



Brooke House Sixth Form College

Meeting of the Standards Committee held at 0830 in College on 25 September 2019

Present	Ali Abdi	Steve Blackshaw	Martin Buck (Chair)
	Annie Gammon	Kevin Watson (Principal)	
In Attendance	Ralph Devereux (Clerk)	Mohanned Khabbazeh (VPCQ)	Kishan Pithia (VPSS)

The Chair welcomed all to the first Standards Committee meeting of the new academic year. Academic outcomes and other indicators had been heartening and evidenced positive progress, but it was important not to allow any complacency to cloud continued focus.

01/19 ELIGIBILITY, QUORUM, DECLARATION OF INTERESTS & MEMBERSHIP

- a. No notice had been received of any member becoming ineligible to hold office. The meeting was quorate and no interests had been declared.
- b. Martin Buck would continue as Committee Chair for the coming year. **(Action 1)**

The information was received.

02/19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting (19.06.19) were confirmed for electronic signature, Clerk to action. **(Action 2)**

- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified. (Register at 11/19)**

03/19 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.		Status
Action 1	75/18. Last Minutes (22.05.19) confirmed for signature.	Complete
Action 2	77/18. HR & ILR exchanges to first 2019/20 meeting.	Pending
Action 3	77/18a&b.SS&SM and Interim IM to present in second term 2019/20.	

Actions had been completed or were in progress; it had been agreed that Action 2 would be actioned at the next meeting. **(Action 3)**

- c. There was no urgent business requested.
- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified. (Register at 11/19)**

04/19 EXAMINATION RESULTS 2018/19

The encouraging examination results, the best in the history of the college had been rewarding generally and had been welcomed as justifying the approach and hard work of all involved over the last 12 months. All results, representing entries not individual students, were considered informed by a detailed electronic presentation reinforced by a comprehensive verbal commentary. Details were presented:

- a. A Level. Overall A Level pass rates had improved by c20% with High Grades (A-C) up by 10%, A Level Year 2 (A*-E) had improved from 93% to 97% with High Grades +8% and AS passes had improved from 64.3% in the previous year to 89.2%;
- b. L3 Vocational. Overall L3 Vocational, experienced a slightly lower level of retention and achievement; the pass rate had slightly improved although High Grades had reduced by 2.4%. Year 2 had seen a slight improvement (0.3%) in Achievement although the pass rate had fallen by -0.6% with High Grades at -8.75%; probably been caused by the recently introduced and changed examination regime and was a national trend. Year 1 however had improved High Grades by 3.3% and Pass rate by 2.1% offset by a decline in retention of -1.7%;
- c. L2 Vocational. Overall the L2 Vocational Pass rate had risen by 6%;
- d. GCSE Science and Humanities Packages. These were unique to B6 provisions and there had been significant increases of between:
 - (i) 20-30% in High Grades in Biology, Chemistry and Physics; and
 - (ii) 30-40% in High Grades in Film, Psychology and Sociology;
- e. GCSE Maths – Trend. The 3-year trend in Maths had seen an overall increase in passes by 3.6%, probably partly through smart overseas students, to place above the National Average (NA), an increase in High Grades of 6% although the recently increased rigour on exam entry had prompted a 4.7% reduction in retention;
- f. GCSE English – Trend. The 3-year trend in English had seen an overall increase in passes by 3.9% to place also above the National Average (NA), an impressive increase in High Grades of 7.7% although the recently increased rigour on exam entry had also prompted a 5.5% reduction in retention;
- g. Curriculum Area. Maths and English results by curriculum area were then explained and discussed, recently introduced initiatives, such as learning mentors and the associated monitoring of individual learners' progress and the separation of English and Maths (EAM) into bespoke packages for each curriculum area were discussed and welcomed; and
- h. GCSE Resits. Grade improvement and reduction between resit EAM exam results had been analysed and the tables and graphical detail were discussed and agreed as positive. The disciplined approach to GCSE resits was supported and discussion was had as to the relative importance of the 4+ rate as opposed to the showing of progress (even if level 4 was not attained).

