangements</b>	Apologies	Apologies were received from L Booth and L Casey	
	AOB items	There were no other items of business to raise which were not covered in the agenda for this meeting.	
	Training	<p>Governors received a presentation from W Searle on their role in a Pupil Disciplinary Committee. W Searle is a Deputy Headteacher at CHHS and is Trust Safeguarding, Behaviour and Attendance Lead.</p> <p>The role of a Governor in a Pupil Disciplinary Committee is to test and challenge that the Headteacher’s decision to permanently exclude was lawful, reasonable, fair and proportionate.</p> <p>Governors thanked WS for the comprehensive presentation which they felt would assist them should they be required to be a part of a Pupil Discipline Committee in the future.</p>	
	Code of conduct	Governors absent from the previous meeting agreed to the Code of Conduct	
	Register of interests	Governors were asked to report any changes to their record to the Clerk.	All

		Part 1 Minutes	Minutes of the meeting held on 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 were <u>approved</u> as a correct record of the meeting.  There were no outstanding matters arising and all actions had been completed.	
		Scheme of Delegation	There were no material changes to the Scheme of Delegation to note.	
		Trust Board Update	Governors reviewed the Trust Board reports from the October 2022 meeting and did not have any further questions.	
2	School Performance & Accountability	Curriculum Review	<p>Governors received a comprehensive presentation by N Taylor, Director of Maths, and S Clifford, Head of Maths, on the curriculum taught at Laurus Ryecroft.</p> <p>The aim is to encourage students to achieve in Maths, to enjoy and be enthusiastic, which underpins everything taught in the classroom. Students are encouraged to ask questions to deepen their learning and understanding.</p> <p>Mathematical behaviours are developed and can be seen in all classrooms, in all year groups. The aim is for all students to talk in the same mathematical language.</p> <p>Students develop practice and knowledge. Learning a procedure alone is not sufficient and must be underpinned by further knowledge and understanding. Students will have a deep conceptual understanding. Each topic is deconstructed to allow students to gain a greater understanding.</p> <p>Governors were shown the schemes of work for all year groups. Key mathematical concepts are broken down to be more accessible to students who may have previously struggled with maths. There are links with other subject areas, eg ratio tables in Science. The bigger picture allows patterns to emerge and be able to understand which in turn gives them increased confidence.</p> <p>NT and SC were thanked for a comprehensive presentation which Governors felt had enhanced their knowledge of how Maths was taught at Ryecroft. Governors were pleased to see the level of detail in the planning and to be able to see the depth students are taught and how they access the curriculum and remove any barriers to learning.</p>	
		Set and ensure delivery of School Curricula and Assessment	MV confirmed to Governors that the school curriculum and assessment was being delivered and was in line with the Trust approach.	

		<p>Review Head of School report</p>	<p>The current headline figures were recorded when students were in the first half of the Autumn Term and will be updated ongoing.</p> <p>Revision and intervention sessions are planned for all students and uptake and attendance is good. Some revision sessions are voluntary and there are some which are compulsory for students. Governors were informed that in addition to the planned sessions around 20 students choose to stay after school on a Friday to do an additional hours work in the Refectory.</p> <p>Year 11 have their mock exams before Christmas and leaders ensure that students have some down time to take a break and recharge before returning to school in January.</p> <p>Progress 8 is 0.60 and this is high. There are no previous results to use as a guideline to measure against.</p> <p>RC talked Governors through Attendance and Behaviour.</p> <p>There is a big push on attendance in school. There are a number of incentives available for students. Praise postcards are sent to all year 11 students who have attendance above 97%.</p> <p>The figure at the time of the report was 94.8% and this is currently now 94.4%. This figure is in line, and above, other schools in the Trust and also National Average(NA) which is 92.1%.</p> <p>Pupil Premium and SEND attendance is above NA. Leaders are really pleased with the attendance figures to date.</p> <p>Behaviour data for half term one was discussed. 66% of lesson removals is down to 19 students. More work is planned to break down barriers. Governors reviewed the breakdown of incidents by year group. The school are working very closely with students who are experiencing difficulties.</p> <p><b>Q Are you considering any external agencies to work with the 19 students?</b>  A – We will consider all opportunities which we think would be of benefit to our students.</p> <p>AA commented that he has a social enterprise company which would be happy to come into school to work with the students, around motivation and further education</p>	
--	--	-------------------------------------	--	--

