

Brooke House Sixth Form College

Minutes of a meeting of the **Standards Committee** held on 19th December at 1600hrs.

Present	David Blagbrough	Sabrina Poma	Ken Warman (Principal)
In Attendance	Kevin Watson	Martin Buck (Learning Trust)	Mary McCormack (Learning Trust)
Apologies	Ralph Devereux (Clerk)		

STANDING ITEMS

1. Confirmation of eligibility and quorum
The meeting was quorate
2. Declaration of interests
No items declared.
3. Minutes of the last Meeting
Minutes to be received
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
No matters arising outside of the agenda

Agenda

6 Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The Director of Learning, Kevin Watson, gave a verbal report on progress so far. Lesson observations are underway. The intention is that everyone will be observed and co-observed by a teacher from another department. An Academic Reading Group has started and the aim is that this should filter through to the departments via the Heads. The Heads need to be the leaders of learning.

Mary McCormack raised the link (or not) between observations and outcomes. This had always been an issue, especially in the Humanities department. Kevin Watson argued that an observation, or classroom performance, was only one of a range of liberators for, or impediments to, learning. There was still a deficit model evident in some classrooms which resulted in not setting work between classes or an absence of righteous indignation if it had not been done. Sabrina Poma wondered if reduced teaching time would boost independent learning – if only by necessity. David Blagbrough raised Student Voice: the recent presentation to governors by the Student Union demonstrated how students are tough on themselves and each other and that there is a relationship between the quality of teaching and learning and attendance.

7 SAR

This was generally approved. Some reference to academic literacy was recommend by the Chair. Mary McCormack commented on students need to, and being required and expected, to, do more work.

8 QIP

Martin Buck thought the changing structure of senior leadership and student recruitment should be included. A separate action point on the quality of feedback was agreed by the Committee.

9 Revised Departmental SARs & QIPS

The revised QIPs were noted. Coherence between the cross-college SAR and the departmental versions were required and consistent reference to parental partnerships was needed.

10 Destinations

The destinations data were noted. The Committee was impressed by the diversity of HE institutions and the academic disciplines chosen by BSix students.

11 Current Grade 2

The full data were noted. Ken Warman circulated a paper to highlight areas of concern. The next meeting would consider actions take on these and their impact.

12 Attendance

The content of the report was discussed thoroughly. The suggestion of longer sessions and a later start were discussed but the consensus was scepticism. The long-term work on teaching and learning and the promotion of independent learning were considered more pertinent.

13 Student Voice & BSeven

The Committee welcomed the revival of BSeven and commended the 7 strands idea. Ken Warman reported that the students would be conducting a student-led Mid-Year Quality Review.

14. FE Commissioner Visit/Curriculum

The report was noted. Ken Warman will keep the Committee informed of the progress of curriculum planning for 2018/19 in the light of the Commissioners' recommendations.

14 URGENT BUSINESS

None

15 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be at 1600, 18th January 2018