



Meeting of an electronic Standards Committee held at 0900 on 17 June 2020

|               |  |  |                             |
|---------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Present       | Ali Abdi                               | Steve Blackshaw                            | Martin Buck<br>(Chair)      |
|               | Annie Gammon<br>(83-89/19 only)        | Adeshola Onakoya                           | Kevin Watson<br>(Principal) |
| In Attendance | Ralph Devereux<br>(Clerk)              | Harvey Byram<br>(HSC et al)(83&84/19 only) |                             |
| Apologies     | Mohanned Khabbazeh<br>(VPCQ)(Attendee) | Kishan Pithia<br>(VPSS) (Attendee)         |                             |

#### **83/19 ELIGIBILITY, QUORUM, DECLARATION OF INTERESTS & MEMBERSHIP**

The VPs' apologies were accepted (pressing Covid duty). No notice had been received of any member becoming ineligible to hold office. The meeting was quorate and no interests had been declared. Electronic meetings confirmed as compliant with Standing Orders.

#### **84/19 MIDDLE LEADERS**

The Head of Health and Social Care, Child Care, Public Services and Sports. (HSC et al) was asked to brief on how the remote working process and "examination" assessment was progressing. Teachers had individually reported on progress; attendance at on-line lessons, was a mixed picture with c80% some participation but some total non-engagements. The latter for a wide range of reasons; some family commitments or lack of IT facilities (20 required support but only 4 had accepted) but others clearly through low motivation, evidenced by lack of response to offers of hard copy teaching materials through the post. Subject groups social mix seemed a key variable, with tighter more closely coherent groups such as Childcare and Public services responding more than, sport for example. The Examinations Board had not required BTEC students to submit work since 23rd March meaning limited assessment possibilities, although the requirement for childcare students to complete work placement assignments for completion in July, would be challenging. Twice weekly on-line lessons including support for the application process to universities had been available throughout. Support for and collection of, assessment work had been generally satisfactory within the engaged cohort but, as discussed, focus on disengaged students had brought only limited success. Wider college support for vulnerable students in collaboration with individual departments had gone well. The Assessment process for 2020 had been relatively uncomplicated, using individual predicted grades and ranking informed by the nationally set BTEC processes, second year HSC students had been only one unit short of completion before lock-down. It had generally gone well but the requirement to rank first and second year students together was difficult to understand educationally. Comparison with previous years and before adjustment. the 2020 progression was 68% compared with 72% in 2019.

**The Head (HSC et al) left the meeting.**

Non-engagers remained high priority with robust measures to ensure that they and the wider cohort of continuing students returned when the College was open; as explained there would be a large variety of reasons for non-engagement and a flexible approach would be adopted.

**The information was received.**

#### **85/19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

the minutes of the last meeting (20.05.20) were confirmed for electronic signature, Clerk to action.  
**(Action 1)**

- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified.** (Register at 94/19)

**86/19 MATTERS ARISING AND NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS**

- a. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.
- b. Actions from the previous meeting.

|  |   |                 |
|--|---|-----------------|
| See referenced minute for full detail. |   | <b>status</b>   |
| <b>Action 1</b>                        | 73/19. Last minutes (29.04.20) confirmed for signature. | <b>complete</b> |
| <b>Action 2</b>                        | 77/19. "Project Hackney" to be on next agenda.          |                 |
| <b>Action 3</b>                        | 78/19b. Recruitment to be on the next agenda.           |                 |

- c. There were no requests for urgent business.

**The information was received.**

**87/19 PROJECT HACKNEY (PH)**

Some progress had been made in raising the profile of BSix and New City College (NCC), across Hackney secondary schools, but the aim of a 'special relationship' had not yet practically appeared. Addressing the parallel challenges of improving low local recruitment levels and enhancement of the Hackney Learning Trust (HLT) as a comprehensive provider of post-16 education seemed to have faltered. Hackney Learning Trust (HLT) had championed the aim, had circulated information promoting B6 to all schools and formed a Steering Group. Until recently there had been no canvassing for open commitment from the schools, but they had recently been invited to broadcast support and information to their Year 11 pupils, it will be helpful to see the outcome which would inform the next moves. During discussions it was felt that perhaps there could be more pro-active and direct engagement between colleges and schools: for example, with Deputy Heads, Post-16 Groups and Careers Education agencies and even presentations to Governing Bodies; this could be raised again through the Chairs' Forum and strong HLT support should enhance outcomes. Members welcomed the information.