			<p>opportunities. RC agreed to contact AA outside of the meeting to discuss the opportunities further.</p> <p>The Head of School report also included an overview of the Year 7 Enhance Programme. The programme has a broad and varied range of electives on offer to students. Year 7 are able to access as many as possible. This means the students will feel empowered to try different things when they have to choose their electives. Rycroft are piloting this for the Trust with year 7 students. The students are building life experiences and awareness with the opportunities available to them.</p> <p><b>Q – Is this available to all year 7 or just a selection?</b> A – To all. 4 parents chose not to sign up due to sporting commitment for their child but all other year 7 students signed up.</p> <p><b>Q – As Head of School what would you say are your main concerns?</b> A – Year 11- where we are doing everything we can and the students are working really hard. Ofsted – we are due an inspection during this academic year under the new framework. Sixth Form – unknown number of students who will sign up on results day Finances – pay awards for this year were announced after the budget had been submitted and are unfunded. Going forward this could be a concern. There is less money in education than there ever has been in previous years. Obviously, the high energy costs are a concern, as they are for all of us.</p>	RC
3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update including pupil numbers, benchmarking and value for money	<p>Marketing is continuing for the Sixth Form which will open in September 2023.</p> <p>Governors will be given an update on the number of applications at the next meeting of this committee.</p> <p>Teachers and support staff have received their pay award in November salaries. The pay awards are unfunded and will have an impact on the budget ongoing.</p> <p>High energy costs were raised as an issue as the school is currently not on a fixed rate energy plan.</p> <p>There have been 240 first choice applications for 210 places and over 600 applications in total. The school is building a good reputation in the borough and this is reflected in the application numbers.</p>	MV

		Policy – undertake school level reviews of relevant policies	Governors <u>approved</u> the following policies: Safeguarding Behaviour School Uniform Mobile Technology Attendance	
		Monitor Pupil Premium, Catch up and Sprout Premium spending to ensure it improves the attainment of eligible students	The Pupil Premium report will be presented in detail to Governors at the next meeting of the committee. <b>Q Has there been an increase in the number of students?</b> A There has been an increase and this is an unfortunate sign of the current economic climate. Pastoral staff are aware of individual family circumstances and can assist where possible, including being available to speak to families confidentially at parents evenings.  The school have circulated food hampers to some families. Staff can record any concerns on the CPOMS system which is closely monitored by leaders.  Departments are able to request assistance for pupils in terms of purchasing revision guides, cadet uniforms and for school trips.	MV
		Safeguarding and SEND Link Governor updates	Meeting are scheduled to take place in the week following this meeting.	
		Governor Self Review of Impact (Update Annual Report to Trust Board)	The annual report to the Trust Board will be updated following this meeting.  JC will attend the Governance and Oversight and Standards Committee meeting in March 2023 to present the report for 2021-2022 on behalf of Laurus Rycroft.	
4	Governor Development	Review Trust Training Plan	Governors were reminded to complete any outstanding training and to send their certificates to the Clerk.	All
		Clerk to minute any training undertaken by Governors since the last meeting	SM has completed Safeguarding and GDPR training.	

5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder Engagement	<p>HV raised the issue, on behalf of parents, of the issue regarding the removal of one of the school bus services. The school have contacted the bus company but have been informed the service was not viable.</p> <p>The school will contact the bus service provider again and would also encourage parents to contact the company directly. JC asked for the contact details of the company and the service affected to be sent to her.</p>	RC
	AOB		There were no additional items of business to discuss.	
	Meeting Dates:	Meeting dates for 2022- 2023	<p>ACM3 – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 5.45pm</p> <p>ACM4 – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 5.45pm</p>	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes
Governors received a presentation on their role in a Pupil Disciplinary Committee (PDC)
Governors received a comprehensive presentation on the Maths curriculum and implementation
Head of School confirmed the delivery of the school curriculum and assessment in line with the Trust approach
Governors reviewed the Head of School report, including behaviour and attendance, year 11 outcomes and Year 7 Enhance Programme
Governors approved 5 school policies
Governors discussed the removal of school bus service and the effect on students and families

**Meeting closed at 7.50pm**

Signed by the Chair:

*Julie Crawford*