



MINUTES OF THE HARINGTON SCHOOL LGB MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2024 8.15AM

Present: Rob Guthrie (Chair), Liz Birchall (Vice Chair), Oliver Teasel (Head of School), Stuart Williams, Briege Slattery, Henry Price, Phil Dalby, Andy Wright, Phil Dalby and Andreas Menzies.

In attendance: Natalie Henry-Oliver (Deputy Head of School)
Sara Kane (Governance Professional)
Diane Wensley

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Tessa Leuchars, Ben Solly, Dyl Powell, Tony Nice and Matthew Holt.

Diane Wensley, the newly elected parent governor subject to onboarding checks was welcomed and introduced.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1 February 2024

The minutes of the meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record and signed by the chair.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. Governance Professional's Update

Governor appointed by the LGB- It was reported that Andrew Robinson (Vice Chair, of the local governing body at Uppingham Community College) has expressed an interest in becoming a governor at Harington. Rob Guthrie explained that he had met with Andrew Robinson and a short bio was available for governors to read on the VLE. Governors unanimously agreed to appoint Andrew Robinson as governor of Harington School subject to the appropriate onboarding checks.

Reappointment of governors appointed by The Trust and Catmose College

It was reported that the Trust have agreed to reappoint Rob Guthrie, Dyl Powell and Liz Birchall as Harington School governors from May 2024.

The Catmose College Local Governing Body have agreed to appoint Briege Slattery as a Harington School governor from May 2024.

The Academy Trust Governance Guide

Governors attention was drawn to the updated [Academy Trust Governance guidance](#) which has replaced the Governance Handbook 2019.

6. Resources Update

The Federation is in deficit of £98k this is mainly due to the building expansion at Catmose College and staff pay rises, however the forecast is better than anticipated. This is partially due to the increase in SEN funding and increases in savings. It is hoped that the Federation will break even by the end of the year

7. Deputy Head of School Position

The appointment of an additional Deputy Head of School at Harington was approved by the Resources committee in December. It was explained that the structure of the School needs to change due to the increase in student numbers. The cluster lead positions would still remain. The post had been advertised internally. Governors would be asked for their involvement during the recruitment process.

Question: What will happen if there is a gap in teaching capacity due to the appointment?

It was explained that there are contingency plans in place along with advertisements for teaching staff across the Federation.

8. Ofsted Questions and Answers

Governors attention was drawn to the documents on the VLE. It was agreed that this agenda item would be postponed until the next meeting where the experiences from the recent Ofsted inspection at Catmose College would be drawn upon.

9. Apprenticeship Experience

Harington students that have applied for degree level apprenticeships joined the meeting to share their experiences.

The application process for high level apprenticeship is very different from university applications and are separate from UCAS. Different companies advertise at different times across the year. It was explained that if the apprenticeship route was unsuccessful then students could still apply for university through the clearing process.

Question: Why did you decide that you wanted to do an apprenticeship?

Students explained that if you wished to go down a specialist route and companies were offering to support with studying for a degree whilst training it seemed the best option. However, the students explained that they were not initially aware of the large multinational companies offering apprenticeships. Students reported that they did not find the government website helpful when searching for apprenticeships, however, the support and assemblies provided by the school had been beneficial, along with visits from ex-students that had secured apprenticeships.

Question: Is the major attraction of apprenticeships rather than the university route the lack of debt that is accrued?

Students explained that it is easier to obtain a specialist qualification through a company and that you are more likely to obtain secure employment following the training.

The number of students applying for apprenticeships had increased this year. A focus group will be set up and will feed into the post-18 support strand of the Transformation Plan.

Governors' agreed that the focus needs to be adapted due to the increased number of students applying for higher level apprenticeships.

10. Head of School Report

Oliver Teasel referred to his previously circulated report, the various trips and sports fixtures that had taken place during the term were highlighted.

Attendance

Attendance is currently 94%. There are currently no school refusers.

Admissions

The number of students that have applied to join next year is incredibly strong. To date 314 applications have been received.

Question: What percentage of applicants join the School?

According to the conversion rate it is predicted that 154 students will join next year, however this could be as high as 170. It was agreed that the process for enrolment on GCSE results day will be discussed at the next meeting.

Year 13 mock data

Governors attention was drawn to the analysis of the assessment data. The results and data have improved since last years mock data. The data has improved since last years mock data. Slight improvement on last years cohort.

Where subject data analysis has shown a decrease in the results we are forecasting an average point score of around 40. Robust intervention has been put in place and subject teachers have met with the senior lead to discuss improvements. Also any students that have been identified as underperforming have received assertive mentoring. It was reported that form tutors are also meeting with identified students to support with revision planning.

Question: What is residual data?

One subject compared to other subjects studied.

It was reported that the the residual data is good, however the school is not complacent in supporting students to obtain the best outcomes.

Year 12 Assessment point two

The Year 12 recent assessment data was highlighted, the cohort has performed well. The Year 12 mocks will take place after May half term and intervention will commence before the end of the academic year. This year the mock examination have been brought forward so that further support and intervention and be offered.

Post 18 destinations

Natalie Henry-Oliver highlighted the planned destination data collected from students. The data shows that half of Year 13 plan on a university route where the remainder are also looking into a gap year or apprenticeship. Students are supported by tutors in reaching their chosen destination.

Oxbridge

One student has received an offer for Oxbridge this year. Two vets and three medics have received multiple offers. It was reported that the Doc Soc is invaluable in supporting medic students.



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11. Policies

Governors' attention was drawn to the policy overview document which detailed any amendments. The below policies were ratified by the governing body:

- Careers
- Curriculum
- Provider Access

12. Any Other Business

It was agreed that the scrutiny panel on Thursday 28 March focussed on safeguarding would be postponed and rearranged to take place prior to the next governors meeting. .

It was agreed that the scrutiny panel scheduled to take place on Thursday 23 May would scrutinise the academic enrichment programme.

13. Dates for Diaries

LGB- Thursday 23 May 2024, 8.15am
Scrutiny Panel – Thursday 23 May, 10am
LGB Thursday 4 July 2024, 5pm