



Meeting of a Standards Committee held electronically at 0830 19 November 2020

Present	Steve Blackshaw	Martin Buck (Chair)	Annie Gammon (11-17/20 only)
	Kevin Watson (Principal)		
In Attendance	Ralph Devereux (Clerk)	Mohanned Khabbazeh (VPCQ)	Kishan Pithia (VPSS)

**11/20 ELIGIBILITY, QUORUM, DECLARATIONS & MEMBERSHIP**

No notice had been received of any member becoming ineligible to hold office. The meeting was quorate and no interests had been declared.

**12/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting (22.10.20) were confirmed for signature. **(Action 1)**

**The information was received.**

**Actions had been identified. (Register at 20/20)**

**13/20 ACTIONS AND NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS**

- a. Actions from the previous meetings had been completed or were in progress.
- b. There were no requests for urgent business.

**The information was received.**

**14/20 CURRICULUM LEADERSHIP**

The Staff Development Plan 2020.21 focussed on comprehensive and inclusive staff training to enable middle managers to drive up standards in teaching and learning (T&L). The comprehensive programme had been paused in March through Covid restrictions but would now be revitalised. The VP(C&Q) was overseeing the initiative, together with Fiona O'Connor (Teacher Fellow) who would directly lead on some topics, supported by bespoke training from Literacy and Numeracy champions and Student Support. Departments were developing the process of cascading initiatives across all team members, both teaching and support, through some direct training but largely through shared and individual study and electronic Continuous Professional Development (CPD) sessions. Hackney Education, formerly the Hackney Learning Trust (HLT) involvement included presentations on post 16 matters and wider related issues. Much of the programme relied on Middle Managers acting as leaders of learning. That was central to the delivery of the aim and individual and personalised progress meetings with the VP(C&Q) would monitor developments. A trial series of meetings with the group of curriculum managers (rather than the whole college management team) was planned. Such meetings would facilitate sharing of good practice and other vital information. However, it was accepted that monitoring of overall progress with the scheme would be challenging and this was discussed and considered in depth; individual managers had different leadership styles, building on these was crucial and crucially, senior tutors would work closely with managers. Members were acutely aware of the wide ability spectrum of learners on roll and the associated challenges of applying common standards and work continued on this. The Principal would complete classroom observations, ten had already been completed and a mid-year interim report would lead to a final one on completion of the programme. The process for classroom observations, involving a third party from an alternative department and the associated debriefing process was explained and noted. Looking towards the coming Ofsted Inspection, possibly early in 2021, staff had benefitted from a series of practice 'grillings', which had brought experience of individual interview techniques and associated matters. Additionally,

many areas had been externally validated and had received sound feedback; the VP (Q + C)'s feeling was "B6 is a Good College" and that could be clearly evidenced.

**The information was received and noted.**

#### **15/20 STUDY PROGRAMME AWARD**

- a. Accreditation. Work was underway with Sussex University for accreditation of the BSix Study Programme Award. The necessary detail would be drawn together and strictly moderated, the portfolio would then be passed over for evaluation by the University and, if successful, would be sealed. Accreditation levels progressed through "Bronze", "Silver" and "Gold" and possibly "Platinum". It would be necessary and fundamental for the Programme to demonstrate sound enrichment for students and the University would provide sessions to take that to a higher tier. Although some similar accreditations had been granted to Colleges this programme had some unique features and would recognise the quality of education at B6.
- b. Quality. Work placements involved in working towards the "Quality in Careers" standard included a wide range of disciplines including 80 places on the "Erasmus" programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe; there would be 2-week sessions in Prague, Lisbon, Barcelona and Malta. Full Risk analyses and written guidance was under preparation.
- c. Additionally, the College had submitted an entry "Knowledge is Power" into the Association of Colleges (AoC) Beacon Awards; these awards celebrate the best, most innovative practice in Further Education (FE) Colleges with the aim to demonstrate and promote impact on students and communities. The entry had been commended and had progressed to the final round in the "Inclusive Learning and Leadership" section, to be held on 8 January 2021; the opponent would be Weston College (Weston-Super-Mare). No other 6<sup>th</sup> Form or London Colleges had progressed thus far in this year's competition. Congratulations were recorded to all involved. **(Action 2)**

**The information was received.**

**Actions had been identified. (Register at 20/20)**

#### **16/20 RECRUITMENT**

Student enrolment was closely discussed informed by tabulated data. The "Back on Track" initiative had produced 56 applications (16 November) and would close at the end of the month when the total was expected to be c70; the candidates were broadly based and higher quality than in former years. It would now be necessary to evaluate the curriculum capacity for acceptance, through checking each department and student services, in the meanwhile all applicants were being "kept warm". Enrolment would be on Wednesday 2 December leading to full induction on Friday 4 December in preparation for immediate entry at the start of next term. Overall, the progress was looking good and would meet the FE Commissioners (FEC) target of 1077 learners, which would meet the target shared with the FEC and ESFA and which optimistically could lead to the 1121 total required to trigger an in-year funding increase.

**The information was received.**

#### **17/20 LITERACY DEVELOPMENTS**

With the aim of raising cross-college literacy a comprehensive plan had been developed, building on the previous year's initiative, and was discussed; the CPD initiative "reading for meaning" would be continued. The detail would be fully supplemented by appropriate teaching materials. An English hub had been established and all GCSE classes timetabled into it for a weekly session. Together with a similar facility for Maths, this was providing referred or "drop in" access for students. Written detail and information booklets were available for guidance and would be brought to the next meeting for information. **(Action 3)**

**The information was received.**

**Actions had been identified. (Register at 20/20)**

**Annie Gammon left the meeting.**

**18/20 URGENT BUSINESS**

There had been no urgent business requested.

**19/20** The next meeting would (provisionally) be at 0830 in College on 13 January 2021 and would consider at least: Back on Track integration, results analysis, and lesson observations report (MB/KW to discuss).

**20/20 ACTIONS REGISTER**

See referenced minute for full detail.		<b>Resp</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Action 1</b>	12/20. Last minutes (22.10.20) were confirmed.	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>wie</b>
<b>Action 2</b>	15/20. Congratulation for all involved in OoC Beacon Awards entry.	<b>Chair</b>	
<b>Action 3</b>	17/20. EAM detail & booklets to next meeting.	<b>VPCQ</b>	<b>13.01.21</b>

*Ralph Devereux (Clerk) for Martin Buck (Chair)*






# StandardsMins19.11.20RDMBKW (002)

Final Audit Report

2021-01-20

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By:	Ralph Devereux (office.mpe@btconnect.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAyvjLpt8or7QEhPKHzLEYyPc0ifgimcl

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2021-01-20 - 10:09:04 AM GMT- IP address: 5.101.138.228
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