

Minutes of Standards Committee: 22 October 2020

1. Apologies: Annie Gammon. Everyone else present.
2. Meeting quorate.
3. No declarations of interest.
- 4a Minutes of Standards Committee meeting of 17 June were agreed.
No matters arising.
- 4b, Minutes of meeting 23 September were agreed.
All actions had either been completed or were in train.
- 5 Matters arising.
All actions had been completed or were in the process of being so.
6. Ofsted covid-19 review
A summary paper was circulated (to complement one sent immediately after the event).
Governors noted
 - the positive nature of the review, in particular the consistency of message voiced by all of the groups questioned by the inspectors – senior managers, middle managers, teachers, students and external stakeholders.
 - the suggestion of the Lead Inspector that BSix might be advised to “shout louder” about not only the many actions taken to maintain effective education throughout the pandemic but also its wider improvements.
7. Sixth Form Commissioner feedback.
A summary paper was circulated (the Commissioner’s visit having taken place only two days earlier).
A high level of satisfaction with the college’s progress in terms of recruitment, examination results and financial prudence had been expressed. Whilst praising these achievements the Commissioner team stressed the need for continuing attention to be given to the still fragile finances. The Chair of the Corporation explained that although accepting of the three recommendations made - to increase the overdraft facility, to consider further in-year savings and to prepare by March 2021 a draft budget for 2021-2022 – he would not feel bound by the proposed timescales.
The meeting recognized, also, the careful balance to be observed between more stringent financial cuts and the imperative to maintain quality of provision.
8. Support for SEND students.
The Chair welcomed Bel Waters, recently appointed Head of SEND, and Liam Broom to the meeting. Both attended on Teams.
Bel and Liam gave an overview of the many facets of the college’s provision for students with varying learning needs and difficulties. The developing relationship with the London Borough of Hackney was outlined and the Project Search and RISE programmes described. It was made evident to the meeting that SEND work is an important feature of BSix and one which has remained a high priority during the covid pandemic. Bel and Liam had already established a positive working relationship and were excited by the prospect of strengthening and extending SEND provision in the future.
The Chair thanked Bel and Liam for their contribution and they left the meeting.
9. Tutoring update.
Adam O’Brien and Carol Siddo - Senior Tutors for Health, Care and Sport and English and Foreign Languages respectively – were welcomed to the meeting.
Reviewing responses to the governor visit of 23 January, Carol and Adam explained that






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Final Audit Report

2020-11-20

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