



MINUTES OF THE LGB CATMOSE COLLEGE MEETING

Thursday 21 March 2024, 4pm
The Gallery

Present

Andrew Cross, Jane Evans, Emma Gautrey (Vice Chair), Andrew Holt (Chair), Gary Marsh, Alex Mould, Clive Norgaard Morton, Martyn Rhowbotham, Briege Slattery, Stuart Williams (Principal).

In Attendance

Claire Pugh (Vice Principal), Chris Wilson (Chief Finance Officer), Sheryl Wilson (Governance Professional), Sophie Dawson (HR Manager).

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence

Andrew Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Thomas Heath.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There were none declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8 February 2024

These were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Clerk's Business

The Academy Trust Governance Guide has replaced the Governance Handbook 2019 www.gov.uk/guidance/governance-in-academy-trusts along with an update to [Internal scrutiny in academy trusts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/internal-scrutiny-in-academy-trusts). Governors were encouraged to read the updates.

6. Student Council Member

A Year 11 member of the student council presented their view on what is great about Catmose. They talked about their love of music, photography, rewards at the College, and their plans for next year post GCSEs.

7. A Governor's Experience of Ofsted

Sophie Dawson talked through a governor's experience of an Ofsted visit. She explained how to prepare for the discussion and what key documents are useful to have to hand. For example, the Articles of Association, Transformation Plan, previous meeting minutes and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

Sophie Dawson left the meeting at 16.45.

8. Update from Resources

An in-year deficit of £98,000 is currently forecast. This is an improvement since the beginning of the year, however, with additional SEND and higher needs funding and some underspend we are aiming for a breakeven position. Funding is lagged as the College grows; this will improve in incoming years as we accept 240 students per year. The financial risks going forward remain the pay awards for staff and the position of the local authority regarding community sport.

9. Principal Update

The College has once again had a full and varied term with plenty of extracurricular opportunities for students, including successes in sport at the basketball county finals and gymnastics. Students have enjoyed a trip to the magistrates' court, rock climbing and a well-attended careers event was held, with many apprenticeships and further education providers taking a stand. Students are this week performing The Addams Family with sell out performances.

10. Scorecards

Behaviour

An informative discussion was held on the behaviour scorecard. 81% of students have less than 5 behaviour entries for this academic year. Year 9 shows a dip; however, students have recently chosen their options and it is anticipated that this will improve. A key priority is Free School Meal students, which is showing as an area of weakness on the inspection dashboard. In line with the Transformation Plan, there is a FSM first strategy, for example, when teachers mark books, they will mark FSM students books first.

Andrew Cross left the meeting at 5.00pm.

Behaviour incidents such as child on child abuse or bullying were discussed and Stuart Williams explained how these are dealt with in College, including communicating with parents, sanctions, re-education of students, assemblies, restorative work, pastoral support and suspensions.

Question: Are successes seen in terms of students not re-offending?

Occasionally there are repeat offenders, however, with support in place, the majority of students do not re-offend.

Governors commented that it would be useful for the scorecard to be interactive to enable them to filter to year groups.

Attendance

The attendance figure is currently at 93%. A scrutiny panel on attendance was held on 7 March and findings of this were shared with governors.

Outcomes - Year 10 Attainment

An internal checkpoint had been actioned for Year 10 students; the data showed that there was nothing to be concerned about.

Safeguarding Scorecard

The College is seeing similar issues to what is seen nationally with regards to sharing nudes and pornography. The government have recently issued guidance on this topic: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people>
PSHE sessions have covered this topic with students.

The numbers of social care referrals and early help referrals, along with safeguarding caseloads were shared with governors.

Teaching Scorecard

The teaching scorecard demonstrates the results from teaching observations and covers the following: curriculum, relationships, pedagogy and progress. In each measure, there is effective and exemplary teaching taking place with fewer areas of support required.

Action: Governors asked that the scorecard is broken down in subject areas.

11. Ofsted Judgements

A Quality of Education Ofsted document was shared with governors which detailed the judgements in the categories of outstanding and good. Team leaders had previously discussed how each of these areas are evidenced in their areas. For example, policies, Transformation Plan, scorecards, scrutiny panels. The priorities for 2023/2024 are:

- Free School Meal students
- Attendance
- Refusal including truancy
- Healthy Accountability

12. Policies

The below policies were ratified by governors, recent changes included reference to AI.

- Vocational Course Policy
- Examinations Policy

13. A.O.B.

There was no other business.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 16 May 2024, 4pm LGB CC

The Addams Family Performance – Wednesday 20 March – Saturday 23 March 2024