The individualised flexible study programme was discussed in the context of the information and it was agreed that some historical case studies would provide useful and practical background for members and two would be provided. **(Action 4)** Predicted outcomes were then discussed, some were accurate but others reflected the reserve of some teachers; this effect would be further considered, and it was agreed to analyse by individuals and report to the next meeting. **(Action 5)**

- i. ALPS. To supplement the A and AS level results, the Alps tables were considered, to provide the "Value Added (VA)" perspective. The overall picture had improved and undoubtedly the College was adding value. Members were reminded that, essentially actual achievements were compared with GCSE scores on entry to the College, the aggregated data then generated a score for individual subjects and the whole, the latter ("T grade" score) being the most significant. Comparative data for the last four years had been analysed on a table rated 1-9 where those adding least value were graded 7, 8 and 9 (Blue). the three year "T grade" score showed a 3-year improving trend. Subject performances were discussed and would inform the agreed meetings with the HODs. AS Level improvements were spectacular, the T score going from 8 to 3. For A level the improvement was from 7 to 5. The Btec T score slipped from 5 to 6 but overall vocational results were

skewed by the non-inclusion in ALPs of University of the Arts qualifications on which BSix students excelled.

These results were generally overwhelmingly sound and heartening and thanks were recorded for the concentrated efforts of all in their achievement.

- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified.** (Register at 11/19)

05/19 ENROLMENTS

The enrolment process was in progress and the detail in this report would be updated. Enrolment information over the last four years was graphically presented to inform consideration of progress with the current year. In the early stages of the enrolment process the outlook had been more promising than the eventual outcome. To the date of this report there had been a total of 1032 direct applications, 13 more than at the similar point in the previous year and the 924 16-18 ESFA enrolments had increased by six over the same period. Members were reminded that the target for the latter was 1035 and it was unlikely that would be met; in year recruitment and "Back on Track" programmes could increase the total. Notwithstanding these numbers, 496 had internally progressed, a rewarding 137 more than the previous year. Detail of the current roll by gender and age was presented and the greater proportion of females across all age bands was noted and this was at variance with former patterns, which had been generally even and further analysis of this was planned. Tabulated detail of enrolments by application were discussed and the incidences of students' applications to several colleges and other "no shows" was highlighted. Further applications had been received after the 1 July. Prior school/agencies for those enrolled was then considered, the 99 students from overseas was the single largest donor and 74 had not provided information on previous schools; details of individual schools' contributions were noted. The high proportion of direct applications on line was particularly interesting and would be analysed further. Enrolments by level and website activity was noted. The budgetary implication of the lower numbers would be considered by the FGP Committee.

The information was received.

06/19 STAFFING

Staff had been adjusting to their changed roles and in many cases additional workloads; the acceptance of the necessity for the altered patterns, with the 18 fewer colleagues, meant in some cases that a busier work pattern was now the norm. Arrivals and vacancies were detailed in the accompanying paper and were noted.

The information was received.

07/19 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The possibility of widening Committee membership was considered, and it was agreed that practically it was not possible, the current practice of circulating papers to all Corporation members together with the standing invitation to participate electronically or in person would continue. **(Action 6)**

- a. **The information was received.**
- b. **Actions had been identified.** (Register at 11/19)

08/19 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Business for the remaining two meetings this Term was discussed, and it was agreed that the core elements would be provisionally **(Action 7)**:

- a. 16 October 2019:
 - (i) Meeting HR & ILR Leaders (15 minutes each);
 - (ii) Analysis of individual HoD predicted outcomes; and
 - (iii) Consideration of the quality of education and the validity of approach with regard to Ofsted perspective.

- b. 18 November 2019:
 - (i) Meeting HoD (tbd);
 - (ii) SAR Validation;
 - (iii) Curriculum update; and
 - (iv) Further Enrolment Analysis.

- a. The information was received.
- b. Actions had been identified. (Register at 11/19)

09/19 URGENT BUSINESS

There had been no urgent business agreed.

10/19 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be at 0830 on 16 October.

11/19 ACTIONS REGISTER

See referenced minute for full detail.		Resp	Date
Action 1	01/19. MB as Chair for 2019.20.	Clerk	wie
Action 2	02/19. Last minutes confirmed for signature.		
Action 3	03/19b. Action 3 at next meeting.	VPCQ	16.10.19
Action 4	04/19. Two case studies detailing study programme flexibility .		
Action 5	04/19. Individual teacher prediction and performance record.		
Action 6	07/19. Membership and process to be maintained.	Clerk	wie
Action 7	08/19. Core Committee business agreed.		

Ralph Devereux (Clerk) for Martin Buck (Chair)
Ralph Devereux (Clerk) for Martin Buck (Chair) (Oct 30, 2019)

StandardsMinutes25.9.19RDKW

Final Audit Report

2019-10-30

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