**The information was noted and received.**

**88/19 COVID-19**

Processes for dealing with closure and remote working had been considered fully at the last meeting and updates were presented. Some staff and students had now returned to College, details included in the accompanying papers and information on easing of restrictions could be expected in July. Detailed planning was well underway for the return in September when a mix of face-to-face and on-line learning would welcome the students, that programme would face challenges, as Members had been advised throughout lockdown there had been a 'non-engaged' element and special attention with these was detailed in the accompanying papers. It was also unclear whether some staff and students would be prepared to attend in person and what the national restrictions were likely to be by then. Individual risk-assessments would be completed and the uneasiness of 'shielding' and BAME staff and students was well understood. Certainly, in any eventuality and whatever the restriction profile, the teaching day was likely to be extended. Uncertainty over circumstances throughout the summer break would require rapid and reactive responses and It was agreed that a small focused and flexible 'Covid Group' (CG), (the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Principal, MB and AG) with delegated authority to initiate such response should be formed and that was recommended to the Corporation. **(Action 2)**

- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified.** (Register at 94/19)

**89/19 ASSESSMENT**

The local assessment process, extensively rehearsed during previous Committee and other meetings, had gone well leading to on-time robust, realistic submissions; detail in the paper reflected the outcomes if it was externally agreed and validated. That would however take some time to be released after external moderation taking account of the last 3-years results, which could well motivate against the locally forecast considerably improved achievement for 2019.20 and could imply inherent unfairness. However, the robustness of the submission was evidenced

by clear individual assessments, evident in the wide disparity of assessments and may influence outcomes. Full detail had been tabulated for:

- a. all subjects Current Assessed Grade A-level Performance System (CAG ALPS);
- b. summary ALPS A-level modified;
- c. summer GCSE CAG Summer 2020;
- d. A-levels summary 2019.20; and
- e. GCSEs summary 2019.20.

**The information was noted and received.**

**Annie Gammon left the meeting.**

#### **90/19 RECRUITMENT AND RESULTS**

As explained at the last meeting the restrictions had prompted imaginative recruitment initiatives for 2020/21 and a wide portfolio of high quality “on-line” content, including “Microsoft Teams” presentations had been posted up; the scheme was working well. There had been 134 applications from Hackney schools to date (9.1% of total applications see also 87/19); they had been tabulated by school numbers and percentages and compared with 2019.20; the small increases were noted; wider information had been graphically presented and compared with the previous 5 years. Full detail was included in the accompanying papers on the ‘Summer Induction and Enrolment’ plans and the ‘Summer Induction Club’, the information was discussed and welcomed. Arrangements for the three “results days” had been fully detailed in the papers and were welcomed and the full ‘enrolment’ process was described, discussed and noted.

**The information was received.**

#### **91/19 STAFFING**

Staff movements listed in the accompanying paper were noted. The Curriculum Manager (CM) (Maths) would take up post in mid-August; the CM (Foundation Learning) and the Inclusive Learning Manager (part time) had been appointed for one year resulting from the pending re-organisation of special educational needs (SEN) (English for speakers of other languages) ESOL, entry Level and Level 1 provision. There had been one resignation from Health and Social Care (HSC), necessary arrangements were in place.

**The information was received.**

#### **92/19 URGENT BUSINESS**

There had been no urgent business requested.

#### **93/19 NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting would be notified, committee organisational arrangements for the coming year would be as this year.

#### **94/19 ACTIONS REGISTER**

| See referenced minute for full detail. |   | Action       | Date            |
|--|---|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>Action 1</b>                        | 85/19. Last minutes (20.05.20) confirmed for signature. | <b>Clerk</b> | <b>wie</b>      |
| <b>Action 2</b>                        | 88/19. CG recommended to the Corporation.               | <b>Chair</b> | <b>02.07.20</b> |